

Record of oral submission to the ACCC

Matter name:	Linfox Armaguard Pty Ltd (AG) and Prosegur Australia Holdings Pty Limited (Prosegur) application for merger authorisation				
ACCC participants	MEAD: Lyn Camilleri, Simon Pomery, Asa Tan, Nissa Burns, Lynette Lymbers MEADLU: Sita McTavish, Claudia Crause, Nik Tumbri CCEU: Rajat Sood				
Other parties	Westpac Banking Corporation (Westpac)				
Merger authorisation number	MA1000022				
Date	15 November 2022				
Time	8.30am AEST				
Phone to	Phone from	Meeting		Other	⊠

The ACCC met with staff from Westpac

The following topics were

discussed.

Westpac's current role in cash distribution

Westpac's role in cash distribution is unique due to Westpac being:

- one of the only major banks using Prosegur
- the largest provider of cash on a wholesale basis nationally

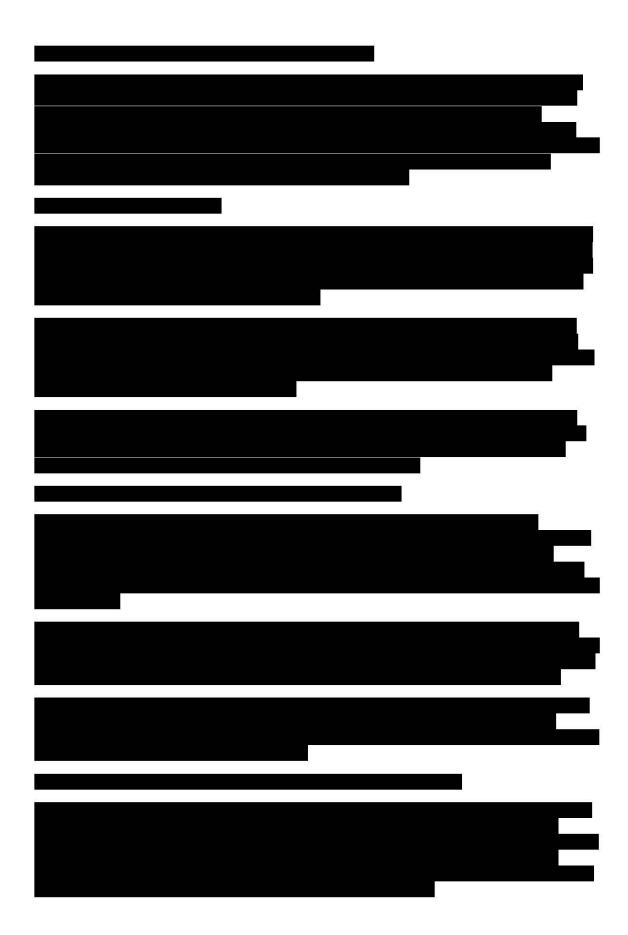
Westpac's role in cash involves the movement of cash around the country and with the RBA, supplying cash to other banks via a bailment facility.

Westpac sees itself as a champion ensuring sustainable cash to regional Australia. Westpac has a dedicated team focussed on sustainable services to regional areas which advocates connectivity, sustained cash related services in regional areas and helping regions move through the changes/shifts in the economy.

Westpac sees itself as the catalyst for the shift to utilities. It sold its offsite ATMs to Prosegur in 2017 and other banks have followed suit by selling their ATMs to utility brands to make them more sustainable.









Other parties' submissions

Westpac identified points made in submissions on the Public Register that it found particularly relevant:

- Ability of the RBA to regulate CIT services. NAB and the RBA both made points about the scope of the RBA's powers which Westpac agrees with. CBA said the RBA would need time to implement controls on pricing. Westpac agrees with this as the RBA does not currently have the powers that the applicants suggest they have.
- NAB and NCR reported on the risks around private ownership of a national merged company managing cash supply for the economy. Westpac agrees with this comment.
- Westpac agrees with comments that there are prohibitive barriers to entry and that
 this will have significant impacts on competition. CBA and NCR both reported on the
 impact the merger would have on services. A merger could remove motivation for
 competition, innovation and pricing incentives.
- Counterfactual: NCR does not think that Prosegur's timeline to exit in 2 years is realistic. NAB submit that if one applicant were to exit, then remediation would need to be discussed on an industry level. Westpac agrees with these comments.