



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications**

PDR ID: EC21-000159

Marlene Tucker
Executive Director
International Air Services Commission

Dear Ms Tucker

Subject: Expansion of freight services between Australia and Hong Kong – Tasman Cargo Airlines Pty Ltd

Thank you for your letter dated 5 March 2021 to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications regarding Tasman Cargo Airlines Pty Ltd (Tasman Cargo) request to operate freight services between Australia and Hong Kong.

I note your request for advice whether Tasman Cargo is reasonably capable of 'obtaining licenses, permits or other approvals (such as being a designated Australian carrier under the Australia-Hong Kong air services agreement) to operate and service the route'.

Tasman Cargo is designated as an Australian airline under the Australia – Hong Kong air services agreement (ASA). Under the ASA, Australian airlines can, collectively, operate up to 70 frequencies per week for passenger services between Hong Kong and Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth and two frequencies per week for all cargo services. However, these services can be freely converted between passenger and cargo services on a one-to-one basis.

Tasman Cargo has an Australian International Airline Licence and hold the relevant safety and security approvals. I understand they are working to have Hong Kong added as a destination to these approvals.

Accordingly, I can advise that we are confident that Tasman Cargo is reasonably capable of obtaining the required licenses, permits and approvals to operate and service this route.

Yours sincerely

Jim Wolfe
Assistant Secretary
International Aviation Branch
International Aviation, Technology and Services

19 March 2021