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Ms Jasmina Ackar Director International Air Services Commission PO Box 630 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: Jasmina.Ackar@infrastructure.gov.au

Dear Ms Ackar

Application for variations to Determination- New Zealand route

I write on behalf of Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd (Virgin Australia) to apply for a variation to allow Virgin Australia to code share with its partners airline, Qatar Airways, on the New Zealand route.

Virgin Australia intends to commence free sale code share services, as operating carrier with Qatar Airways on all its services between Australia and New Zealand in 2023.

Virgin Australia will also continue to offer code share services on the New Zealand route with its alliance partners, Etihad Airways, Singapore Airlines, Air Canada, and Hawaiian Airlines. Copies of the confidential code share agreements between Virgin Australia and each of the these alliance partners have been provided separately.

Variations sought to Determination [2017] IASC 113

That Determination [2017] IASC 113 be varied to:

- permit Virgin Australia to utilise the capacity allocated on the New Zealand route to provide services jointly with Qatar Airways; and
- omit the conditions permitting the use of this capacity to code share with Delta Airlines, Air Berlin, Hong Kong Airlines, Air New Zealand, Alitalia (now ITA Airways) and Hainan Airlines.

Virgin Australia requests that all other conditions be retained and that all variations sought be granted for the remaining term of the determination.

IASC Act and Policy Statement Considerations

Virgin Australia requests that the Commission consider this application pursuant to section 25 (1)



of the *International Air Services Commission Act 1992* and the 'reasonable capability criterion' as defined in section 8 of the Minister's Policy Statement.

Virgin Australia would be pleased to provide any further information or background on its services and codeshare arrangements to New Zealand if required, and thanks the Commission for its consideration of these matters.

Yours sincerely

Chris Daffey Head of Government Affairs