The Jersey Chamber of Commerce

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Elaine Kelly

Competition Case Officer JCRA

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RECEIVED

1st July 2009

Dear Ms. Kelly,

Proposed amendments to merger thresholds

The Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate JCRA for proposing these amendments to the Law. The changes are welcomed as they should reduce the compliance burden by excluding certain mergers and acquisitions which are unlikely to have any effect on competition in Jersey from the current notification and approval requirements.

This recognition by JCRA of the burden placed on businesses with regard to compliance and the introduction of sliding scale fees for the preliminary merger assessment will have beneficial results for businesses, in particular for small businesses. However, whilst Chamber supports the amendments, it is hoped that the proposal is the first step to waiving charges altogether for small businesses.

I would like to suggest that the proposed wording of the new Article 1(4)(b) could be made a little clearer, as without the explanation and example set out in the consultation paper, its precise intent might be a little difficult to ascertain.

Yours sincerely.

Ray Shead President