



Australian  
Competition &  
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Commission

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9 February 2017

Dear Interested party,

## **Australian Hotels Association – application for authorisation A91574 - interested party consultation**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received an application for authorisation from the Australian Hotels Association (AHA). The ACCC invites you to comment on the application. Attached is a summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC.

The Australian Hotels Association (AHA) seeks authorisation for the members of AHA to be able to as a group or groups engage in collective boycott of DC Payments Australia Pty Ltd in relation to the supply of ATM services to AHA members.

The AHA also seeks interim authorisation to engage in collective boycott.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's website [www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister](http://www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister).

### **Interim authorisation**

The ACCC endeavours to deal with requests for interim authorisation quickly. In making an assessment as to whether it is appropriate to grant interim authorisation, the ACCC is not required to undertake a full assessment of the benefit and detriment likely to arise as a result of the proposed conduct.

The ACCC decides whether to grant interim authorisation on a case by case basis. Should an applicant request interim authorisation, the ACCC will usually consider a range of factors, including harm to the applicant and other parties if interim is or is not granted, possible benefit and detriment to the public, the urgency of the matter and whether the market would be able to return to substantially its pre-interim state if the ACCC should later deny authorisation.

### **Submissions**

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to interim authorisation, please do so by Monday 20 February 2017, and if you wish to make a submission in relation to the substantive application please do so by Monday 6 March 2017.

Submissions in relation to interim authorisation should be provided by . Submissions should be emailed to [adjudication@accc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au) with the subject 'A91574 – Australian Hotels Association – submission'.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Theo Kelly on (02) 6243 1179 to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion.

### **Timetable**

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

<b>2 February 2017</b>	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
<b>9 February 2017</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>20 February 2017</b>	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation.
<b>March 2017</b>	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.
<b>6 March 2017</b>	Closing date for submissions on substantive authorisation.
<b>March/April 2017</b>	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
<b>April/May 2017</b>	Draft determination.
<b>May 2017</b>	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
<b>May/June 2017</b>	Final determination.

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the applications. You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the applications.

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 Theo Kelly on (02) 6243 1179 or [adjudication@accc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Darrell Channing  
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Adjudication Branch