

CHARLEVILLE NEWSAGENCY

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Re ACCC Forum Brisbane.

Dear Ms Merifield

Fulfillment offered by Australia Post inhibits the ability for a competitive challenge, due to the lack of likewise competitive services. This is due I believe to the hold Aust Post holds in this area.

Competition in country and metro areas is very difficult, due to Aust Post's uncompetitive hold on fulfillment mail contracts, and postal deliveries.

Aust Post now trades in traditional small business market, by way of cards, stationary, telco products, bill pay, Giro post's delivery of financial services etc.

As small business we don't have problems with this, however we do have a problem, with not being able to compete equitably with this organization due to their hold on postal products namely stamps.

The discount structure offered to the privatized LPO's, should in turn be available to likewise small business such as newsagents.

The sale of stamps by newsagents most of whom are 7 day traders is a community service, we offer to our customers. Why should we not have the commercial viability for such a service.

The binding conditions offered by Aust Post on their merchandising post points we find completely unreasonable, especially in country and metro areas. Again baring in mind newsagents are 7 day traders.

Competing with Aust Post in country areas with bulk stationary is difficult. These can only be substantiated I believe by their obvious in-house arrangements on freight. These areas need to be more transparent.

As a business person I fully endorse the submission of the Queensland Newsagents Federation and its members.

In my absence Mr Bob Dean of GPO News will be representing my submission.

Yours sincerely

Tim Sheehan, June 15, 2002

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