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28 January 2015

Mr Richard Cross
Senior Adviser
Ministry of Transport
PO Box 3175
Wellington 6140

By email: r.cross@transport.govt.nz

Dear Richard

**Application for re-authorisation of the Air New Zealand and Cathay Pacific Airways
North Asia Alliance**

Auckland Airport has reviewed the public version of Air New Zealand's and Cathay Pacific Airways' Application to the Minister of Transport, under section 88 of the Civil Aviation Act 1990, for an authorisation from the Minister to give effect to the Alliance for a further period of five years from 30 January 2016 (when the current authorisation of the Alliance granted by the Minister in October 2013 expires) and supports the Application.

As indicated in previous submissions to the Minister, Auckland Airport is:

- acutely conscious of the considerable economic pressures faced by airlines today and that they operate in the context of a global industry where numerous strategic alliances and alignments exist and are used to achieve reductions in operational costs and provision of streamlined services, management of passenger throughput and a method of achieving greater access to markets and connectivity of networks flown; and
- generally supportive of initiatives aimed at alleviating those pressures provided it can be ensured that there is no reduction of capacity or other detrimental impact on the international air services that are so vital to New Zealand's tourism and economic prosperity.

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,

Charles Spillane

General Manager – Corporate Affairs

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