## Wuest, Judith (SEN)

From: Leo Kerr [leo@ylink.com.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2006 5:08 PM

To: Economics, Committee (SEN)

Subject: Petrol Price in Australia -

The price of petrol in Australia is too low and further increases in pricing are necessary to reduce our dependency on petrol imported to Australia. As Peak Oil nears (or in fact has already passed by unnoticed) an alarming state of affairs will result when petrol pricing skyrockets due to demand outstripping supply. With the significant national and global dangers posed by climate change it is time to act now to wean our dependence on fuel inefficient vehicles and encourage modes of transport that are sustainable and do not have health or other impacts on our environment. The time to act is now while infrastructure adjustments are both realistic and reasonable. It is time to educate the population that the low cost of fuel they have enjoyed and squandered (through no fault of their own) is now a thing of the past. For the sake of our children and for the very survival of our species the time to act is now. Education and awareness raising to the threats and dangers to national and international economies should be a top priority in this review. Petrol should now be considered a valuable resource that can no longer be wasted and a resultant pricing arrangement to reflect both its scarcity and value must be put in place. Petrol replacement strategies should be encouraged and given tax incentives. The recent handling of the biodiesel tax incentives demonstrates complete ignorance to the urgency of the situation that faces our nation - when will the penny drop in Canberra.

Leo Kerr



Leo Kerr
Carbon Neutral Chairman
Men of the Trees WA
Winner WA Environment Award 2004
Winner National Banksia Award 2005