



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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10 July 2013

Luke Woodward
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Rebecca Dollisson
Lawyer
Gilbert + Tobin
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By email: lwoodward@gtlaw.com.au; rdollisson@gtlaw.com.au

Dear Mr Woodward and Ms Dollisson

**Authorisation applications A91362 & A91363 submitted by
Virgin Australia and Air New Zealand Limited–
Draft determination**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Virgin Australia and Air New Zealand on 8 March 2013.

Draft determination

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation subject to conditions for three years.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the applicants or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **24 July 2013**.

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **24 July 2013**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).


Timetable

An indicative timetable is set out below for your information

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
8 March 2013	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
18 March 2013	Public consultation process begins.
12 April 2013	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
26 April 2013	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
July 2013	Draft determination.
July 2013	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
September 2013	Final determination.

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 Imogen Hartcher-O'Brien on (02) 6243 1049 or Mark Basile on (03) 9290 1855.

Yours sincerely



Rose Webb
Executive General Manager
Mergers and Adjudication Group