



Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

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Our Ref: C2003/1608  
Contact Officer: Jason Byrne  
Contact Phone: 02 6243 1279

7 May 2004

«Address»

Dear «Salutation»

**Review of Taxi Authorisations – Notices Proposing to Revoke Authorisations  
A90441, A90448, A90531, A90449, A90447, A90463,  
A90455, A40047, A90498, A40071, A90472**

I refer to the above authorisations which were granted by the then Trade Practices Commission (the TPC) during the period of 1986 to 1994 to a number of companies in the taxi industry. The TPC is now known as the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the Commission).

**The authorisation process**

By way of background, the Commission is the Commonwealth agency responsible for administering the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act). The objective of the Act is to enhance the welfare of Australians by promoting competition and fair trading and providing for consumer protection.

Under the authorisation provisions of the Act the Commission may grant immunity from legal proceedings for some arrangements or conduct that might otherwise breach the anti-competitive practices provisions of the Act where it is satisfied that the public benefit flowing from such arrangements or conduct outweighs any public detriment.

One way in which parties may obtain immunity is to formally apply to the Commission for what is known as an 'authorisation'.



### **Revocation of an authorisation**

Under section 91B of the Act, the Commission may revoke an authorisation at any time after granting an authorisation if it considers that there has been a material change of circumstances.

To initiate the revocation of authorisation the Commission is required to inform interested parties by Notice in writing that it is considering the revocation of the authorisation, indicate the basis on which the revocation is being proposed, and invite submissions in respect of the revocation.

Under section 91B of the Act, a person to whom an authorisation was granted may also apply for revocation of that authorisation. On receipt of such an application the Commission is required to inform interested parties by Notice in writing to indicate that the revocation of the authorisation has been applied for, indicate the basis on which the revocation has been applied for, and invite submissions in respect of the revocation.

After considering any submissions received from interested parties in relation to the proposed revocation, the Commission may make a determination in writing revoking the authorisation or deciding not to revoke the authorisation.

### **Conduct authorised**

As mentioned, during the period of 1986 to 1994 the TPC granted authorisations to a number of companies in the taxi industry. A detailed list of these authorisations is at Attachment A. Broadly, the conduct authorised in each authorisation is identical and can be described as the provision of radio booking services on the condition that taxi drivers accept approved taxi hire account systems and display the decals of those account systems, otherwise risk suspension from the radio booking service.

### **Notice proposing to revoke Deluxe Red and Yellow Cabs authorisation**

For your information the Commission has already issued a Notice proposing to revoke authorisation A30112 to Deluxe Red and Yellow Cabs Co-operative Trading Society Ltd, now known as the Combined Communications Network Ltd, on the basis that a material change of circumstances had occurred. This Notice was issued on 17 December 2003 and copy of the Notice, along with submissions received from interested parties on this matter, are available on the Commission's website at [www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

### **Proposed revocation of authorisations**

The Commission considers that a material change of circumstances has occurred since authorisations A90441, A90448, A90531, A90449, A90447, A90463, A90455, A40047, A90498 and A40071 were granted. Accordingly, the Commission proposes to revoke each of these authorisations and Notices to this effect are enclosed for your perusal. Reasons why the Commission considers that a material change of circumstances has occurred are detailed in the Notices.

Please note that the issue of a Notice proposing to revoke an authorisation is only the first step in the review process, as required by the Act to initiate consultation with interested

parties. The Commission has not formed a view as to whether it will decide to revoke, or decide not to revoke, any or all of the authorisations.

### **Proposed revocation of authorisation A90472**

In a letter received by the Commission on 21 April 2004, Suburban Transport Services Pty Ltd, formerly known as Suburban Taxi Service Pty Ltd (Suburban), advised that due to considerable changes in the taxi industry since 1988, authorisation has become unnecessary and is no longer required. Accordingly, a Notice indicating that revocation of authorisation A90472 has been applied for is enclosed.

### **Your views are sought**

The Commission invites you to make a written submission regarding the proposed revocation of these authorisations. The Commission is proposing to consider the proposed revocation of all these authorisations concurrently.

If you wish to make a submission, please address it to:

The General Manager  
Adjudication Branch  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
PO Box 1199  
DICKSON ACT 2602

Alternatively, submissions may be lodged by fax on (02) 6243 1211 or via e-mail at [adjudication@acc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@acc.gov.au).

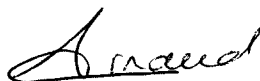
The Commission requests that you lodge any submission you wish to make by **close of business Friday 11 June 2004**.

