



Our Ref: C2005/814  
Your Ref:  
Contact Officer: Colette Downie  
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**Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission**

31 August 2005

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Christine Jones  
General Counsel  
ASX  
P.O. Box H224  
Australia Square NSW 1215

Dear Ms Jones

**Woolworths Limited proposed acquisition of 22 Foodland Associated Limited supermarkets.**

The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission ('the Commission') wishes to advise that a Statement of Issues in regards to Woolworths Limited (ASX: WOW) proposed acquisition of 22 Foodland Associated Limited (ASX: FOA) supermarkets will be placed on the Commission's public register today.

The Commission has conducted market inquiries with a range of industry participants and received a number of submissions from interested parties.

After considering this material the Commission has identified competition issues that are likely to result from the proposed acquisition. In accordance with the principles set out in the Commission's "Guideline for Informal Merger Reviews" issued in October 2004, the Commission will today place on its public register the Statement of Issues attached to this letter.

As a result of this, the Commission will allow until 15 September 2005 for further comments from interested parties in response to the Statement of Issues before the Commission makes a final decision in relation to the proposed acquisition.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Grimwade  
General Manager  
Mergers & Asset Sales

