From:

Sent: Friday, 26 August 2022 8:43 AM **To:** postalservices@accc.gov.au

Cc: jennifer.mcgrath@accc.gov.au; kim.hollis@accc.gov.au

Subject: Price rises

Dear Sir / Madam

As a small business owner, sole trader in e-commerce, this move again by Australia Post to UP prices hurts small business owners, and micro businesses again.

Trying to survive in the Covid climate and rebuild my tiny business that supported myself and my two sons very well, when all postage practically stopped during the early days of Covid. In October that year, Australia Post was giving out Cartier watches around October 2022- while small business were reeling from not only local traffic being squashed, but an International letter taking months to arrive at it's destination. The lack of information arriving out of Aus Post was disgusting. No one knew anything – there was no notification from Australia post on their website regarding the methods postage was being sent (turns out it was the scenic route in a shipping container – instead of by air). Even the local corporate P.O. was in the dark.

Meanwhile, my business – that I can point out was bringing in 1k a week steadily into Australia from international customers prior Covid had to stop trading.

I could have quite easily – and very successfully continued to trade and bring money into the country, while supporting my family as a single parent.

It's not just myself, there are thousands of online sellers, Mums and dads, cottage industries if you will. Prior Covid, my local Post Office was also making a good living out of my sales record. As the Govt continually says, small business, runs this country. We pay our taxes, and continue to suffer under a not so transparent Australia Post system with a poor record of delivering services and infrastructure- AND wasting money.

So yet again, I have to pass on the price increase to my customers.

So NO, I don't approve this, not at all. Australia post destroyed my thriving e-business- and are doing everything they can to make my product more expensive.

Given the current climate, where the general public are 'tightening their belts', Australia Post can do the same and reduce their profits, which I read increased by over 10% with online shopping during the pandemic.

yours faithfully

As a foot note to this email.

I was told of price rises to letters last week from staff at Australia Post, this is to take affect on the 1st of September 2022.

Where is the submission from Australia Post regarding this increase? Thank you