As the authorisation process is a public and transparent one, submissions will be placed on the Commission's Public Register. You may request that information you provide in a submission to the Commission be treated as confidential and not placed on the Public Register. Information excluded from the Public Register for reasons of confidentiality will still be considered by the Commission when reaching its decision. Guidelines for seeking confidentiality are enclosed for your information.

A copy of this letter, and the enclosed Notices, will be placed on the Commission's Public Register.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me on (02) 6243 1049 or Jason Byrne on (02) 6243 1279.

Yours «End»



Isabelle Arnaud  
Director  
Adjudication Branch

**Authorisations Proposed for Revocation**

New South Wales

- Deluxe Red & Yellow Cabs Co-operative Trading Society Ltd (A30112) – Notice issued 17 December 2003
- Legion Cabs (Trading) Co-Operative Society Ltd (A90441)
- RSL Ex-Servicemen's Cabs and Co-Operative Members Ltd (A90448)
- St George Cabs Co-Operative Ltd (A90531)

Victoria

- Arrow Taxi Services Ltd (A90449)
- Regal Combined Taxis Pty Ltd (A90447)
- Geelong Radio Cabs Co-Operative Ltd (A90463)
- North Suburban Taxis Ltd (A90455)
- Silver Top Taxi Service (A40047)
- Black Cabs and Eastern Group Taxis Co-Operative Ltd (A90498)
- West Suburban Taxis Ltd (A40071)

South Australia

- Suburban Taxi Service Pty Ltd (A90472)

No	Address
1.	Mr David Bell Chief Executive Australian Bankers' Association Level 3, 56 Pitt Street SYDNEY NSW 2000
2.	Mr James Larkey Executive Officer Australian Association of Permanent Building Societies PO Box 9021 DEAKIN ACT 2600
3.	Mr Michael Powell President Queensland Taxi Drivers Association 4/300 Cliveden Ave CORINDA QLD 4075
4.	Mr Geoff Bell President Victoria Taxi Operators Group 27 Wren Road MOORABBIN VIC 3189
5.	The President Action for Public Transport PO Box K606 HAYMARKET NSW 1240
6.	The President Public Transport Users Association Victoria 247 Flinders Lane MELBOURNE VIC 3000
7.	Mr B Wilkins NSW Taxi Industry Association 152 Riley Street EAST SYDNEY NSW 2010
8.	Mr John Bowe President Australian Taxi Industry Association Via e-mail: <a href="mailto:bowe107@ozemail.com.au">bowe107@ozemail.com.au</a>
9.	Mr Michael Jools Taxi Committee Transport Workers Union 120 Evans Street ROZELLE NSW 2039
10.	Mr Brian O'Sullivan Secretary (Tamworth Radio Cabs) NSW Taxi Country Operators Association PO Box W185 WEST TAMWORTH 2340
11.	Mr Max McBride President

	Taxi Council of Queensland PO Box 290 STONES CORNER QLD 4120
12.	Mr Kevin Foley Chairman Taxi Council of Western Australia PO Box 26 International Terminal Perth Airport WA 6105
13.	Mr Howard Harrison Chief Executive Officer NSW Taxi Council PO Box 1249 DARLINGHURST NSW 1300
14.	Mr Neil Sach Chief Executive Officer Victorian Taxi Association PO Box 5111 GARDEN CITY VIC 3207
15.	President Mr Eric Green Taxi Industry Association of Tasmania PO Box 41 SANDY BAY TAS 7005
16.	Mr Graeme Windsor Chairman Canberra Taxi Proprietors Association PO Box 22 LYONS ACT 2602
17.	South Australian Taxi Association President Mr Jim Triantafyllou 17 Wirriga St REGENCY PARK SA 5010
18.	Mr Dan Jones Secretary Australian Transport Council GPO Box 594 CANBERRA ACT 2601
19.	Mr Peer Lindholdt Cabbie PO Box 549 EDGECLIFF NSW 2027
20.	Mr Ken Matthews Secretary Department of Transport and Regional Services GPO Box 594 CANBERRA ACT 2601
21.	Mr Steve French

