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30 October 2026

Ms Jasmina Morling
Director
International Air Services Commission
GPO Box 630
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Application for allocation of seven additional weekly frequencies on the Australia–Qatar Route

Dear Ms Morling,

Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd (Virgin Australia) presents its compliments to the International Air Services Commission (the Commission) and wishes to apply for seven additional weekly frequencies on the Australia–Qatar route.

Virgin Australia currently holds an allocation of 28 weekly frequencies in each direction on this route. Following the conflict in the Middle East region and resulting airspace closures across March 2026, Virgin Australia temporarily adjusted the deployment of its allocated capacity to best meet the needs of consumers in the Australian market as demand recovered across Australian gateways. The existing allocation will be fully utilised again by 10 December 2026.

With demand showing strong signs of continued recovery, Virgin Australia seeks an additional seven weekly frequencies in each direction, increasing its total allocation to 35 weekly frequencies. The additional capacity will allow Virgin Australia to continue operating existing twice-daily services between Sydney and Doha beyond 25 June 2027 while returning Brisbane and Perth services to daily operation. All 35 weekly frequencies would be fully utilised from 26 June 2027. The proposed schedule for the additional frequencies is set out in Attachment 1.

The capacity will be utilised by Virgin Australia and is sought for a period of five years from the date of the Commission's determination.

The proposed allocation is expected to deliver public benefits, including:

- Increased capacity between Australia and Qatar;
- More flight options and greater schedule flexibility for consumers;
- Improved connections via Doha to destinations across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Indian Subcontinent;
- Increased opportunities for inbound tourism to Australia;
- Additional cargo capacity for Australian exporters; and

- Enhanced competition in international aviation markets for Australian consumers and businesses

Virgin Australia has the commercial, financial and operational capability to utilise the additional capacity and to market and support the proposed services.

The additional services will operate as Virgin Australia flights under Virgin Australia's designation, using Boeing 777-300ER (777W) aircraft. Qatar Airways will provide the aircraft, crew and operational support under the existing wet lease agreement and will also codeshare on these services. The aircraft are configured with 42 Business Class and 312 Economy Class seats.

The proposed allocation is consistent with the objectives of the *International Air Services Commission Act 1992* and the *International Air Services Commission Policy Statement*. It will increase capacity, promote competition and strengthen international connectivity for the benefit of Australian consumers and businesses.

Should the Commission require further information or clarification, please contact Ms Rabia Naseer, Regulatory Affairs Specialist, at rabia.naseer@virginaustralia.com.

We look forward to the Commission's consideration of this application.

Yours sincerely,



Henry Coles
Head of Airline Partnerships and International Relations

ATTACHMENT 1

Proposed schedule for the seven additional weekly frequencies, Northern Summer 2027

Flight number	Dep. City	Arr. City	Date range		Dep. time	Arr. time
VA 003	SYD	DOH	27-Jun-27	2-Oct-27	20:55	04:45+1
VA 004	DOH	SYD	26-Jun-27	1-Oct-27	20:00	17:05+1
VA 003	SYD	DOH	3-Oct-27	30-Oct-27	21:55	04:45+1
VA 004	DOH	SYD	2-Oct-27	30-Oct-27	20:00	18:05+1

All scheduled operations planned for Boeing 777W aircraft, configured with 42 business class and 312 economy class seats.