

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 1 November 2006

QUESTION No.SI-50

Senator Carr asked:

Since the introduction of the scheme, have any LPG installers been found to have simply added the cost of the rebate to the cost of the conversion? If so, how many and what has been done about it.

ANSWER

We are not aware of any instances of such activity.

QUESTION No.SI-51

Senator Carr asked:

What is the average waiting time for an LPG conversion?

ANSWER

The waiting time for a conversion varies considerably between regions. While some conversions may be able to be obtained quite quickly, in other cases a three to six month wait may be necessary. We are advised by the industry that the average waiting time for a conversion would be three to four months.

QUESTION No.SI-52

Senator Carr asked:

An advertising budget of \$3 million dollars was initially allocated. Has all of that been spent? If so, will additional funds be spent on advertising?

ANSWER

Of the \$3 million budget initially allocated, \$2,654,418 has been spent to-date. \$2,603,389 was spent on print and radio advertising, and \$51,029 on associated production and distribution of printed promotional materials. There is no intention to spend more on advertising the LPG Scheme for 2006-07.

QUESTION No.SI-53

Senator Carr asked:

Would you agree that only 3 to 4 per cent of Australian cars will have access to this scheme? If not, what is the Department's estimate and what is it based on?

ANSWER

In principle, the owners of all eligible private vehicles have access to the Scheme. Some vehicles, typically larger vehicles with 6 cylinders or more, are more suitable for conversion than smaller vehicles. There are approximately 3 million 'larger' private vehicles in Australia which can more easily be converted to operate on LPG.