

Seminar

NZCIEL and the New Zealand Commerce Commission invite you to attend an evening seminar on the proposed collaborative activity exemption and collaborative activity clearance regime

The seminar will feature a review of the proposed collaborative activity exemption by Professor William E Kovacic. Professor Kovacic is visiting the Commerce Commission in Wellington.

Professor Kovacic is Global Competition Professor of Law and Policy and the Director of the Competition Law Centre at the George Washington Law School. He was also a member of the Federal Trade Commission in the United States from 2006 – 2011, and chair of the Federal Trade Commission from March 2008 – March 2009.

The collaborative activity exemption is included in the Commerce (Cartels and other Matters) Bill which introduces criminal sanctions for cartel behaviour. Under the proposed clearance regime parties who propose to enter into an agreement containing a cartel provision may apply to the Commission for clearance. The Commission may give clearance where the parties are, or will be, involved in a collaborative activity, the provision is reasonably necessary and the provision will not substantially lessen competition.

The seminar will include a brief introduction to the rationale for the per se prohibition against price fixing, a discussion of the benefits of the new collaborative activity exemption and related clearance regime along with some initial thoughts on how the Commission will approach interpreting the exemption and applying the clearance regime.

Other panellists include Dr Lilla Csorgo (Chief Economist, Commerce Commission), Sarah Keene (Partner, Russell McVeagh) and David Blacktop (Principal Counsel Competition, Commerce Commission).

Thursday, 16 August 2012, 5.30pm – 7.00pm
Salmond Room (Room 219), Level 2, Old Government Buildings,
55 Lambton Quay, Wellington

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