

Comments by Senator Joyce

The removal of restrictions of market share on the major oil companies will bring an exacerbation of the pressure on independents currently brought about by the two major retailers: Coles and Woolworths.

The desire that was apparent in the initial implementation of legislation in 1980 to bring a wide participation in the fuel retail market is still a just outcome for Australia.

I do not see the repeal of the legislation and the implementation of the Oil Code as fulfilling those initial objectives and, as such, note my dissent in the purpose of this repeal in protecting the rights of independent service stations.

This form of legislation does not protect the current independents and is not the optimum outcome which should be achieved to keep the wide participation in the Australian market place.

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