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Our ref: 62697 Contact officer: Gavin Jones Contact phone: 03 9290 1475

13/10/2017

Justin Jones Counsel Ashurst Australia

By email: Justin.Jones@ashurst.com

Dear Mr Jones

Eastern Energy Buyers Group – Applications for authorisation A91594 & A91595 – draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by EEBG on 4 August 2017.

Draft determination

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 11 years.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **3 November 2017**.

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **30 October 2017**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
4 August 2017	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
10 August 2017	Public consultation process begins.
1 September 2017	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
13 October 2017	Draft determination.
October/November 2017	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
November 2017	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact me on 03 9290 1475.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Jones Director

Adjudication