



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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Our Ref: C2010/802
Contact Officer: Clare McGinness
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3 February 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

**Virgin Blue Airlines Pty Ltd & others applications for authorisation A91247 & A91248
– final determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Virgin Blue Airlines Pty Ltd & others & Etihad Airways on 27 August 2010.

Virgin Blue and Etihad sought authorisation for an alliance in relation to air passenger services, and have agreed to cooperate on pricing and scheduling of services across their networks.

A copy of the ACCC's determination is attached, including a summary of its reasons. For the reasons set out in its determination, the ACCC has decided to grant authorisation for five years. The ACCC's assessment is set out in Chapter 4 of its determination.

Application for review

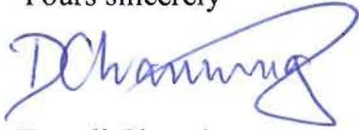
Pursuant to section 101 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, a person dissatisfied with this determination may apply to the Australian Competition Tribunal for its review. An application for review must be made within 21 days of the date of this determination; that is, on or before 24 February 2011. If no application to review is lodged by this date, the ACCC's determination will come into force on 25 February 2011.

An application for review of the ACCC's determination should be lodged directly with the Australian Competition Tribunal. The Australian Competition Tribunal is a separate body from the ACCC and is located within the Federal Court of Australia.

For further information about the process involved in reviewing decisions in the Australian Competition Tribunal please refer to the tribunal's website located at <http://www.competitiontribunal.gov.au/>.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Clare McGinness on (02) 6243 1049.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Channing', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Darrell Channing
Director
Adjudication Branch