



Our ref: AA1000624
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5/12/2022

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Dear Interested Party

Qantas and China Eastern application for revocation of authorisation AA1000526 and substitution of AA1000624 – interested party consultation

On 9 November 2022, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) received an application for revocation of authorisation AA1000526 and substitution of an authorisation (**re-authorisation**) from Qantas Airways Limited and China Eastern Airlines Corporation Limited and their related bodies corporate (together, the **Applicants**). This letter is to invite you to comment. You are welcome to pass this letter on to others who may wish to make submissions.

The Applicants are seeking re-authorisation¹ under the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth). Re-authorisation would give the Applicants legal protection from competition laws to continue their alliance and coordinate on operations between Australia and mainland China under the Extended Joint Coordination Agreement (the **Conduct**).

The Applicants are seeking re-authorisation until 31 March 2024. A full copy of the application for re-authorisation is available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Making a submission

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the application for re-authorisation. In making your submission, please provide information, evidence and views about the likely public benefits, effects on competition and any other public detriment that you consider will result from the proposed conduct.

If you intend to provide a submission, please do so by **25 January 2023**. If you wish to request an extension, please contact us on the details below as early as possible. Submissions after the due date (or after any extension granted) may not be taken into account.

Please email your submission to exemptions@acc.gov.au, with the subject 'AA1000624 – Qantas & China Eastern – submission'. Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Sophie Magliano via the details at the end of this letter.

Your submission **will** be placed on the ACCC's [authorisations public register on the internet](#) unless you have made a request (with reasons) for us to exclude part or all of the submission from the public register (see [Guidelines for Excluding Information from the Public Register for more information on how to make a request and how we assess requests](#)).

¹ For information about Authorisations, please see <https://www.acc.gov.au/business/exemptions/authorisation>

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information, and an up to date version (including any changes) will be posted on the public register.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
9 November 2022	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
5 December 2022	Public consultation process begins.
25 January 2023	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
February 2023	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
February/March 2023	Draft determination.
March/April 2023	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
April/May 2023	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Sophie Magliano on (03) 9658 6429 or exemptions@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Tony Hilton
Director
Competition Exemptions