Australia Post should only be able to justify its request for a price increase in the charge for letters if it can demonstrate its total operational costs ( for all areas of its operations combined-whether or not in separate companies or organisations) have made an increase justifiable.

AP's businesses will have changed considerably in recent years with the Internet affecting its revenue from letters, post cards and greeting cards.

This has, nonetheless, been replaced to an extent by the use of parcels for delivery of goods otherwise usually found at retail outlets, following the increase in online buying by the general public.

Accordingly, the revenue from parcels must be taken into consideration  in determining if any price increase is justifiable. It is noted that AP's interest in its parcel operations may have been increased by the reported acquisition of its former partner's interest.

Only if all APO operations are considered together will a proper consideration of its application be able to be made.

Otherwise, not only will the general public be required to pay more without adequate justification but equally importantly APO senior executives may become entitled to increases in remuneration based on a false premise.

Sincerely,

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Brian L. Bolton