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Dear Sir

Diesel/Biodiesel Blends – Discussion Paper

In response to the discussion paper, Setting National Fuel Quality Standards Standardising Diesel/Biodiesel Blends, the Australian Trucking Association (ATA) believes that it is essential that a standard for blends of diesel and biodiesel be included under the Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000.

This standard should preferably reflect international standards.

It is noted that the Australian Government has already implemented fuel quality standards for petrol, automotive diesel, biodiesel (100%) and LPG (autogas) under this act.

However, the ATA, has been advised by one major international truck manufacturer of its concern about the Australian biodiesel standard not matching international biodiesel standards. This inconsistency for the manufacturer means that it is extremely difficult to monitor and approve biodiesel use in Australia, let alone approve blends of diesel and biodiesel.

The ATA, representing one of the major users of diesel, is of the view that this proposed blending standard must be acceptable to the manufacturers of trucks. For instance one manufacturer has recently said that the use of biodiesel in blends above five per cent (B5), was not recommended for its trucks under warranty.

Please contact Neil Gow or Duncan Loydell at the ATA if you wish to discuss this letter in further detail.

Yours sincerely

Stuart St Clair
Chief Executive