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FUEL SUPPLIER CONVICTED FOR BREACHES OF FUEL ACT

The Australian Government has welcomed the conviction of a petroleum distributor for three breaches of the *Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000*.

This is the first conviction for breaching the Act.

The supplier, Southeast Petroleum (Aust) Pty Ltd, was found guilty of three breaches of the nation's tough fuel quality standards and was fined a total of \$150 000.

The company supplied automotive diesel fuel to the public that failed to meet the requirements for sulphur, distillation temperature and viscosity. People who purchased this fuel were not getting what they paid for.

Australia's fuel quality standards are designed to make the nation's transport fuels among the cleanest in the world.

The standards regulate the quality of the fuel supplied to consumers and reduce toxic vehicle emissions.

Fuel quality standards are an increasingly important issue not only to protect the environment, but to safeguard the consumer as well. Modern vehicles require fuels that meet high quality standards and they can be damaged by inferior products.

This conviction is a reminder that distributing sub-standard fuel is illegal and may end in prosecution.

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