	<p>General Manager  Competition and Consumer Policy Division  The Treasury  Langton Crescent  PARKES ACT 2600</p>
22.	<p>Mr Geoff Yewdall  Manager  Ministry of Transport  NSW Department of Transport  Locked Bag 5310  PARRAMATTA NSW 2120</p>
23.	<p>Ms Angy Egan  Manager Operations  Victorian Taxi Directorate  PO Box 666  NORTH MELBOURNE VIC 3051</p>
24.	<p>Mr Paul Stenhouse  Manager Urban Transport Management Unit  Queensland Transport  PO Box 673  FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006</p>
25.	<p>Mr Bruce Wilson  Director General  Queensland Transport  GPO Box 1412  SPRING HILL QLD 4001</p>
26.	<p>Mr Greg Martin  Director General  Department for Planning &amp; Infrastructure  PO Box 7272  CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850</p>
27.	<p>Mr John Steele  Executive Director  Transport SA  33 Walker St  Walkerville SA 5081</p>
28.	<p>Mr John Bessell  Manager of Vehicle Operations  Department of Infrastructure, Energy &amp;  Resources  10 Murray Street  HOBART TAS 7000</p>
29.	<p>Mr David Peters  A/Deputy Secretary  Department of Infrastructure, Energy &amp;  Resources  GPO Box 936  HOBART TAS 7001</p>
30.	<p>Mr Alan Thompson  Chief Executive</p>

	<p>Department of Urban Services  GPO Box 158  CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601</p>
31.	<p>Ms Kate McTaggart  Director Public Transport Branch  Department of Infrastructure, Planning &amp;  Environment  GPO Box 2520  DARWIN NT 0801</p>
32.	<p>Mr David O'Connor  Commissioner  NSW Department of Fair Trading  PO Box 972  PARRAMATTA NSW 2124</p>
33.	<p>Dr David Cousins  Director  Consumer Affairs Victoria  Level 2, 452 Flinders Street  MELBOURNE VIC 3000</p>
34.	<p>Mr Matt Miller  Commissioner for Fair Trading  Queensland Office of Fair Trading  GPO Box 3111  BRISBANE QLD 4001</p>
35.	<p>Mr Patrick Walker  Chief Executive Officer  Department of Consumer &amp; Employment  Protection  Locked Bag 14  CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850</p>
36.	<p>Mr David Schomburgh  Manager, Consumer Affairs Branch  Office of Consumer and Business Affairs  GPO Box 1719  ADELAIDE SA 5001</p>
37.	<p>Mr Roy Ormerod  Director  Tasmanian Office of Consumer Affairs and  Fair Trading  GPO Box 1244  HOBART TAS 7001</p>
38.	<p>Mr Tony Brown  Director of Fair Trading  ACT Office of Fair Trading  GPO Box 158  CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601</p>
39.	<p>Ms Carolyn Bond  Chair  Consumers' Federation of Australia  11-19 Bank Place</p>



	MELBOURNE VIC 3000
40.	Mr Chris Field Executive Director Consumer Law Centre Victoria Level 7, 20 Queen Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000
41.	Mr Norm Crothers Acting General Manager – Policy Australian Consumers' Association 57 Carrington Road MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204
42.	Mr Gary Clements Director of Consumer Affairs Department of Justice GPO Box 1722 DARWIN NT 0801
43.	Mr Brian Rope Australian Federation of Disability Organisations 218 Northbourne Avenue BRADDON ACT 2612
44.	Mr Jim Purcell Executive Director, Council on the Ageing Wisdom Street Community Centre Wisdom Street HUGHES ACT 2605
45.	Mr Chris Connolly Director Financial Services Consumer Policy Centre Law Faculty, Room 1212 Mathews Building, University of NSW SYDNEY NSW 2052
46.	The Managing Director Berry Taxi Service 19 Windsor Drive BERRY NSW 2535
47.	The Managing Director Cessnock Radio Cabs 52 Cumberland St CESSNOCK NSW 2325
48.	The Managing Director Gosford City Taxis 256 Manns Road GOSFORD WEST NSW 2250
49.	The Managing Director Inverell Radio Cabs 18a Vivian St INVERELL NSW 2360
50.	The Managing Director Raymond Terrace Taxi Service

