

22 July 2006.

The Secretary
Senate Economic Legislation Committee

Last year the Queensland Government investigated the Impact of Petrol Pricing. I wrote a submission the basis of which were that I had the experience of being told by employees of petrol stations that I purchased fuel from that the boss would drive around to see what everyone else was selling petrol for - price matching. Also that I'd left Bealight one morning and the price was \$1.15 a litre to the Logan Hyperdome I stopped for around an hour and come out petrol had dropped to below \$1 a litre. I'd driven to the local Shell Coles Express used my discount dechlorator commented on what the price was in Bealight & been told 'now we've but we've got a call to drop the price'. I now have further comments which might be of interest to your Committee.

Loganholme which is the southern most suburb of Logan Shire

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and borders the Gold Coast has prices of petrol which are always 2¢ lower than Beerleigh which is virtually the next ruleable.

We have a Woolworths as well as Colo Express which is at Yatauta on the Gold Coast Motorway, 3, 7-11 plus all main brands of fuel & independent call up 15 service stations (don't think I see much of any). The BP on the motorway 3 kms down the road is regularly 2¢ cheaper than the BP in Beerleigh & of course the Colo Express is usually a cent or so cheaper than that one.

We are not a large town but between us and Tamborine are no service stations so there are 2 on the road that keep out that way as a good indication of price fluctuations can be achieved.

Lately the service stations have been putting prices up on the day before previous day around 1½¢ rise & then dropping it on the Friday which isn't very fair but their prerogative the drop is usually 2 or 3¢.

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Channel 7's Today Tonight a few months ago ran a promotion with an independent service owner whose name escapes me they discounted fuel from midnight Friday to midnight Sunday. I don't know about other cities but up here every station in Business Surrounds matched the discount price not just the service stations Surrounds by those participating in the promotion. I thought this was suspicious & reported it to ACC complaining that 'something had to be going on' for that to happen don't know what happened though.

EXCISE

In regards to charging the excise tax at the top of the docket before fuel price eg.

EXCISE
PETROL
GST
TOTAL

to my understanding that this is the practice. Excise is a tax NOT goods NOT service and should be charged at the end after fuel price and GST eg.

PETROL
GST
TOTAL
300
EXCISE
TOTAL.

(4)

to do so any other way is breaching the rules of GST. If the Government has asked that it be changed in my first example they are breaching their own law.

Petrol companies can afford to reconfigure their registers to charge it correctly as per my second example without government assistance as they are making billions of dollars profit. A tax on a tax is NOT good and if the Government decreed all taxes that are paid to them & passed on to the public in the manner of my second example they would be congratulated and also give pensions like myself who is at the moment robbing Peter to pay Paul a lot of money.

Fay Hicks

FAY HICKS

PS:- Price rises for fuel should only happen when a service station receives a new delivery not go up & down like it does now as they pay prices for the fuel per tanker delivery.