

Submission by [REDACTED]-7 November 2024

I support the proposal for Qatar Airways to buy a 25% share of Virgin Australia. I further support the plan for Virgin Australia to Wet Lease in Qatar Airways to operate the Long Haul Flights, and (if requested) any associated domestic sectors (whether fifth freedom or otherwise). The increase in capacity provided by Qatar Airways will bring a huge benefit to, 1) The Australian travelling public, who are still faced with very high fares due to reduced competition. Any capacity increase will be beneficial to Australians hoping to travel to Europe and Africa. 2) Inbound tourism will benefit. Increased capacity, with associated reduced fares, will stimulate the inbound market. This will have a hugely beneficial impact on Australian tourism businesses. Certainly, in Far North QLD (where I live), any increase in inbound tourism will benefit the economy, and will lead to more jobs for Australians, and increased profits for Australian companies. It is my view, that the Virgin-Qatar deal, will bring great benefits for Australians.