

Hon Scott Simpson

Minister for ACC
Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs



Dr John Small
Chair
Commerce Commission
Email: [REDACTED]

Dear John

As discussed, I am writing to formally request that the Commerce Commission (the Commission) increase the frequency of its fuel price monitoring in light of the Middle East conflict. Stable and competitive fuel prices are critical to households, businesses, and wider economy.

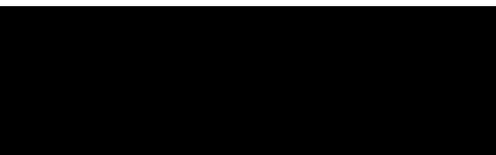
As the conflict is starting to impact oil and fuel prices around the globe, the Government expects motorists to get a fair deal at the pump, and is conscious that unjustified price increases place real pressure on households. Maintaining public confidence in the fuel market is important. We would not want to see fuel companies use it as an excuse to increase fuel prices to an unjustifiable level.

The Commission has a central role in supporting and overseeing the performance of the fuel market. During the conflict, I expect the Commission to:

- monitor wholesale and retail fuel prices and fuel importer margins closely, and engage with fuel industry participants, consumers and other relevant stakeholders to investigate any questionable pricing behaviour
- report to me in a timely manner on any emerging issues that may require urgent policy considerations,
- work effectively with other government agencies, particularly the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), including through the sharing of data and insights to inform any regulatory interventions that may be necessary to manage the impacts of the conflict on fuel markets, in line with the Commission's statutory duties.

I have also written directly to fuel companies to reinforce these expectations, and my officials at MBIE are available to support ongoing engagement and address any questions arising from this letter.

Kind regards



Hon Scott Simpson
Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs