

Subject: Online Submission

SUBMISSION FROM

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SUBMISSION

The extent to which current petrol prices increase the competitiveness of alternative fuel sources such as E-10

I am a little wary about using an ethanol blended fuel. Given the choice I would not purchase a blended fuel. Ethanol degrades the quality of the fuel. Ethanol allows a vendor to add minor amounts of water to the fuel which mix with the ethanol and then can be burned. Many manufacturers will not warrant engine failure when an ethanol blended fuel has been used. I also believe ethanol has different burning characteristics to petrol for which many years of planning and research have created optimum performance, economy and emissions. Changing the fuel may alter adversely any or all of these. Please no ethanol, pour the efforts and finances into improving our fuel quality in both petrol and diesel.

The economic and financial consequences of current fuel prices with a particular emphasis on regional Queensland and outer metropolitan areas

Consumers are now in a position where they are mindful each time they operate their vehicles. I think this is actually a positive step. The current prices are causing people to seek fuel economy options. The use of alternate fuels and smaller vehicles is quite a positive however larger vehicle owners are making the biggest losses in the used car market. I imagine it has been quite a blow for regional Qld. Consumers in rural areas have to travel greater distances and usually some form of commercial vehicle is used. Often they pay a higher price for a poorer quality fuel. The poorer quality fuel can increase maintenance costs and decrease economy.

Practical ways that consumers can reduce their petrol bills

Keep tyres at correct pressures, service and tune vehicle on a regular basis, purchase a diesel vehicle. The days of the black smoke are gone. Perhaps it is now time for the fuel suppliers and government to reflect this. According to my research diesel costs half in refining than petrol. Also because we in Australia have such substandard standards we accept diesel which is blended with many crack components. Why does diesel have so much tax placed on it? Shouldn't we be rewarded for being so environmentally aware? Not only are we using less fuel with our highly efficient forms of combustion but we actually are delivering less pollutants into the atmosphere. Europeans enjoy basic diesel which is superior to ours but also have the option of purchasing super diesel and premium diesels. Conversely we pay premium prices for poor quality fuel which can destroy or injection systems, make them not so fuel efficient and destroy the environment.

Whether existing information on the fuel efficiency of different makes of motor vehicles is sufficient

Perhaps extending the information to include older vehicles and light commercials. A comparison tool would be nice ie. comparing a petrol vehicle with its diesel or LPG counterpart.

How the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission powers could be strengthened to deliver enhanced competition

Taxes and excise are the main concern with fuel for the average citizen. The Government should be taken out of the fuel equation once and for all if true competitive practice is to reign. Why so much tax on DIESEL?

whether Queensland receives its fair share of road funding

The public needs to be better informed about expenditure in relation to road funding.

The capacity and benefits of the Federal Government to reduce fuel excise to ameliorate the impact of high fuel prices on families and business

It's time the Government- both Federal and State- led by example and switched to hybrid and diesel engine vehicles. Here we are in a time when fuel is at an all-time high and Government Department CEO's are driving V8's. This survey is a waste of time until the Queensland Government can catch up with society and stop spending precious tax-payers dollars on expensive fuel to pander to the macho image that Department CEO's vainly try to create.