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26/03/2020

#### By email

Dear Madam or Sir

# Car rental operators at Cairns Airport - application for authorisation AA1000460—draft determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by a group of car rental operators at Cairns Airport on 28 November 2019.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for five years.

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'.

#### Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **9 April 2020**. Submissions should be emailed to <a href="mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au">adjudication@accc.gov.au</a> with the subject "AA1000460 – Car rental operators at Cairns Airport – submission".

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called - see below), 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 <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

## Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a predecision conference in relation to its draft determination.

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 **9 April 2020** by email to <a href="mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au">adjudication@accc.gov.au</a>.

We prefer to hold a conference in a way that enables attendees to attend in person. In the current circumstances, with the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to significantly limit social contact, a face to face conference is not possible at this time. The ACCC may be able 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 before requesting one.

#### **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
28 November 2019	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
3 December 2019	Public consultation process begins.
13 February 2020	Interim Authorisation Decision
26 March 2020	Draft determination
April 2020	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
May 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 Kaitlin Hanrahan on (03) 9290 1917.

Yours sincerely

Danielle Staltari Director

Adjudication