

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

13 – 14 February 2013

Question: AET 29

Topic: Petrol Investigations

Hansard Page: page 119, 13 February 2013

Senator XENOPHON asked:

Senator XENOPHON: This is my second-last question; I will be very quick. On notice, can you tell me how many complaints have been made to the petrol commissioner in the last 12 months, how many have been investigated and what were the outcomes of those investigations?

Answer:

During the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012, there were 1587 identified contacts in relation to fuel. This includes contacts about petrol, LPG, and diesel. The table below provides a breakdown of contacts during the 12 month period.

Month	No.
January	93
February	254
March	326
April	85
May	131
June	196
July	150
August	89
September	52
October	69
November	75
December	67
Total	1587

During the period, 56 contacts were placed under assessment for further consideration. Five initial investigations and one in-depth investigation were commenced in the period.

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Category	No.	Outcome
Under Assessments	56	50 were closed due to a lack of evidence, or the conduct did not indicate a contravention. 5 were escalated to initial investigation and 1 added to a pre-existing assessment.
Initial Investigations	5	3 discontinued due to lack of evidence, 1 was escalated to in-depth investigation (see below), 1 is still active.
In-depth Investigation	1	1 matter was discontinued as the evidence did not suggest a breach.