

Roy, Lauren

Subject: Re Draft Notice to Revoke Ebays Immunity [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Categories: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED

ACCC Classification: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED

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From: Rebecca [mailto:
Sent: Saturday, 21 June 2008 2:06 AM
To: Adjudication
Subject: Re Draft Notice to Revoke Ebays Immunity

To whom it may concern,

I would like to state that I whole heartedly support the Draft Notice to Revoke Ebays Immunity which the ACCC published on the 12th of June and sincerely hope that the ACCC will finalise and enforce this..

As a seller on ebay of 5 years, and as an Australian consumer the enforced use of a notoriously unstable "banking" system also owned by ebay concerns me greatly. If ebay is granted immunity - I will be unwilling to trade on ebay anymore, my clients are mostly students unwilling or unable to open Paypal accounts.

The 'safety net' provided by Paypal will not be available for sellers under a particular feedback percentage, already ebay have demonstrated how the enforcement of a payment system is directed at ensuring they get every chunk of the dollar and will adopt strategies with that in mind only. Recently ebay have changed feedback rules to include neutral ratings as negatives deliberately deflating sellers feedback scores which in turn reduces the ability of buyers to receive top level paypal 'protection. This to me is a clear example how the monopoly over the choice of payment method leads to unfair practises which leaves consumers and businesses with less actual protection through lack of choice.

There are ample payment methods able to ensure the ability of a buyer to guarantee safety. Any credit card payment system can be subject to a "chargeback". Paymate and merchant accounts however will not be allowed if Ebay is allowed Immunity. It is my opinion that Ebays intention is to monopolise every element of the trade between buyers and seller possible, not to increase buyer confidence or safety.

In short, more choice for consumers in the online marketplace promotes a healthy and competitive market.

I implore the ACCC to fully and permanently Revoke Ebays Immunity. The enforced use of a single payment system owned by the same company as the auction website will be absolutely devastating for many small business owners in this country and could very well lead to an unsafer payment system.

I thankyou for addressing the concerns of so many and hope that you continue to do so,

Sincerely,

Rebecca Walker
<contact details excluded>

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