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MEDIA RELEASE

COMMISSIONER CALLS FOR CONSUMER POWER TO BRING FUEL PRICES DOWN.

NT Commissioner of Consumer Affairs, Gary Clements says “the MyFuel NT web app provides Northern Territory consumers with real time fuel prices but it **MUST HAVE CONSUMER SUPPORT** to have any effect on pricing.”

MyFuel NT data currently reveals that a large number of Darwin based retailers are selling unleaded 91 fuel for 139.9 cents per litre, however it also shows an independent outlet selling at 127.5 cents.

Fuel Express in Winnellie is the place to get your fuel at the moment if you are in that area or are travelling into or out of the city via the Stuart Highway or Tiger Brennan Drive. Having a price that is 12 cent per litre lower than other fuel retailers for unleaded fuel is certainly worth a detour.

Diesel prices are somewhat different with prices as low as 125.5 cents up to 136.9 cents around Darwin.

If you are traveling to Dundee beach for a fish this weekend, **Sandpalms Roadhouse** on Bynoe Road is the place to fill up your boat and vehicle, both heading there and home again. It is offering, fuel at 135.0 cents for unleaded and 130.0 cents for diesel.

“My role under the Consumer Affairs and Fair Trading Fuel Retailers legislation is to bring information about fuel prices to Territorians no matter where they live. The intent of the scheme is to make fuel prices transparent and in turn empower consumers to find the lowest prices for fuel in their area or region; but it is then up to consumers to take action and drive past the higher prices to gain the benefit.” Mr. Clements said.

It is only through consumer pressure on sales that the retailers will then reduce their prices to maintain their sales levels.

Northern Territory Consumer Affairs staff are out actively checking that prices reported to MyFuel NT are accurate and that the price boards no longer display discounted prices.

MyFuel NT has now been operating for only two days but the message is getting out there that lower fuel prices are available. The NT Consumer Affairs Facebook page confirms the strong interest about the release of the MyFuel NT web app with almost 30,000 views recorded for the MyFuel NT post, and almost 5,500 sessions on the MYFuel website in only two days.

Mr. Clements said, “I am pleased with the public response on our Facebook page and MyFuel NT website but we now need more Northern Territory consumers to support the scheme, to benefit from lower prices and through consumer power drive prices down.”

For more information about MyFuel NT go to www.MyFuelNT.nt.gov.au or to the Consumer Affairs website www.consumeraffairs.nt.gov.au or contact Consumer Affairs on 1800 019 319.