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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 8 August 2022 10:13 AM
To: [REDACTED]@TREASURY.GOV.AU; Ayres, Lisa Anne
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [SEC=OFFICIAL]RE: Draft letter [SEC=OFFICIAL] [ACCC-ACCCANDAER.FID3066942]
Attachments: Attachment B - Draft letter to ACCC Chair.docx

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

As I understand you discussed on Friday with Lisa Anne, please see attached one tracked change we suggest to the letter – just leaving more flexibility as to timing for our engagement with fuel retailers.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
(he/him)
Assistant Director | Government Relations and Advocacy | Executive Office
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Level 17 | 2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne 3000
T: [REDACTED]
M: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@TREASURY.GOV.AU>
Sent: Wednesday, August 3, 2022 1:03:25 PM
To: Ayres, Lisa Anne <LisaAnne.Ayres@acc.gov.au>
Subject: Draft letter [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Lisa-Anne,

As discussed. Thanks.

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

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THE HON JIM CHALMERS MP
TREASURER

Ref: MB22-000320

Ms Gina Cass-Gottlieb
Chair
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Cass-Gottlieb

I am writing to you regarding the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC's) role in monitoring fuel prices following the re-introduction of the full excise and excise equivalent customs duty rates for petrol, diesel and all other fuel and petroleum-based products (except aviation fuels) from 29 September 2022.

As you know there is an existing Direction to the ACCC to monitor prices, costs and profits relating to the petroleum industry in Australia. The ACCC will play a critical role in ensuring that market participants do not take undue advantage of the expiry of the fuel excise reduction in a way that penalises consumers. As when the fuel excise was reduced, I expect that the ACCC will engage with major retailers and wholesalers ~~in late September~~ outlining the ACCC's expectation that they do not mislead Australian consumers about the rationale for any price rises. I also look forward to your next quarterly report into the petroleum market and regular updates of information on your website which will provide an early read-out of fuel industry responses.

In the period from 29 September, I would expect the ACCC as the independent regulator enforcing Australia's competition and consumer laws, to investigate any concerns arising about misrepresentations about petrol prices, false and misleading conduct or anti-competitive conduct in fuel markets, and to take appropriate action.

The ACCC continuing its consumer outreach efforts will also be vital, including its provision of information to consumers and by recommending that consumers take advantage of fuel price websites and mobile applications to help them select the best time to purchase fuel, as well as the cheapest location.

Yours sincerely

The Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP