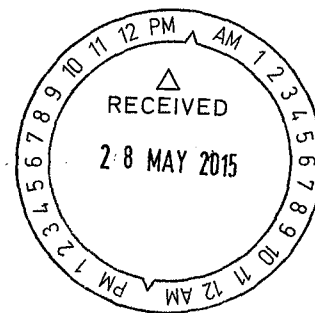26 May, 2015

Hon Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
Perth Western Australia 6000

Dear Mr O'Brien

Thank you for your letter dated 5 May 2015 to Mr Richard Goyder, AO, regarding the High Road Hotel. Mr Goyder has asked me to reply on his behalf.

As you may be aware, Coles has received approval for a Development Application to construct a supermarket, First Choice Liquor store and car parking facilities on the site occupied by the High Road Hotel and existing First Choice Liquor store. Coles believes this project will add greatly to the amenity of the Riverton community, and significantly extend the food and grocery retail choices available to households.

Coles is proud to employ more than 11,000 team members across 270 supermarkets, liquor and convenience businesses in Western Australia. The new Riverton development will create 130 new retail jobs when it is complete along with employment generated in the construction phase, scheduled to commence in late 2015.

This new development reaffirms Coles' commitment to its core business of supermarkets. Coles is investing $25 million to construct a new large-format supermarket and First Choice Liquor store in Riverton. We note the direction of the Western Australian Government's review of the Liquor Control Act 1988. You may be interested to know that the liquor store will have a significantly reduced licensed area from the current 4,500m2 to 850m2.

Coles has undertaken community and customer surveys in relation to its liquor licence application and has met with members of the community group to discuss their concerns.

In response to the questions that you have asked in your letter, I can advise that Coles holds 88 liquor licenses in the Perth metropolitan area; Coles has acquired six hotels in Western Australia in the past 10 years and one hotel has been converted to a liquor store.

Should the Committee have any further questions, please contact

Yours sincerely

Alister Jordan
Corporate Affairs Director

coles
A little better every day