

To: Commerce Commission  
Wellington

Re: Qantas/Air New Zealand

Thank you for your 13 January 2003 acknowledgement of my interest in this matter (your ref. J5633).

For the reasons given in my earlier 24 December 2002 letter I am a concerned and serious objector to the proposed arrangement.

**MY PRINCIPAL OBJECTION IS IN RELATION TO A LESSENING OF COMPETITION IN THE MARKET.**

I am a private citizen and frequent user of airline services between New Zealand and Australia for family and associated reasons. I maintain residences in both countries. The availability of competitive, efficient and comprehensive air service between both countries meets my needs and the needs of many others.

I am also quite familiar with international aviation issues in addition to being a long-term shareholder in both these airlines.

The linkages and relationship between Australia and New Zealand should not be subject to a 'cartel' arrangement and it would be imprudent for public and business traffic to have confidence in assurances of promised competitive practices by the two parties under the proposed arrangement. Any bond or promissory understanding maybe ultimately unenforceable I believe. The full and maximum maintenance of two international airline alliances (Star and One World) will better serve New Zealand's business and recreational airline users. The proposed arrangement may not be the only remedy of earlier Air New Zealand misadventure.

Due to my forthcoming absence from New Zealand and lack of legal resources I am unable to make a full submission at this time.

**I WOULD BE SATISFIED IF THE COMMISSION DECLINES THE APPLICATION OR ALTERNATIVELY IMPOSES ADEQUATE AND ENFORCEABLE RESTRAINTS SO AS TO CURTAIL MONOPOLISTIC OPERATIONS AND PRICE FIXING PRACTICES.**

Please acknowledge and keep me informed of proceedings.

Bernard Fechan  
Torbay, Auckland

21 January 2003