

VIRGIN AUSTRALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES PTY LTD VIRGIN AUSTRALIA AIRLINES (SE ASIA) PTY LTD PO Box 1034

Spring Hill QLD Australia 4004 T +61 7 3295 3000

www.virginaustralia.com

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Ms Marlene Tucker Executive Director International Air Services Commission PO Box 630 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Tucker

## Application for allocation of capacity – Cook Islands route

Virgin Australia Airlines (SE Asia) Pty Ltd (Virgin Australia) wishes to apply for an allocation of capacity on the Cook Islands route. This capacity will enable Virgin Australia to operate an additional frequency between Australia and the Cook Islands, using B737 aircraft.

## Allocation sought on the Cook Islands route

Virgin Australia is seeking an allocation of 156 seats per week on the Cook Islands route, on the basis that:

- the capacity will be utilised by Virgin Australia;
- the allocation is granted for a period of five years from the date of the determination; and
- the allocation will be fully utilised by 31 July 2018.

## IASC Act and Policy Statement Considerations

We request that the Commission consider this application against the general criteria for assessing the benefit to the public in Paragraph 4 of the Minister's Policy Statement.

The Paragraph 4 criteria provide that the use of entitlements by an Australian carrier under a bilateral air services agreement is of benefit to the public, provided that the carrier is reasonably capable of obtaining the necessary approvals and implementing the proposal.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 8093 7114.

Yours sincerely

Lee-Anne Tomkins

Head of Government and International Relations