	6 Garnett Road EAST MAITLAND NSW 2323
51.	The Managing Director Silver Luxury Taxis of Sydney 83 Neeks Road MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204
52.	The Managing Director Newcastle Taxis 3-7 Chaucer St HAMILTON NSW 2303
53.	The Managing Director Central Coast Taxis PO Box 1507 GOSFORD NSW 2250
54.	The Managing Director Southern Districts Radio Cabs 5 Secant St LIVERPOOL NSW 2170
55.	The Managing Director Manly Warringah Cabs 12 Boola Pl CROMER NSW 2099
56.	The Managing Director Saffioti Taxis 2 Centenary Pl TEMORA NSW 2666
57.	The Managing Director ABC Radio Taxis Suite 101, 349 Pacific Highway NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059
58.	The Managing Director Sydney City Taxis 13 Newtown Street SYDNEY NSW 2000
59.	The Managing Director Alexandria Cabs Auto Service 143 Wynham Street ALEXANDRIA NSW 2015
60.	The Managing Director Cabfare 26 Albion Street HARRIS PARK NSW 2150
61.	The Managing Director CABGAS Taxi Management Unit6/126 Rocky Pont Road KOGARAH NSW 2217
62.	The Managing Director Camden Taxis 31 Blaxton Road CAMPBELLTOWN NSW 2560

63.	The Managing Director Cumberland Cabs 33 Woodville Road GRANVILLE NSW 2142
64.	The Managing Director Premier Cabs PO Box 94 GRANVILLE NSW 2142
65.	The Managing Director Forbes Taxi Service PO Box 570 FORBES NSW 2871
66.	The Managing Director David's Taxi Service 12 Patterson Street NORTH BONDI NSW 2026
67.	The Managing Director Yellow Cabs 20 Rosslyn St MILE END SA 5031
68.	The Managing Director Adelaide Independent Taxis 99 Henley Beach Rd MILE END SA 5031
69.	The Managing Director Des's Cabs Adelaide 125 Holbrooks Rd UNDERDALE SA 5032
70.	The Managing Director Gawler Taxi & Hire Car Service 3 Redbanks Rd WILLASTON SA 5118
71.	The Managing Director Barossa Valley Taxis 7 Albert St TANUNDA SA 5352
72.	The Managing Director Berri Taxi Service 49 Cooper St BERRI SA 5343
73.	The Managing Director Goolwa Taxi Service 18 Avoca St GOOLWA SA 5214
74.	The Managing Director Murray Bridge Taxi Service 13 Wyreema St MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253
75.	The Managing Director

	Strathalbyn Taxi Service 7 Donald St STRATHALBYN SA 5255
76.	The Managing Director Yankallilla Taxi Service 28 St Andrews Blv NORMANVILLE SA 5204
77.	The Managing Director Naracoorte Taxis 7 Pine Grove NARACOORTE SA 5271
78.	The Managing Director Vears Taxis 2a Ramsay Ave Mt Gambier SA 5290
79.	The Managing Director Diamond Taxis 299 Hindley St ADELAIDE SA 5000
80.	The Managing Director Clare Valley Taxi Service 3 Wright St Clare SA 5453
81.	The Managing Director Copper Triangle Taxis 84 Port Rd KADINA SA 5554
82.	The Managing Director Lincoln City Taxi 22 Blackman Pl PORT LINCOLN SA 5606
83.	The Managing Director Loxton Taxis PO BOX 1606 LOXTON SA 5333
84.	The Managing Director Mt Barker Taxi Service PO Box 448 MT BARKER SA 5251
85.	The Managing Director Murray Bridge Taxi Service 13 Wyreema St MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253
86.	The Managing Director Peterborough Taxi Service 201 Main St PETERBOROUGH SA 5422
87.	The Managing Director Wallaroo Bayside Taxis 14 John Tce

	WALLAROO SA 5556
88.	The Managing Director Bendigo Taxis 9 Rohs Rd BENDIGO VIC 3550
89.	The Managing Director Ararat Taxis 375 Barkly St ARARAT VIC 3377
90.	The Managing Director Dandenong Taxis 6 Hemmings St DANDENONG VIC 3175
91.	The Managing Director Nagambie Taxi Service Crown Cabs 72 High St PRESTON VIC 3072
92.	The Managing Director Frankston Radio Cabs 21 Milne Ave SEAFORD VIC 3198
93.	The Managing Director Swan Hill City Taxis 20 Pascoe St SWAN HILL VIC 3585
94.	The Managing Director Bacchus March Western District Taxis 17 Collins Rd MELTON VIC 3337
95.	The Managing Director Mildura Taxis 36 Ninth St MILDURA VIC 3500
96.	The Managing Director Bay City Cabs 11-15 Douro St GEELONG NORTH VIC 3215
97.	The Managing Director Ballarat Taxis 911 Doveton St BALLARAT VIC 3350
98.	The Managing Director Warrnambool Radio Taxis Unit 8/135 Timor St WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280
99.	The Managing Director Cabcorp Australia Taxi Holding Bay Tullamarine Airport

