06/10/2015

Mr Robert wright

ACCC

The manager

As a licensee of Australia Post, I’m writing to address my understanding and concern for the proposal of basic stamp price (BPR) increases to $1.00.

It is really essential and constructive. There are some reasons below for your consideration:

? The BPR has little change far behind the CPI over the last 20 years and

this neglect has impacted on the viability of the postal industry and in particular on the Licensed post office (LPO) network.

? The LPO network serves almost 80% of the Australian public and without a

viable financial future there is no postal network.

? Licensees are small business owners who have purchased the right to

operate a Licensed Post Office with the expectation that we would earn a reasonable living for the service we provide. Australia Post and the LPO Network must be financially viable to ensure Australia retains this vital service.

? The majority of our customers believe the cost to send a letter, even if

the cost was $1, is a very cheap service and they have expressed their support of the $1 price. And also they believe the stamp price should vary with distance or state on top of base price.

? The local Post Office provides a safe and friendly place to seek

assistance and support in dealing with all levels of concern for many people in our communities. Without a viable Australia Post, the community members who need this level of support will be without access to the local Post Office.

? More than 97% of mail is sent from business or government. With the

introduction of the concession stamp for pensioners, and the capping of the Christmas stamp, lifting the BPR will have very little effect for most consumers. Currently the cost of postage for a letter is greatly subsidized by both the consumer and Australia Post as the cost to provide the service is far less than the retail price.

? Australia Post provides a vital Australian service and it is paramount

that the business is run for sustainability with cost recovery being a prime objective. The basic postage rate has been neglected for many years and this has resulted in a financially challenged business with an uncertain future.

This needs to be remedied, and the postage rate must be kept in line with the CPI in the future, so that Australia will retain a viable postal service for every Australian.

? Australia is a large and diverse country and postal access should be

available to the majority, not just where the internet service is viable.

? We are small business owners. It is a myth that Licensees operate LPOs

for lifestyle not profit. Licensees have the same expectations as all other small business owners. A fair and reasonable return on the investment and a fair reward for the work provided. Australia Post should have the right to recover the costs to provide services so as to fairly distribute the revenue to all parts of the business, such as a Licensee.

Thanks for your time.

Tony Zou

Berowra Heights LPO