



Australian Government
**Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water**

Ms Naomi Menon
Director Australian Consumer and Competition Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Via exemption@accc.gov.au

Dear Ms Menon,

Draft Determination: Coles Group Limited and other participating supermarkets – application to revoke authorisation AA1000627 and substitute authorisation AA1000673 for the one revoked with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

I write in relation to the abovementioned draft determination (the draft determination) of the application under s88(1) of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth) (the Act). The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission in support of proposed application by Coles Group Limited and other participating supermarkets (the Participants) to revoke authorisation AA1000627 and substitute it with authorisation AA1000673.

The department supports the proposed conduct to be authorised until 31 July 2026, to allow the participants to continue to implement the soft plastics stockpile remediation plan and the in-store soft plastics collection pilot program. As highlighted in our prior submissions supporting the previous related authorisations, the work of the Soft Plastics Taskforce is a critical element to establishing sustainable and robust soft plastics collection and recycling in Australia, which is a priority for the Australian Government. Whilst progress has been made, further work is required.

The department is also willing to continue to chair future meetings of the Soft Plastics Taskforce if the Participants are provided with continuing ACCC authorisation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the draft determination.

Yours sincerely,



Cameron Hutchison
Branch Head
Waste and Resource Recovery Policy Branch
Circular Economy Division
24 January 2025

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