

D07/68735

From: Geoff Casey [TLCasey@bigpond.com]
Sent: Monday, 16 July 2007 12:29 AM
To: Petrol Price Inquiry
Subject: Spam: Remote area fuel plices

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am unsure if this issue falls within the scope of the current enquiry or not; I believe that some roadhouses are abusing their geographic position to extort unjustified fuel prices from passing (unsuspecting?) motorists.

Yesterday, I returned from Qld. by road. I observed that the price of unleaded petrol at "The Three-way Roadhouse" (Shell) was \$162.9/lt., 23Km further south is Tennant Creek (NT) where the price was \$137.9 / lt..

I was caught with the Threeways price on the way to Qld. (2/07/07) as I was running late and begrudgingly paid the exorbitant price, knowing that I was being "ripped off". On my return, I travelled the extra 23Km. to Tennant Creek, lost 3/4 of an hour and saved enough to provide lunch for three people.

At the "Barkly Homestead" about 200Km. to the east on the Barkly Highway, the price was about the same as Tennant Creek.

The "Barkly Homestead" is remote and has to provide its own power and accommodation etc. for its staff. Yet, their prices range from reasonable to comparable to other remote roadhouses. I have stayed at the Barkly several times in the last couple of years.

High prices due to high overheads etc. are understandable, Not enjoyable but understandable.

I trust you may be able to investigate this matter and any other which may come to light during the course of this enquiry.

Yours faithfully

Geoff Casey
(Darwin)

16/07/2007