

10 July 2017

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

Dear Ms Tucker

*Marlene*

### **Application of capacity allocation – Samoa route**

Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd (Virgin Australia) intends to commence five services per week between Australia and Samoa from 13 November 2017. These flights will be operated with Boeing 737-800 aircraft configured with 176 seats.

### **Allocation sought on the Samoa route**

Virgin Australia is seeking an allocation of 880 seats per week on the Samoa route on the basis that:

- the capacity will be utilised by Virgin Australia or one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries;
- the allocation is granted for a period of five years from the date of the determination; and
- the allocation will be fully utilised by 13 November 2017.

### **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**