

# Bumpy ride

Grab facing RM86m fine over alleged violation of Competition Act

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**P**ETALING JAYA: Grab is facing a hefty RM86 million fine for allegedly abusing its dominant position to the detriment of not only its competitors but also its drivers and customers in the e-hailing sector.

According to the Malaysian Competition Commission (MyCC), which proposed the penalty, Grab had introduced a number of

“restrictive clauses” on its drivers, thereby preventing them from using their vehicles as a medium to promote or advertise the services of Grab’s competitors.

This, MyCC said, was a breach of Section 10 of the Competition Act.

In a statement issued yesterday, MyCC chief executive officer Iskandar Ismail said it was important that barriers to entry for new players remained low, while existing players should have the ability to grow and compete based only on merit.

“This will ensure there is healthy

competition in the e-hailing market,” he added.

In an immediate response to *theSun*, Grab stressed that it had always been in compliance with the Competition Act.

“Our legal counsel are studying the proposal (to penalise us). We believe it is common practice for businesses to decide on the availability and type of third-party advertising on their respective platforms, tailored according to consumers’

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