

Submission to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee Inquiry into the price of petrol in Australia

Submission relates to regional differences in the retail price of petrol.

In the north west of Western Australia road transport is used to deliver unleaded petrol to retail outlets. These can be spread out over considerable distances along the two highways (NW Coastal Highway & Great Northern Highway) which service the region.

Obviously the cost of transporting this fuel will add to the final retail price at the roadside pumps. This has adverse effects on tourism and local transport within the surrounding districts.

It is also obvious that those roadhouses which are isolated and have to provide their own power generation and sustenance will have higher operating costs than those in the towns, and this will be reflected in even higher retail fuel prices at such roadhouses.

However, some instances of petrol pricing in our north west could bear scrutiny. It seems difficult to justify cases where fuel is sold up to **32% higher per litre** than Perth city prices.

The table below indicates ULP prices observed in a survey along both highways through the north west earlier this month. Average price in Perth at the time was typically around \$1.32 per litre.

Location.	Km's from Perth.	Price per litre.
Geraldton town.	425	\$1-45
Roadhouse, Wooramel River.	780	\$1-50.9
Carnarvon town.	905	\$1-45.9
Roadhouse, Minilya River.	1045	\$1-56.9
Roadhouse, Fortescue River.	1435	\$1-75
Roadhouse, Karratha town.	1535	\$1-54.9
Port Hedland town.	1770	\$1-52.9
Roadhouse, Munjina.	1375	\$1-61
Roadhouse, Capricorn.	1175	\$1-52.8
Roadhouse, Kumarina.	1020	\$1-75.4
Meekatharra town.	765	\$1-51.8
Mt Magnet town.	570	\$1-56.8

Submission from:
Sustainable Transport Coalition WA
PO Box 272
Bull Creek WA 6149