

RECORD OF MEETING

between

Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

and

NSW State Government - Ministry of Transport

29 June 2004, 1pm

16 - 18 Wentworth Street, Parramatta, NSW

Present

ACCC: Ms Isabelle Arnaud, Adjudication Branch
Mr Jason Byrne, Adjudication Branch

Mr Roy Wakelin-King, Director Transport Operations Division
Mr Arthur Rogers, General Manager Policy and Procedures
Mark Brimfield, A/General Manager Regulation & Compliance

The purpose of the meeting was to provide the Ministry of Transport with an overview of the review of taxi authorisations being undertaken by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the Commission) and to seek input on the likely situation if the authorisations were revoked.

Ms Arnaud explained that the conduct authorised relates to the provision of radio booking services to taxi operators and drivers on the condition they accept the taxi hiring account system and display the decals of that system, otherwise risk suspension from the radio booking service or the imposition of a penalty. The taxi hiring account system is known as the Cabcharge Account System and covers acceptance of most cards and Cabcharge dockets.

Mr Wakelin-King provided a broad overview of the structure of the taxi industry (see Attachment A). Mr Wakelin-King explained that vertical integration can exist at all levels in that a licence holder can be a taxi operator and also a driver. However, more licence holders are primarily investors who lease out their licences to taxi operators.

It was agreed that the Ministry of Transport would provide further information in writing to specific issues the Commission may wish to raise.

Taxi Structure

