



Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee

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The Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee was appointed by the Queensland Parliament on 25 August 2005 to examine a range of issues regarding petrol pricing in Queensland.

Media Release

Last chance to have your say on petrol prices

Queenslanders stung by high fuel prices have one more week to lodge submissions to a Parliamentary inquiry into fuel pricing.

"We are taking submissions by post, fax, email or via the committee's website until Friday 2 December. Information about the inquiry and how to make submissions is available by calling 1800 504 022."

The committee will hold the last of 14 scheduled public hearing at the Yeronga RSL on Brisbane's southside tomorrow (Monday 28 November) from 9.30-11.30am.

Andrew Fraser MP, Chair of the all-party Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee, urges people to have their say.

"The price of petrol is still a red hot topic around the state.

"There's one week to go to tell the MPs charged with doing something about petrol prices how higher prices have impacted on you, your family, your business or your community group," says Mr Fraser.

"Caltex will be giving evidence at tomorrow's final public hearing, where the factors behind price fluctuations will again be a major issue of concern.

"This is a public hearing and we invite anyone who wants to come along and put their view to attend the hearing.

"Queensland motorists are now paying 50 percent more for unleaded petrol, 30 percent more for diesel and 38 percent more for LPG gas than they were at the beginning of the year.

"Massive price increases such as these over a relatively short period have hurt those least able to absorb them. Pensioners, small business owners, grass-roots community groups and farmers are among those who have given evidence to the committee.

"Now the double whammy from the inflationary effect of high petrol costs is beginning to flow through – with prices for other goods and services creeping higher. Businesses locked into fixed price contracts have been absorbing the costs, but this cannot last."

For interviews call Andrew Fraser MP on (0437) 116 466. Mr Fraser is available for pre-records or live interviews today (Sunday) or from 5.30am tomorrow (Monday).

IMPACT OF PETROL PRICING SELECT COMMITTEE

During their inquiry, the Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee will examine and report on:

- the extent to which current petrol prices increase the competitiveness of alternative fuels such as E-10;
- the economic and financial consequences of current fuel prices, with a particular emphasis on regional Queensland and outer metropolitan areas;
- practical ways that consumers can reduce their petrol bills;
- whether existing information on the fuel efficiency of different makes of motor vehicles is sufficient;
- the extent to which recent fuel increases could be moderated through enhanced domestic competition;
- how the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's powers could be strengthened to deliver enhanced competition;
- whether Queensland receives its fair share of road funding;
- the capacity and benefits of the Federal Government reducing fuel excise to ameliorate the impact of high fuel prices on families and business;
- whether Queensland motorists are receiving the full benefit of the 8.354 cents per litre subsidy; and
- the efficiency of administration for the bulk end users scheme.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Information about the inquiry is available from the web at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/petrol or by calling the committee's secretariat staff on **1800 504 022**.

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