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23 AUG 1999
**CONFIRMATION
OF FAX**

19 August 1999

Price Control Study of Airfield Activities
Commerce Commission
P O Box 2351
WELLINGTON

By fax (04) 471 0771

Airport price control study

I refer to your notice of 6 August 1999 advising of the proposed extension of the reporting date for the above inquiry to 1 August 2002.

Wellington International Airport Limited ("WIAL") objects to the proposed extensions of time.

WIAL is of the view that there is no reason why the initial timetable should not be adhered to by the Commerce Commission.

WIAL is opposed to the delay for the following reasons:

- The company has already employed considerable resources on the inquiry to date. The delay would impose the additional costs of retaining and updating experts and data. WIAL should not be put to the cost of duplicating previous efforts.
- There is no need to delay the inquiry until the first information is made available by airports under the Information Disclosure Regulations. Those regulations will not provide more information than the Commission should be able to obtain from parties making submissions to it. We also wish to note our concern that the comment in the fifth paragraph of your letter of 5 July 1999 suggests a predisposition that there is monopoly pricing that has to be curtailed.
- WIAL has been quite satisfied with the existing timetable which seemed feasible. WIAL is concerned that other interested parties may have been able to unduly influence the decision to change the timetable for their own purposes. In WIAL's view the timetable for the inquiry has been set, and should be adhered to.

WIAL reserves its position to take whatever legal remedies are available to it in the event a decision is taken to delay the timetable for the inquiry.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Sheridan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "S".

John Sheridan
Chief Executive