



Department of the Treasury
Ministerial Correspondence
Action Advice

013064

Date sent to the
Department
18 / 2 / 2014 .

The Hon Bruce Billson MP
Minister for Small Business

The attached Ministerial correspondence is referred for the following action:

	Reply Type	Adviser name (if required)	Urgency/Turn around
	Reply for signature of Minister [MPs, Senators, state and territory MPs, National Orgs]		
	Reply for signature of Chief of Staff [Organisations (other than national leaders and peak bodies) and State Government members]		
	Departmental Reply (signature by GM or SES officers)		
	Acknowledgement & Views Noted Letters		
✓	Appropriate Action by Department		

For action

- For referral to other portfolio Minister/Parl Sec _____
- For referral to other Department/Agency _____

No reply required

- For information/No Further Action (NFA) (no reply necessary)
- Referral sent from Minister's Office (copy attached)
- Original of copy previously received
- Minister's Office will handle all invitation requests

Drafting instructions by Adviser

~~Personal Submission~~
 PERSONAL SUBMISSION TO THE 'ROOT & BRANCH' REVIEW

Attachment

DLO's Initials

17-2-2014

To the Office of the Minister for small Business

Dear Sir, Madam

I would like you to consider including my Submission in the upcoming COMPETITION POLICY REVIEW.

Motorists are frustrated by the continued inability of Government Departments and the ACCC to rein in the greedy Duopoly of Coles & Woolworth, the catalysts of the runaway fuel prices, which they first blamed on the high- and now on the low- Australian Dollar or on the Oil price which has hardly moved lately, but the current fuel prices are an absolute rip off.

As they agreed on a 4 cent discount per litre of fuel instead of the 15-20 cents last year, how can they justify the latest increase of 15-20 cents per litre of fuel in one hit?

But to bypass this latest agreement, Coles & Woolworth are now offering an extra 8-10 cents discounts if customers buy \$ 20-30 of products in their fuel outlets. This is another anti- competitive scam and it is no surprise that other fuel outlets cannot compete and disappearing at a rapid rate.

When LPG was introduced, it was promoted as a cheaper cleaner alternative and the Howard Government promised that the price of LPG would never be more than 1/3 of the price of petrol, because of reduced mileage per litre of LPG compared to petrol, to recover the \$ 2000 plus installation costs and because LPG did not attract any Government Tax.

Now LPG has crept up to 60 % that of Petrol, which soon doesn't make it a viable alternative if nothing is done about the outrageous price increases. (LPG 90 cents -Petrol \$1.55)

Australia is surrounded by Oil-and Gas fields. Why do Australians have to pay the highest fuel prices?

This affects agriculture, transport costs and it also increases the costs of every product. These extra costs are then passed on to consumers. So consumers are ripped off twice: 1. with higher fuel prices, 2. with price increases on everything else. It is really outrageous that this hasn't been stopped yet.

Please explain WHY, WHO is profiteering and WHAT the Government is going to do about it?

Why haven't the anti-competitive shopper docket scams who do nothing to save Consumers from this ever increasing price gouging of fuel, been scrapped completely? It can't be that hard.

Since there hasn't been a Review of the Competition Policy since 1996, this is long overdue.

R.E. Kudis

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PS: I have been driving on LPG for over 20 years when the price of LPG was about 10 cents a litre. Why has the price of LPG gone up by a shocking 900 %?