



Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

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Australia

Our Ref: C2002/1093

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24 September 2002

Ms Catherine Parr
Partner
Allens Arthur Robinson
Level 17, Chifley Tower
2 Chifley Square
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Ms Parr

**Re: Third Line Forcing Notifications N31172 and N31173 lodged by
the Westpac Group**

The above third line forcing notifications were received by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the Commission) on 16 July 2002 and have been placed on the Commission's public register.

You have described the notified conduct as involving Westpac Life Insurance Services Ltd (Westpac Life) offering the customers of Hospital Contributions Fund Australia Limited (HCF) a discount on annual premiums for income protection insurance, as well as Westpac Banking Corporation (Westpac Bank) offering the HCF customers a pricing advantage on a range of products and services including home loans, investment property loans, personal loans, credit cards, transaction accounts, term deposits and financial planning. Immunity for the notified conduct commenced on 30 July 2002.

On the basis of the information that you have provided, it is not intended that further action be taken in this matter at this stage.

As with any notification, please note that the Commission may act to remove the immunity afforded by this notification at a later stage if it is satisfied that the public benefit arising from the notified conduct does not outweigh the public detriment arising from the conduct.

This letter has been placed upon the Commission's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact Nicole Ryan on (02) 6243 1237.

Yours sincerely

Tim Grimwade
General Manager
Adjudication Branch

