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Our ref: AA1000533 Contact officer: Will Sommers Contact phone: (03) 9910 9444

8/04/2021

Dear interested party,

Virgin Australia & Alliance Airlines application for authorisation AA1000533 – final determination

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Virgin Australia and Alliance Airlines (the **Applicants**) on 23 October 2020.

Authorisation gives the Applicants legal protection from competition laws to cooperate on the 41 regional routes and two short-haul international routes identified in their application.¹

A copy of the ACCC's determination is attached, including a summary of its reasons. For the reasons set out in its determination, the ACCC has decided to grant authorisation until 31 March 2023. The ACCC's assessment is set out in Chapter Four of its determination.

Application for review

Pursuant to section 101 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth), a person dissatisfied with this determination may apply to the Australian Competition Tribunal for its review. An application for review must be made within 21 days of the date of this determination; that is, on or before 29 April 2021. If no application to review is lodged by this date, the ACCC's determination will come into force on 30 April 2021.

An application for review of the ACCC's determination should be lodged directly with the Australian Competition Tribunal. The Australian Competition Tribunal is a separate body from the ACCC and is located within the Federal Court of Australia.

For further information about the process involved in reviewing decisions in the Australian Competition Tribunal please refer to the tribunal's website located at http://www.competitiontribunal.gov.au/.

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¹ The application is available on the ACCC's <u>public register</u>.

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 Will Sommers on (03) 9910 9444.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Jones

Director

Competition Exemptions