



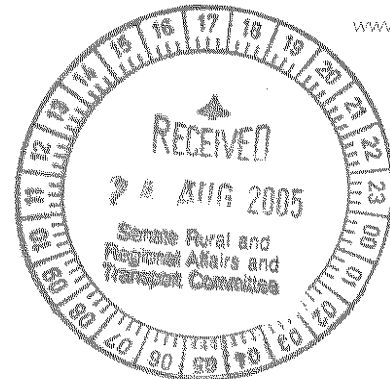
Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission

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23 August 2005

Committee Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Secretary

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee inquiry into the wine industry

I refer to the ACCC's appearance before the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee ('the Committee') on 10 August 2005.

At the Committee, I stated that the ACCC would provide the Committee with copies of its decisions relating to collective bargaining applications for authorisation.

In the past five years, the ACCC has considered applications for authorisation involving collective bargaining conduct in industries including chicken meat growing, newsagents, health, dairy, sugar, wagering and gaming services, waste management services, vegetable growing, and stevedoring.

Please find attached the following copies of determinations as a sample of authorisations involving collective bargaining that the ACCC has considered:

- The ACCC's determination for authorisation A90782 lodged by the Australian Dairy Farmers' Federation in relation to negotiations between dairy farmers and dairy processing companies, and the decision of the Australian Competition Tribunal ('the Tribunal') of 16 August 2002, which varied some of the conditions imposed by the ACCC's determination. The Tribunal's decision constitutes the final determination in relation to A90782.

Please note that the ACCC received an application for revocation and substitution of A90782 on 8 April 2005. On 18 May 2005, the ACCC granted interim authorisation to the Australian Dairy Farmers' Federation to continue with the conduct authorised by A90782 under the same conditions as conferred by the Tribunal. The grant of interim authorisation will continue until a final determination is made in relation to the application for revocation and substitution of A90782.

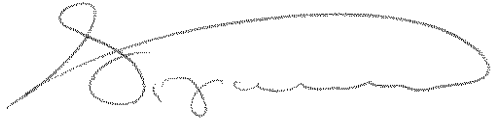


- The ACCC's determination for authorisation A90837 lodged by the Australian Hotels Association (NSW) in relation to negotiations between NSW hoteliers and Tab Limited and Sky Channel Pty Limited.
- The ACCC's determination for authorisation A90888 lodged by Inghams Enterprises Pty Ltd in relation to negotiations between Tasmanian chicken growers and Inghams.
- The ACCC's determination for authorisation A90914 lodged by Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association in relation to negotiations between vegetable growers and the processors to whom they supply.

I have also enclosed various ACCC media releases regarding collective bargaining authorisations that may assist the Committee.

If you require any further information or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6243 1132.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Gregson', written in a cursive style.

Scott Gregson
A/g General Manager
Adjudication Branch