



**Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission**

GPO Box 3131  
Canberra ACT 2601

23 Marcus Clarke Street  
Canberra ACT 2601

tel: (02) 6243 1111  
fax: (02) 6243 1199

[www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

Our Ref: 57520  
Contact Officer: Jaime Martin  
Contact Phone: 03 9290 1477

10 November 2015

## **Sent by email**

Dear Sir/Madam

### **ihail Pty Ltd application for authorisation [A91501] - proposed amendments to the conduct and invitation to provide a submission**

As you are aware, on 12 October 2015 the Australian Competition and Consumer (ACCC) issued a draft determination in relation to the application for authorisation lodged by ihail Pty Ltd (ihail).

The draft determination proposed to deny authorisation to the ihail joint venture between a number of Australian and international taxi networks and other participants in the taxi industry to launch and operate the ihail smartphone taxi booking app.

ihail has now provided a submission to the ACCC in response to the draft determination. In particular, ihail proposes to make substantial changes to the proposed arrangements for which it seeks authorisation from the ACCC.

### **Proposed changes to ihail's application for authorisation**

Generally, ihail proposes to make the following changes to the ihail app:

- enabling in-car payment for bookings made through the app
- disabling the priority dispatch payment function and
- allowing users to select their preferred taxi network as part of the booking process.

A full copy of ihail's latest submission which outlines its proposed changes to the arrangements in more detail is enclosed. It is also available from the 'Submissions' link on the ACCC's website [www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister](http://www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister).

### **Request for submissions**

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the revised arrangements. You are also free to comment on any other issue you consider relevant to the ACCC's assessment.

If you intend to provide a submission, please do so by **8 December 2015**. Submissions should be emailed to [adjudication@accc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au) with the subject "A91501 – ihail Pty Ltd – submission".

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Jaime Martin on 03 9290 1477 to organise a suitable time.

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

Further information about the authorisation process, including how to make a submission to the ACCC, is provided in the publication [Authorisation process - the basics](#).

You can forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the applications.

### **Timetable**

To provide interested parties and the ACCC sufficient time to consider the proposed changes, the ACCC has revised the timeframe for its assessment of ihail's application for authorisation, including extending the six month statutory deadline to make a final decision. Ihail has agreed to this extension.

The revised indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

<b>26 May 2015</b>	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
<b>17 June 2015</b>	Ihail Pty Ltd provided an additional submission confirming the scope of the conduct the subject of the application.
<b>19 June 2015</b>	Public consultation process begins.
<b>3 July 2015</b>	Closing date for submissions from interested parties on interim authorisation.
<b>10 July 2015</b>	Closing date for submissions from interested parties in relation to the application.
<b>July 2015</b>	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation.

<b>July 2015</b>	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
<b>12 October</b>	Draft determination.
<b>26 October 2015</b>	Closing date for submissions in response to the ACCC's draft determination.
<b>6 November 2015</b>	Submission received from ihail, including proposed changes to the arrangements for which authorisation is sought.
<b>10 November 2015</b>	Public consultation process in relation to revised arrangements commences.
<b>8 December 2015</b>	Closing date for submissions from interested parties in relation to the revised ihail arrangements.
<b>17 December 2015</b>	Applicant responds to issues raised in public consultation process in relation to the revised arrangements for which authorisation is sought.
<b>February / March 2016</b>	Final determination

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please contact Ms Jaime Martin on 03 9290 1477 or [adjudication@accc.gov.au](mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Gavin Jones  
Director  
Adjudication