



MEDIA RELEASE

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ACCC NT investigation

AANT Acting General Manager Kym McInerney has welcomed today's announcement that Darwin has been selected for the first regional petrol market study by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

"As the leading advocate on motoring and road safety issues in the Northern Territory, we have long held the position that an in depth investigation into fuel pricing in the Territory is required," said Mr McInerney. "We have asked for this ACCC investigation to include the Territory both directly and through our peak body the Australian Automobile Association and we hope that the findings benefit all Territorians through the information disclosed."

"Despite seeing some favourable shift in fuel prices in Darwin in recent months, Territorians have been paying far too much for far too long."

The ACCC study aims to identify each component of the fuel price consumers pay at the bowser and, with powers to compulsorily gather information under Section 95ZK of the Act, formulate a clear picture of what is happening with fuel pricing in Darwin.

"Greater transparency is what we have been waiting for.

"We hope that this study will benefit all Territorians and assist motorists make informed fuel purchasing decisions, it is an opportunity to educate consumers and if necessary change their buying behaviour.

"AANT looks forward to the study results and will assist the investigation with feedback from our members and our analysis of Darwin fuel pricing," Mr McInerney said.

"Retail margins on fuel prices in Darwin are currently sitting at approximately eight cents per litre, a vast improvement from two months ago when margins exceeded 30 cents per litre. It will be interesting to see if this is the result of increased public scrutiny and if the involvement of the ACCC will have a long lasting effect," he said.

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