

Market Announcement

21 August 2019

Ruralco Holdings Limited (ASX: RHL) – Trading Halt

Description

The securities of Ruralco Holdings Limited ('RHL') will be placed in trading halt at the request of RHL, pending it releasing an announcement. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in trading halt until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Friday, 23 August 2019 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Issued by

Jon Chow

Adviser, Listings Compliance (Melbourne)

21 August 2019

Mr Jon Chow
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By email: jon.chow@asx.com.au

Dear Jon

Ruralco Holdings Limited (ASX: RHL) – Request for trading halt

Ruralco Holdings Limited (ACN 009 660 879) (**Ruralco**) requests that its shares be placed in an immediate trading halt under Listing Rule 17.1 following the publication of an article today in *The Australian* by John Durie headed “ACCC set to nix Ruralco deal”.

That article expresses the view that the ACCC is expected to reject Nutrien’s proposal to acquire Ruralco by scheme of arrangement (**Scheme**) when the ACCC announces its decision tomorrow.

Ruralco notes that the view expressed in that article is speculative, and confirms that Ruralco is not aware of any information in relation to the ACCC’s deliberations beyond that previously announced to the market by Ruralco.

For the purposes of Listing Rule 17.1, Ruralco provides the following information:

1. The trading halt is requested in light of the matters noted above, and Ruralco’s concern that trading in Ruralco shares may occur while the market is not reasonably informed and that, as a result, there could be a false or disorderly market in Ruralco shares.
2. Ruralco requests that the trading halt remain in place until the earlier of the ACCC announcing its decision in relation to the Scheme (which is expected to occur tomorrow) and the open of trading on 23 August 2019.
3. The Company is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.
4. The Company is not aware of any other information necessary to inform the market about the trading halt.

Yours sincerely



Timothy Rowe

Group General Counsel & Company Secretary