Our ref: JC/MLM: 2016

Australian Human Rights Commission

Intellectual Disability
Rights Service
Criminal Justice
Support Network

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18 March 2016

Michelle Lindley

Deputy Director

Legal Section

By e-mail: michelle.lindley@humanrights.gov.au

Dear Michelle

Business Services Wage Assessment Tool - Exemption

Thank you for inviting the Intellectual Disability Rights Service (IDRS) to make a further submission in relation to the application by the Commonwealth and Australian Disability Enterprises to extend the exemption from the operation of sections 15, 24 and 29 of the *Disability Discrimination Act* to allow them to continue to use the Business Services Wages Assessment Tool (BSWAT). We understand that the Commission is currently considering whether it should grant an exemption so that the use of the BSWAT during the period 30 April 2015 to 18 December 2015 was lawful.

IDRS refers to its submission dated 30 October 2013 in relation to the original application for an exemption.

We continue to oppose any application for exemptions that would make the use of the BSWAT lawful, for the reasons set out in our submission dated 30 October 2013.

Jahene Cootes

Executive Officer

Intellectual Disability Rights Service

Margot Morris

Principal Solicitor

M.L. Mount

Intellectual Disability Rights Service