

From: Gareth Renowden [mailto:gareth@renowden.co.nz]

Sent: Friday, 1 July 2016 5:08 p.m.

To: Registrar

Subject: Submission from North Canterbury Radio Trust re Fairfax/Wilson & Horton merger

Submission:

The North Canterbury Radio Trust is the charitable body responsible for Compass FM, the community radio station serving the Waimakariri and Hurunui districts of North Canterbury.

The Trust is opposed to the merger of the two largest media operations in New Zealand, for the following reasons:

- the potential for adverse impacts on advertising sales in independent print and broadcast media through predatory pricing in certain markets
- the reduction in diversity of news and views expressed in print, on air and in digital media
- the likely reduction in employment in all areas of the industry

New Zealand is a small media market. The creation of one big media company is likely to increase competition for the limited revenues available, and squeeze out small, independent and regional operations.

Kind regards

Gareth Renowden  
Chairman  
North Canterbury Radio Trust  
Limestone Hills  
RD2 Amberley 7482  
03 314 9921