

Ms Cathy Lin, Nominee for the Charcoal Oven Restaurant has applied for a variation of her restaurant liquor licence. The application was advertised in the NT News on 6 and 8 December 2006 in the following terms:

I, Cathy Lin, hereby give notice that I have applied to the Northern Territory Licensing Commission to vary the liquor licence for the premises know as CHARCOAL OVEN RESTAURANT, Liquor Licence (number 80517374), located at Unit 4/68 Cullen Bay, NT 0820, to allow for the consumption of liquor on the premises without the requirement of it being ancillary to a meal.

Appearance - The premises shall at all times have the appearance of and shall trade predominantly as a restaurant.

Patrons – Patrons must be seated at a table.

Consumption of liquor – Consumption of liquor without a meal will not be advertised or promoted.

Kitchen Operation - Premises shall close no later than one and one half hours after the kitchen closes.

Snack Foods - Snack foods will be available at all times.

Advertising and Signage - the word “Bar” shall not be used in any advertising or signage.

Responsible Service of Alcohol Course – Supervisors and Shift Managers shall attend a recognised Responsible Service of Alcohol Course.

The premises’ licensed liquor hours and conditions will remain unchanged.

No objections were received in response to the advertisement and the Commission attended at the premises for a viewing and to speak to the licensee on 23 February 2007. The Nominee has confirmed that her sole purpose in making the application was to cater for the requests of people waiting for the ferry. There are no licensed premises near the ferry terminal where a person can sit in comfort and purchase a beer or other alcoholic beverage while they wait. Ms Lin also hopes that these patrons will purchase a meal from her while they wait and increase her trade.

The provision in some restaurant liquor licences allowing the Licensee to offer liquor without a meal was introduced to cater for those occasions when someone might simply want to join a group of dining patrons for a drink, purchase a coffee and liqueur after the movies or similar circumstances. The licence variation granted is considered to be a “safe” extension that will cause no adverse public interest issues. The Commission considers that this current application falls within the same category. So long as the Licensee complies with her licence conditions and properly manages the premises, then this is a small, “safe” variation. The Licensee cannot advertise liquor without a meal and her business must remain principally that of a restaurant. Under her licence, she can only offer liquor without a meal from the time the kitchen opens until an hour and a half after it closes.

The licence is varied by the inclusion of the following conditions:

Appearance - The premises shall at all times have the appearance of and shall trade predominantly as a restaurant.

Patrons – Patrons not intending to purchase a meal must be seated at a table.

Consumption of liquor – Consumption of liquor without a meal will not be advertised or promoted.

Kitchen Operation - Premises shall close no later than one and one half hours after the kitchen closes.

Snack Foods - Snack foods will be available at all times.

Advertising and Signage - the word "Bar" shall not be used in any advertising or signage.

Responsible Service of Alcohol Course – Supervisors and Shift Managers shall attend a recognised Responsible Service of Alcohol Course.

Richard O'Sullivan
Chairman

6 March 2007