

## Supermarket Pricing Inquiry

**Submission No:** 25  
**Submitted by:** Desmond Deighton  
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### Submitter Comments:

The impact of supermarkets is not just on groceries but on petrol retailing. On the Sunshine Coast the Coles/Shell, Woolworths/Ampol and 7/11 own a large number of petrol retail outlets. There are few private petrol retail outlets. The supermarket owned outlets are always the price leaders and jack their prices up first. With the lack of competition, many parts of the Sunshine Coast end up paying a higher price. A month ago, we were paying over \$2.20 a litre while around Gladstone, Bundaberg and on the highway where there is competition and a lack of supermarket chain owned petrol outlets, the price was up to 40 cents per litre less. Just tonight (12/04/24) driving back from Brisbane, The Coles/Shell at Wild Horse Mountain has lifted its price by 35 cpl to over \$2.35. Since supermarkets took over service stations and instituted the 4cpl/litre discount 20 odd years ago, there has been a lessening in competition and many independents have closed. Thus the supermarket outlets, having killed most of the independent competition, jack up prices. The other impact on the retail industry is that many of these supermarket owned petrol outlets are roadhouse type places where semi trailers have no option but to fill up. Having to pay higher diesel costs adds to the transport cost for everyone and impacts retail grocery prices. This needs to be looked at as it is affecting every day people struggling with the cost of living crisis. How can a Coles outlet justify \$2.35 a litre for ULP when one of the few independents left (Liberty Tanawha Tourist Drive, Forest Glen) can charge \$189.7 and still make a profit (price as at 9.25pm 12/04/24)