

Dear ACCC,

I am writing with regards to Australia Post who lodged a price notification with the ACCC on April 1 2010 which proposes an increase in the basic postage rate from 55 to 60 cents as well as increases in the price of other mail services including large and small Other (including ordinary) letters, large and small PreSort ordinary letters, clean mail, reply paid mail, impact mail and local delivery mail.

I wish to make a submission. I do not believe that this price increase is necessary as the price increase from 55 cents to 60 cents could push consumers away from using postal services, particularly with competition from free email and other electronic communication. Australia Post would end up losing more customers if prices were to be increased. I do not believe a price increase is justified as it would mean that the postal service may suffer and lose more customers. Already mail volumes are dropping at a record rate in the last three-five years. I regularly use postal services and I can honestly say if stamp prices and other postal service prices increased, then I would seriously re-evaluate my use of postal services by Australia Post. I am concerned that a stamp price increase is at risk of causing a loss of customers to Australia Post should a stamp price increase be approved by the ACCC.

I thank you for your time.

I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Nicholas