

FUEL - TERMINAL GATE PRICING

**674. Hon MARGARET ROWE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Consumer Protection:**

I refer to the May 2006 report on automotive fuel prices in Victoria published by Consumer Affairs Victoria. This report examined terminal gate pricing and margins over the period January 2003 to April 2006 and concluded as follows -

- (a) retail prices for both petrol and diesel increased more slowly than their respective TPGs; and
- (b) for both petrol and diesel, increases in TPGs exceeded increases in landed international product prices, resulting in rising average notional terminal margins.

Will the minister advise whether she intends to direct the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection to conduct a review of terminal gate pricing margins in Western Australia and, if so, when will this review commence and, if not, why not?

**Hon KATE DOUST replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question. I am aware of the conclusions reached by Consumer Affairs Victoria in the report to which Hon Margaret Rowe referred. The Department of Consumer and Employment Protection monitors wholesale and retail fuel prices across Western Australia on a daily basis. The department also regularly analyses wholesale and retail margins. The minister has asked FuelWatch staff to compare whether WA data reflects the conclusions reached by Consumer Affairs Victoria; therefore, there is no need for such a review.