

5 August 2015

Sonya van de Geer  
Principal Adviser  
Ministry of Transport  
P O Box 3175  
Wellington 6140

By email: [airservices@transport.govt.nz](mailto:airservices@transport.govt.nz)

Dear Sonya

**Application for re-authorisation of the Qantas Airways and American Airlines Restated Joint Business Agreement (“Restated JBA”)**

Auckland Airport has reviewed Qantas and American Airlines’ application to the Minister of Transport for an authorisation to continue to coordinate their operations in terms of the Restated JBA and associated agreements.

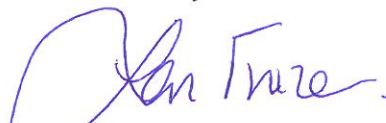
Auckland Airport supports the application for re-authorisation of the Restated JBA.

Auckland Airport acknowledges the considerable economic pressures airlines face today. We understand that, worldwide, airlines increasingly use strategic alliances, alignments and agreements to coordinate operations, in order to reduce operational costs, support streamlined services, improve passenger management and achieve greater access to markets and connectivity of networks flown. Auckland Airport is generally supportive of such arrangements provided there is no detrimental impact on the international air services that are so vital to New Zealand’s economic prosperity. Where such arrangements are identified by the relevant airlines as likely to result in “significant and substantiated public benefits to New Zealand”<sup>1</sup>, whether directly or indirectly, Auckland Airport takes a keen interest.

Qantas and American Airlines have identified a number of significant public benefits which they consider they will be able to continue to deliver and expand on if the Restated JBA is authorised. Auckland Airport particularly shares and supports measures that will benefit New Zealand tourism and trade, achieve pro-competitive outcomes and ultimately benefit New Zealand consumers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything further in relation to the Application or the Minister’s consideration of it that Auckland Airport can assist with.

Yours sincerely



Jan Frazer  
Legal Counsel

<sup>1</sup> refer page 5 of the Application