	TULLAMARINE VIC 3043
100.	The Managing Director Lorne Taxi Service PO Box 136 LORNE VIC 3232
101.	The Managing Director 262 High St NAGAMBIE VIC 3608
102.	The Managing Director Unicon Taxi Service 92 Errol St NORTH MELBOURNE VIC 3051
103.	The Managing Director Cab Link Australia 148 Clarendon St SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205
104.	The Managing Director Taxis Australia 35 Downing St OAKLEIGH VIC 3166
105.	The Managing Director Warragul Taxi 1 Smith St WARRAGUL VIC 3820
106.	The Managing Director South Eastern Taxi Brokers 147 Carinish Rd CLAYTON VIC 3168
107.	The Managing Director Pakenham Taxis 21 Henty St PAKENHAM VIC 3810
108.	Mr Hans Althoff Vermont Auto Gas 188 Brooks Road VERMONT VIC 3133
109.	The Managing Director Black & White Cabs PO Box 1097 HAMILTON QLD 4007
110.	The Managing Director Regent Taxis 21 Margaret St SOUTHPORT QLD 4215
111.	The Managing Director Yellow Cabs PO Box 1099 COORPAROO QLD 4151
112.	The Managing Director Blue & White Cabs

	427 Chapple St GLADSTONE QLD 4680
113.	The Managing Director Garden City Cabs 84 Drayton Rd TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350
114.	The Managing Director Ipswich Yellow Cabs 27 Darling St IPSWICH QLD 4305
115.	The Managing Director Northern Suburbs Taxi Depot 140 Edmondstone St NEWMARKET QLD 4051
116.	The Managing Director Rocky Cabs 163 East St ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700
117.	The Managing Director St George Taxi Service 92 Arthur St ST GEORGE QLD 4487
118.	The Managing Director Tanks Cabs Longreach 85 Crane St LONGREACH QLD 4730
119.	The Managing Director Warwick Cab Co 8 Yangan Rd WARWICK QLD 4730
120.	The Managing Director Suncoast Cabs PO Box 124 COTTON TREE QLD 4558
121.	The Managing Director Rainbow Taxi Service PO Box 201 RAINBOW BEACH QLD 4581
122.	The Managing Director Oakey Taxi 37 Federal St OAKEY QLD 4401
123.	The Managing Director Moranbah Taxi Services 7 Gordon Tce MORANBAH QLD 4744
124.	The Managing Director Marzeke Taxi Service 85 Jane St CUNNAMULLA QLD 4490

125.	The Managing Director Blackwater Taxi Service 59 Arthur St BLACKWATER QLD 4717
126.	The Managing Director Gold City Cabs PO Box 159 HYDE PARK QLD 4812
127.	The Managing Director Kilcoy Taxis 9 Woodrow St KILCOY QLD 4515
128.	The Managing Director Logan City Yellow Cabs 16 Blackwood Rd WOODRIDGE QLD 4114
129.	The Managing Director Canberra Cabs Lyons Pl LYONS ACT 2606
130.	The Managing Director Yellow Cabs 277 Bagon Rd DARWIN NT 0800
131.	The Managing Director Darwin Radio Taxis 15 Finnis St DARWIN NT 0800
132.	The Managing Director Airport Taxi Service PO Box 1663 HOBART TAS 7001
133.	The Managing Director Central Cabs 1a Tatler Arc LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
134.	The Managing Director Devonport Taxi's 123 Don Rd DEVONPORT TAS 7310
135.	Mr Leigh Clapham General Manager – Australasia MasterCard Australia Ltd 146 Arthur Street NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060
136.	Mr Gordon Wheaton Executive Vice-President Visa International Level 27, Grosvenor Place 225 George Street



	SYDNEY NSW 2000
137.	Mr Moray McDonald Managing Director Diners Club International 1193 Toorak Road HARTWELL VIC 3124
138.	Mr Ken Douglas Director Bankcard Association of Australia Level 4, 724 George Street SYDNEY NSW 2000
139.	Mr Gary Schmidt Chief Executive Officer Schmidt Electronic Laboratories Pty Ltd 142 Chapel Street ST KILDA VIC 3183
140.	The Chief Executive Officer VeCommerce Ltd Level 1 2 Apollo Place LANE COVE NSW 2066
141.	Mr John Steward Senior Vice President American Express International GPO Box 1582 SYDNEY NSW 1131
142.	Managing Director JCB PO Box R1477 Royal Exchange SYDNEY NSW 1225