

**From:** [Tang, Trung](#)  
**To:** [Abdalla, Nora](#); [Donald, Blake](#)  
**Subject:** RE: trucking industry [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Monday, 20 April 2020 4:17:36 PM

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## OFFICIAL

Hi Nora,

Thanks for doing that background research. I agree Frank is likely to be writing in his own personal capacity as an owner/driver rather than as the ATA.

I will forward the email to Geoff and Monali for their consideration but agree with the proposed steps listed below.

Trung

**From:** Abdalla, Nora <Nora.Abdalla@accg.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 April 2020 4:11 PM  
**To:** Donald, Blake <blake.donald@accg.gov.au>; Tang, Trung <trung.tang@accg.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: trucking industry [SEC=OFFICIAL] [ACCC-ACCCANDAER.FID388962]

## OFFICIAL

Hi Blake and Trung,



I should note that while Frank Black is a Councillor on their general representative council, the ATA is not mentioned in his publication in Owner-Driver magazine. He may be writing as an owner-driver rather than on behalf of the ATA.



Many thanks,

Nora

Nora Abdalla

Investigator | Cartels Branch | Specialised Enforcement and Advocacy Division  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
Level 25 | 32 Turbot Street, Brisbane QLD 4000  
T: (07) 3835 4689

**From:** Donald, Blake <[blake.donald@acc.gov.au](mailto:blake.donald@acc.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 April 2020 2:12 PM  
**To:** Tang, Trung <[trung.tang@acc.gov.au](mailto:trung.tang@acc.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Abdalla, Nora <[Nora.Abdalla@acc.gov.au](mailto:Nora.Abdalla@acc.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: trucking industry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks for this Trung [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] we forward to  
the immunity team for triaging noting with the immunity team that it may also be  
something the SLC team is interested in.

But interested if you or Nora have a different view. Before sending on to the immunity  
team we should also just confirm with Geoff/Monali.

Cheers  
Blake

**Blake Donald**  
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T: +61 2 9230 3864 | E: [blake.donald@acc.gov.au](mailto:blake.donald@acc.gov.au)

**From:** Tang, Trung <[trung.tang@acc.gov.au](mailto:trung.tang@acc.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 April 2020 11:42 AM  
**To:** Donald, Blake <[blake.donald@acc.gov.au](mailto:blake.donald@acc.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Abdalla, Nora <[Nora.Abdalla@acc.gov.au](mailto:Nora.Abdalla@acc.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: trucking industry [SEC=OFFICIAL] [ACCC-ACCANDAER.FID388962]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi Blake,

[REDACTED] forwarded us a link from Owner Driver, an Australian truck publication:  
<https://www.ownerdriver.com.au/industry-news/2004/maintain-your-rates>.

# Released under FOI

The potential problematic paragraphs are the following:

*"What does concern me is the cheap freight being offered by people taking advantage of the situation. This is no time for bottom feeders to seek to profit at the expense of others. We can't afford for rates to be lowered anywhere in the industry.*

*All that will happen if we undersell our work is that we all end up going bust. The only difference between drivers will be that those who refuse to do a run for no profit won't have run our trucks into the ground in the process and may have something worth selling.*

*In harder times, it's more important than ever for us to stick together and stand strong. We all feel the calling of our personal financial needs but undercutting each other to win work will only do harm to us all."*

Desktop research indicates Frank Black is the owner driver representative on the Australian Trucking Association Council.

Trung

**From:** Abdalla, Nora <Nora.Abdalla@acc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 April 2020 10:59 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@acc.gov.au>; Tang, Trung <trung.tang@acc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: trucking industry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

[REDACTED]

Thank you for passing this on – much appreciated!

Cheers,

Nora

**Nora Abdalla**

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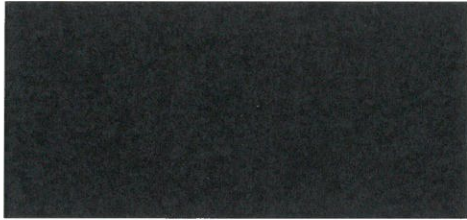
**From:** [REDACTED]@acc.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 April 2020 10:31 AM  
**To:** Abdalla, Nora <Nora.Abdalla@acc.gov.au>; Tang, Trung <trung.tang@acc.gov.au>  
**Subject:** trucking industry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Nora and Trung

Please see article below as it may be of interest:

<https://www.ownerdriver.com.au/industry-news/2004/maintain-your-rates>



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