AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION & CONSUMER COMMISSION

Colas - Quarry Products Harlaxton

MN-25048

Phase 1 Determination

Acquisition may be put into effect

30 October 2026

1. Determination and statement of reasons

Notified acquisition	Colas Australia Group Pty Ltd (**Colas**)'s, via its subsidiary Hutchison Quarries Toowoomba Pty Ltd, proposed acquisition of the business known as Harlaxton Quarry or Quarry Products Harlaxton by acquiring: • the operating quarry business and certain land and associated assets from Quarry Products Pty Ltd; and • 100% of the shares in Sanbeg Pty Ltd, which holds other land associated with the Harlaxton Quarry business (together, **Quarry Products Harlaxton**) (the **Acquisition**).
Determination	The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has determined under section 51ABZE(1) of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) that the Acquisition may be put into effect.
Parties to the Acquisition	The acquirer, Colas, is an Australian construction materials and road services group. It operates quarrying business Hutchison Quarries near Warwick in the Southern Downs region of Queensland and is also a fully integrated bituminous materials supplier and applicator with its own bitumen and quarry resources, and road surfacing capabilities, operating through local subsidiaries across Australia. The target, Quarry Products Harlaxton, operates the Harlaxton Quarry, a basalt quarry located at Harlaxton / Toowoomba in Queensland supplying quarry materials used in rail, road, concrete, asphalt and civil construction applications, including rail ballast, road base and aggregates.
Overlap and relationship between the Parties	Both Colas and Quarry Products Harlaxton supply aggregates, road base and oversize products (**quarry materials**)
Reasons for determination	When making a determination in Phase 1, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (**ACCC**) undertakes a competition assessment and considers whether it is appropriate for an acquisition to be approved or subject to further assessment in Phase 2 in accordance with section 51ABZJ of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) (the **Act**). In doing so, the ACCC must have regard to the object of the Act and all relevant matters, including the interests of consumers. For more information about the ACCC's approach to considering notified acquisitions, see the ACCC's merger assessment guidelines and interim merger process guidelines. In conducting its competition assessment, the ACCC has considered the information and documents that were submitted with the notification form, information from third partes and publicly available information. The ACCC has determined that the Acquisition may be put into effect as it considers that the Acquisition would be unlikely to have the effect of substantially lessening competition in any market. In reaching its decision, and based on the material before it, the ACCC makes the following findings. • The merged entity would likely continue to face competition

	from alternative suppliers of quarry materials in Toowoomba/Warwick in the Southern Downs region of Queensland. • While a market participant suggested that the Acquisition could enable the parties to foreclose rival suppliers of road construction and road pavement services from accessing quarry materials, the ACCC considers that the merged firm would be unlikely to have the ability and incentive to do so. In particular, rival suppliers would continue to have access to alternative sources of quarry materials in the Toowoomba/Warwick region, and Colas has limited downstream activities in the Toowoomba/Warwick region.
Applications for review	A notifying party, or other person who has been allowed to do so by the Australian Competition Tribunal, may apply for review if they are dissatisfied with the determination. Pursuant to section 100C of the Act, applications for review of the determination are to be made to the Australian Competition Tribunal before the end of 14 calendar days after this statement of reasons was included on the ACCC's Acquisitions Register. To confirm whether there has been any application for review, please contact the Australian Competition Tribunal.

Determination made by Commissioner Williams pursuant to a delegation under section 25(1) of the Act

Determination made by the Commission