



## TREASURER

PO BOX 6022  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Telephone: 02 6277 7340  
Facsimile: 02 6273 3420

[www.treasurer.gov.au](http://www.treasurer.gov.au)

11 AUG 2009

Mrs Julia Irwin MP  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Petitions  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mrs Irwin 

Thank you for your letter of 8 May 2009 concerning a petition regarding the excise on fuel. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

On 13 May 2008, I announced a comprehensive review of Australia's tax and transfer system. While the terms of reference reflect the Government's policy not to increase the rate or broaden the base of the goods and services tax the Review Panel has been asked by the Government to examine enhancing the taxation arrangements on consumption, including on the taxation of fuel.

On 10 December 2008 the Review Panel released a consultation paper in which Chapter 12 discusses issues concerning the taxation of fuel.

The Review Panel has sought submissions from interested parties on this and other issues to help shape its recommendations for their final report to be provided to me in December 2009. I have asked that the petition's comments be passed onto the Review Panel and I would encourage all interested parties to submit their concerns to the Review Panel.

For more information on the Review, including how to access the consultation papers, please visit [www.taxreview.treasury.gov.au](http://www.taxreview.treasury.gov.au) or call 1800 614 133.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

WAYNE SWAN