Further submission on the proposed Air New Zealand / Qantas alliance

20 June 2003

3/16 Leslie St Upper Riccarton Christchurch 8004

I wish to make a further submission opposing the proposed Air New Zealand / Qantas alliance.

The 'undertakings' given by the airlines in response to the Commerce Commission's initial rejection, are of little consequence. They make only a minor allowance for competition and the voluntary restrictions to their own business are insignificant. The commission's own figures show the huge negative benefits of this proposal. While recent announcements by Virgin Blue and Emirates are welcome, they will have little effect on an alliance that will dominate and largely control the trans-Tasman, trans-Pacific and domestic New Zealand routes.

I urge the Commerce Commission to again reject any proposal joining Qantas and Air New Zealand. The airlines are the two traditional competitors in this region, and should remain so for the benefit of consumers.

My interest is as an employee of an air freight company, a concerned passenger and a Transport student. I do not own any airline shares, but do use the services of both airlines on a regular basis.

Doug Weir