

4 September 2020

David Hatfield
Director, Adjudication, Merger & Authorisation Review Division
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

Dear David,

SUBJECT: ACCC Interim Authorisation dated 7 August 2020 related to application AA1000527-1 granted to Ingham's, Turosi, Hazeldene's, and ACMF (Interim Authorisation)

Weekly report under paragraph 11 of the Interim Authorisation Date: 4 September 2020

1. Background:

- 1) On 7 August the ACCC granted the Interim Authorisation.
- 2) Capitalised terms not defined in this report have the meaning given to them in the Interim Authorisation.
- 3) Paragraphs 10 13 of the Interim Authorisation provide:
 - 10. Interim authorisation is granted subject to the following conditions:

(1) Reporting obligations

- 11. The Parties provide a report to the ACCC on a weekly basis (or as otherwise agreed by the ACCC) setting out details of each material decision made by the COVID Working Group (as defined below) which involves or otherwise relates to the Proposed Conduct. The ACCC proposes to publish the report subject to the assessment of any confidentiality claim.
- 12. The Parties arrange to meet with the ACCC to provide regular updates, as agreed between the Applicant and the ACCC.

(2) Provision of further information

13. The Parties provide any further information that the ACCC reasonably requests (through a contact person nominated by the Parties) about the Proposed Conduct being engaged in under the requested authorisation.

2. Weekly Report for the week 27 August 2020 – 2 September 2020

As part of industry round table consultations with Victorian Government departments, the Processors were involved in discussions regarding an industry restart roadmap, which will guide the easing of restrictions in Victoria, including for the chicken meat supply chain. No agreements or arrangements about processing chickens were made as part of these consultations.

Bilateral discussions took place between the Processors in order (a) to ensure ongoing supply of sufficient numbers of day old chicks for future needs across the industry, and (b) to manage the impacts of reduced processing capacity due to COVID-19 impacts on staff, thereby maximizing the number of carcasses that were processed and packed for human consumption. These discussions resulted in bilateral commercial arrangements between the parties whereby Processors purchased day old chicks and/or live birds and product. These bilateral commercial arrangements allowed for companies to better manage the impact of Stage 4 Restrictions on the Victorian industry's ability to meet consumer demand.

Yours faithfully,
Dr Vivien Kite Executive Director ACMF Inc
Ph:
Mobile:
Email:

