



29 September 2010

Doctor Richard Chadwick  
General Manager Adjudication Branch  
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission  
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Dr Chadwick

**Draft Determination – Air NZ and Virgin Blue Authorisation**

I refer to the draft determination released by the Commission proposing to deny Virgin Blue and Air New Zealand's application for authorisation to make, and give effect to, the Australasian Airline Alliance Agreement, an associated Code Share Agreement and proposed related agreements which are contemplated by the Alliance Agreement (together the Alliance). The Alliance provides for coordination and agreement between Virgin Blue and Air New Zealand in respect of trans-Tasman passenger services.

Sydney Airport Corporation Limited is not opposed to the Alliance.

In our view, there would be no meaningful impact on competition between airlines servicing trans-Tasman routes and no concomitant meaningful anti-competitive detriment. Further, we encourage endeavours that may result in better quality of service for passengers and increasingly efficient use of airport assets.

We ask that the Commission consider these matters in its final determination.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russell Balding".

**Russell Balding AO**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Sydney Airport  
Corporation Limited**  
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