

4th May 2016

Submission to the Taxi Fare Review
Essential Services Commission
Level 37, 2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne 3000

RE: Submission to the Taxi Fare Review
Dear Sir/ Madam



Linking the entire taxi industry

TAXILINK Pty Ltd ABN 47 103 522 372

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We would like to take this opportunity in thanking the ESC for their rigorous analysis of the industry and hence their fare review recommendations.

As we all understand the changing world presents challenges and opportunities.

We believe the recommendations that have been put forward are well positioned to deal with the challenges the industry is facing.

It would however be remiss of me not to highlight that the competitive landscape that exists is unfair and unjust.

We are competing with a new entity that does not follow the same rules and regulations that offers face.

The entity has a total disregard for our laws and continues to operate and enjoy benefits that offers cannot access.

Trying to regulate and propose fare reviews in this environment is not only dangerous, it also highlights weaknesses in our jurisdiction and the government's challenge to deal with this complex issue.

With this in mind we believe the proposed \$10.00 booking fee during peak periods is potentially a marketing tool that could be used and we support this proposal.

We are also supporters of discounting fares in the quiet times as well as at times that a driver might see it fit to do so.

We are also supporters of fixed fares for particular journeys.

In order to accommodate these options we are all restricted with the current 55-45 revenue split as per the meter.

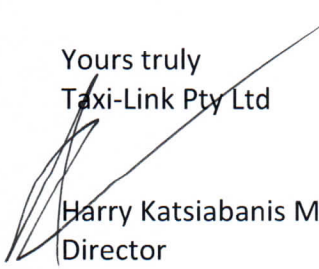
We recommend that the ESC propose to the government a flat pay in rate for drivers; this would help accommodate these innovative fare structures.

(If a driver chooses to discount the meter fare today he will still be required to pay in 45% to his operator discouraging this practice)

We understand that this is not within the ESC's jurisdiction, however if it was to be highlighted than maybe some progress could be made.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Yours truly
Taxi-Link Pty Ltd


Harry Katsiabani MEI
Director