



Our ref: AA1000478
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30 July 2020

By email

Dear Sir/Madam,

Regional Express Pty Ltd application for authorisation AA1000478 — draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (**the ACCC**) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Regional Express Pty Ltd (**Rex**) on 23 March 2020.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant conditional authorisation until 30 June 2021.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached and also available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

While we usually prefer to hold a conference in a way that enables attendees to attend in person, in the current circumstances, with the spread of COVID-19 and the need to significantly limit social contact, a face to face conference is currently not possible. There may be options for the ACCC to hold a conference via webinar or teleconference. **If you are considering requesting the ACCC hold a conference please contact us as early as possible to discuss the options for holding a conference before requesting one.**

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **20 August 2020**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
23 March 2020	Lodgement of application and supporting submission
26 March 2020	Interim decision
20 April 2020	Public consultation process begins
11 May 2020	Closing date for submissions from interested parties
25 May 2020	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process
30 July 2020	Draft determination released
August 2020	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called
September 2020	Final determination

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Mahony on 03 9290 1983.

Yours sincerely



Director
Adjudication