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6 September 2004

Mr Tim Grimwade  
General Manager, Adjudication Branch  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
PO Box 1199  
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Attention: Mr Jason Byrne

Dear Mr Grimwade

**Proposed Revocation of Taxi Authorisations**

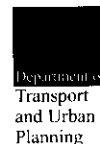
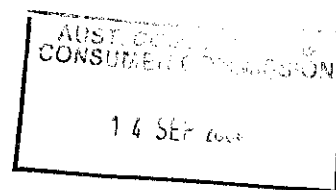
I write in response to your letter of 25 August 2004 referring to a submission made to you by this Office on 29 June 2004 regarding the above matter.

Further to a telephone conversation on Monday 6 September 2004 between Mr Jason Byrne of the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) and Mr Karl Mortimer of my Office, I confirm that the view expressed in our correspondence of 29 June 2004 relates to South Australia only. The Office of Public Transport, Department of Transport and Urban Planning cannot comment on the situation in other jurisdictions.

The view expressed by this office in June was that Office of Public Transport does not have any issue with the ACCC revoking the authorisation limiting credit (e.g. to Cabcharge) accepted by taxi companies in South Australia. This was based on comments from the Taxi Council South Australia Inc. (formerly the South Australian Taxi Association) and Suburban Transport Services that the authorisations were no longer necessary to encourage drivers to accept credit and other card, voucher or EFTPOS facilities.

This view remains unchanged.

There are three Centralised Booking Services (CBSs) operating in metropolitan Adelaide; namely Adelaide Independent Taxis, Suburban Transport Services and Yellow Corporation. Suburban Transport Services presently operates the smallest fleet of vehicles and is the only CBS in metropolitan Adelaide that has authorisation. Vehicles attached to the other CBSs accept credit cards, vouchers and EFTPOS transactions.



Thank you for providing an opportunity to clarify our previous comment.

Yours sincerely,



**Heather Webster**  
**Executive Director**