



26 August 2009

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MARS/PRISM:	

Mr Anthony Wing
General Manager
Transport and General Prices Oversight
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 520
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Mr Wing

Australia Post 2009 draft price notification

I respond to the invitation to provide a submission on Australia Post's intention to increase the prices of the letter services over which it has a statutory authority and offer the following comments.

I oppose the proposal to increase the basic postage rate from 55 cents to 60 cents, and increase the prices of large ordinary letters, small ordinary letters and large pre-sort letters.

I would argue against any such increases for these reasons:

- Postage was increased from 50 cents to 55 cents only recently in 2008.
- Further price increases will discourage greater usage of Australia Post services.
- Fuel prices have come down significantly over the last year.
- Technology available to Australia Post should bring about cost savings.
- Australia Post is a monopoly and is therefore not subject to real competition.
- What efficiency gains has Australia Post made?
- Australia Post might better use its retail component to help offset the costs of its basic services.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R B Such".

Bob Such MP JP
Member for Fisher