

To: Grocery Prices Inquiry

Sent: Tue Mar 04 16:53:32 2008

Subject: Public Submission to ACCC Grocery Inquiry by Daniel Cortez on 04/03/2008

While costs across the entire food manufacturing and transportation chain may be rising (higher fuel and agricultural input prices, more ravenous middle-men and increasingly greater expectations demanded of food-related corporation's bottom lines), the main villains of today's grocery price gouge surely are the fat cats that form the bulk of our supermarket retail outlets – Safeway/Woolworths and Coles. The absence of real competition within Australia's supermarket system cultivates propitious operating conditions, which in turn favours and encourages the profligate nature of these organisations and therefore exacerbates their sinecure positions within Australia retail.

Inject some sagacity into the debate please ACCC – end the snafus and stop the gouge!