

### **Wholesale Gas Markets**

- Competition and pricing issues in gas markets
- Enforcement of emergency price cap on wholesale gas
- Monitoring and reporting on conduct of gas market participants
- Developing and enforcing a mandatory code of conduct for gas producers



# Market power and exclusive arrangements

- Exclusive arrangements by firms with market power
- ACCC concern is that arrangements increase barriers to entry or lead to anticompetitive foreclosure of rivals



# Global and domestic supply chains

- Competition and consumer issues in global and domestic supply chains
- Focus on transport and logistic



# **Environmental claims and sustainability**

- Broadened scope now includes consumer,
  product safety, fair trading and competition
  concerns
- Focus on businesses using broad claims like 'environmentally friendly', 'green', or 'sustainable'
- Recent report into Greenwashing by businesses in Australia



#### **Unfair Contract Terms**

- Commencement of laws prohibiting unfair contract terms in consumer and small business contracts
- ACCC proactively undertaking a review of terms and conditions across a number of sectors to inform future enforcement cases



#### **Essential Services**

- Competition and consumer issues arising from the pricing and selling of essential services, with a focus on energy and telecommunications
- Current cost of living pressures mean consumers are even more vulnerable to anticompetitive conduct that reduces competition and misleading sales representations
- Follows a number of successful public enforcement outcomes in 2022



## **Digital Economy**

- Manipulative and deceptive practices in connection with digital services
- Dark patterns, use of data, manipulation of online reviews and search results, use of algorithms to achieve manipulation, disclosure of commercial relationships by comparison websites and influencers



### **Digital Platforms**

- Continuing focus on digital platforms
  following Fifth Interim Report for the Digital
  Platform Services Inquiry
- Recommendation of service-specific mandatory codes of conduct for designated digital platforms to complement enforcement of existing competition laws



#### **Consumer Guarantees**

- Empowering consumers and improving industry compliance with consumer guarantees
- Focus on high value goods, include motor vehicles and caravans
- Advocating for reform to make non-compliance with consumer guarantees illegal



## **Industry Codes of Conduct**

- Ensuring small businesses receive
  the protection of the competition and
  consumer laws and small business industry
  codes of conduct
- Focus on franchising, dairy and horticulture sectors



## **Consumer Product Safety**

 Focus on consumer product safety issues for young children, particularly high-risk safety issues



### Scams

- Identifying, reporting and disseminating information about scams
- Supporting implementation of National Anti-Scams Centre