



Media Release

Tuesday 23 June 2015

Fuel excise deal will hit Western Australian's hip pockets

Today's announcement that a deal between the Federal Government and the Opposition to reintroduce fuel excise indexation continues a chaotic approach to funding transport infrastructure.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, says there was no hint of an increase in fuel excise before the federal election in 2013, and the deal today fails to guarantee a fair share of funding for Western Australia.

"It is estimated that for every dollar the Australian Government collects from WA motorists, only 41 cents is returned to the state in the form of infrastructure spending," Mr Golsby said.

"While additional funding to the Roads to Recovery Program is important, the sad reality is that in 2009, the WA Auditor General forecast an 800 million dollar backlog in road maintenance funding.

"Western Australia's Federal Members of Parliament will now need to ensure WA receives its fair share of infrastructure funding in light of this decision from the Government and the Labor Party.

"Cost of motoring remains the number one issue for our members.

"Today's decision is critical because car use remains integral to the mobility of Western Australians, and also there is a missed opportunity to increase investment in public transport."

RAC acknowledges and supports the announcement by the Australian Automobile Association's stance that motorists deserve a more sustainable and transparent link between the tax they pay when they fill up their car, and the Government's investment in improved infrastructure.

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