



PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION INQUIRY

Economic Structure and Performance of the Australian Retail Industry

The Fair Imports Alliance is working toward preparing a submission to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into the future of retail.

The Fair Imports Alliance will prepare a joint submission on behalf of its member organizations and their respective industry members about the issues associated with the low value importation threshold. Individual associations will prepare submissions on other issues, but the Fair Imports Alliance will ensure a joint submission is prepared dealing with the importation issue.

The Productivity Commission will provide the Government its report by November of this year. An issues paper will be released in March and submissions to the Inquiry are due by 20 May. A draft report will be released in August of this year, followed by public hearings in September and a final report in November. Information about the Productivity Commission Inquiry can be found at <http://www.pc.gov.au/projects/inquiry/retail-industry>

There are five Terms of Reference that the Productivity Commission Inquiry will address;

1. The current structure, performance and efficiency of the retail sector and impediments to its contribution to the Australian economy
2. The drivers of structural change in the retail industry, including globalization, increasing household and business access to the digital economy, cost structures of the domestic retail industry, employment structure, the exchange rate and structural change driven by the resources boom
3. The broader issues which are contributing to an increase in online purchasing by Australian consumers and the role of online purchasing in providing consumers with greater choice, access and convenience
4. The sustainability and appropriateness of the current indirect tax arrangements in this environment, including the impact on Commonwealth and State and Territory budgets, and the extent to which technology could reduce the administrative costs of collecting indirect taxes and duty on imported goods
5. Any other regulatory or policy issues which impact on structural change in the sector.

If you would like to provide feedback to the Fair Imports Alliance to help us ensure that industry views are reflected in the submission to the Productivity Commission you can do so by emailing fairimportsalliance@retail.org.au. Please place the words 'PC INQUIRY SUBMISSION FEEDBACK' in the subject heading of the email

For further information email fairimportsalliance@retail.org.au or contact your Association below.



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