

Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd

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www.virginaustralia.com

28 November 2014

The General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

adjudication@accc.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find the following documents enclosed:

- 1. Form G -Notification of Exclusive Dealing in relation to Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd; and
- 2. cheque to the value of \$100 for lodgement fees.

An electronic copy of the Form G -Notification of Exclusive Dealing has been emailed to you.

In relation to the lodgement fees, please provide us with a receipt in due course.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any queries.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Natalie Fraser

Legal Counsel

Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd

Form G

Commonwealth of Australia

Competition and Consumer Act 2010 - subsection 93 (1)

NOTIFICATION OF EXCLUSIVE DEALING

To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with subsection 93 (1) of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to subsections 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) or (9) of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

PLEASE FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON BACK OF THIS FORM

1. Applicant

(a) Name of person giving notice:

N98014 Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd ACN 090 670 965 ("Virgin Australia").

(b) Short description of business carried on by that person:

Operates an airline and other associated services.

(c) Address in Australia for service of documents on that person:

Legal Department Virgin Australia Airlines 56 Edmondstone Road Bowen Hills, Qld 4006

2. Notified arrangement

(a) Description of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates:

Allocation of a point of sale discount on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits to customers of selected travel management companies and travel agencies for a defined period of time ("Promotional Period").

(b) Description of the conduct or proposed conduct:

From time to time, Virgin Australia proposes to supply or offer to supply point of sale discounts on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits to customers of selected travel management companies and travel agencies for defined Promotional Periods.

3. Persons, or classes of persons, affected or likely to be affected by the notified conduct

(a) Class or classes of persons to which the conduct relates:

Customers of travel management companies and travel agencies throughout the world.

- (b) Number of those persons:
 - (i) At present time:

Unable to determine

(ii) Estimated within the next year:

Unable to determine

(c) Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names and addresses:

Unable to determine

4. Public benefit claims

(a) Arguments in support of notification:

There is no obligation on customers to acquire any goods or services from selected travel management companies or travel agencies during a Promotional Period, but those who do will be offered point of sale discounts on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits. Customers of selected travel management companies or travel agencies during a Promotional Period will not, by reason of their eligibility for point of sale discounts on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits, pay more than other customers to acquire goods and services through the selected travel management companies.

(b) Facts and evidence relied upon in support of these claims:

Virgin Australia considers that the supply or offer to supply point of sale discounts on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits by selected travel management companies or travel agencies during a Promotional Period will increase competition in their respective markets by making the relevant services more attractive to potential customers.

5. Market definition

Provide a description of the market(s) in which the goods or services described at 2 (a) are supplied or acquired and other affected markets including: significant suppliers and acquirers; substitutes available for the relevant goods or services; any restriction on the supply or acquisition of the relevant goods or services (for example geographic or legal restrictions):

The market for travel management companies, travel agents and airlines is highly competitive. There are a large number of competitive providers of travel management companies, travel agents and airlines available to the public at any given time.

6. Public detriments

(a) Detriments to the public resulting or likely to result from the notification, in particular the likely effect of the notified conduct on the prices of the goods or services described at 2 (a) above and the prices of goods or services in other affected markets:

It is Virgin Australia's submission that there is no likely detriment to the public resulting from the proposed conduct, and that the proposed conduct would have a negligible effect on competition in the markets noted above in section 5.

(b) Facts and evidence relevant to these detriments:

Virgin Australia considers that the supply or offer to supply point of sale discounts on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits by selected travel management companies or travel agencies during a Promotional Period will increase competition in the markets for airline services described in 2 (b) by making the relevant services more attractive to potential customers.

The proposed conduct:

- In no way limits the genuine choice of customers in choosing a provider of the products and services described in 2 (b); and
- Will not lessen competition as customers will be under no obligation to acquire goods and services from the selected travel management companies or travel agencies as described in 2(b) simply because Virgin Australia proposes to supply or offer to supply point of sale discounts on airfares, rebates and/or ancillary benefits to customers of these selected travel management companies and travel agencies during a defined Promotional Period, and customers will at all times be free to purchase airfares and/or associated travel content not covered by the point of sale discounts, rebates and/or ancillary benefits at market rates.

7. Further information

(a) Name, postal address and contact telephone details of the person authorised to provide additional information in relation to this notification:

Natalie Fraser Legal Counsel Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd 56 Edmondstone Road Bowen Hills QLD 4006

Tel:

(07) 3087 4482

Fax:

(07) 3295 3996

Email:

natalie.fraser@virginaustralia.com

Dated this 28th day of November 2014

Signed by/on behalf of the applicant

Natalie Fraser

Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd

Legal Counsel

DIRECTIONS

- 1. In lodging this form, applicants must include all information, including supporting evidence that they wish the Commission to take into account in assessing their notification.
 - Where there is insufficient space on this form to furnish the required information, the information is to be shown on separate sheets, numbered consecutively and signed by or on behalf of the applicant.
- 2. If the notice is given by or on behalf of a corporation, the name of the corporation is to be inserted in item 1 (a), not the name of the person signing the notice, and the notice is to be signed by a person authorised by the corporation to do so.
- 3. Describe that part of the business of the person giving the notice in the course of the which the conduct is engaged in.
- 4. If particulars of a condition or of a reason of the type referred to in section 47 of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 have been reduced in whole or in part to writing, a copy of the writing is to be provided with the notice.
- 5. Describe the business or consumers likely to be affected by the conduct.
- 6. State an estimate of the highest number of persons with whom the entity giving the notice is likely to deal in the course of engaging in the conduct at any time during the next year.
- 7. Provide details of those public benefits claimed to result or to be likely to result from the proposed conduct including quantification of those benefits where possible.
- 8. Provide details of the market(s) likely to be affected by the notified conduct, in particular having regard to goods or services that may be substitutes for the good or service that is the subject matter of the notification.
- 9. Provide details of the detriments to the public which may result from the proposed conduct including quantification of those detriments where possible.