

BULLETIN

Service Station and Convenience Store Division (SSCSD)



Reference No: SSCSD 03-16

Date issued: 10/03/2016

Fuel Drive Off Report Findings Released

Members were advised in Bulletin SSCSD 01-15 that on 6 May 2015, the Andrews Labor Government asked the Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee (the Committee), to examine the best ways to reduce the incidence of petrol drive-offs and to find ways for service station operators to recover their losses.

In reaction to this announcement, VACC entered a comprehensive submission on behalf of its Service Station and Convenience Store Division (SSCSD). The submission used analytics provided by a survey of SSCSD members on the issue of fuel theft and was presented to the Committee by a VACC SSCSD Member Delegation at a Public Hearing on 8 September 2015.

The Committee handed down their [138 page Report](#) on 9 March 2016. In this report, there are a number of key findings and recommendations on how stakeholders could address the issue of fuel theft.

Some of those key recommendations include:

- A state-wide fuel drive-offs education campaign developed in partnership between Victoria Police, Crime Stoppers Victoria and the fuel retail industry;
- Six monthly forums conducted by Victoria Police with the fuel retail industry to discuss the issue of fuel drive-offs and ways of dealing with it;
- Victoria Police to develop a guide for industry on fuel drive-off prevention; and
- The Victorian Government to consider measures to assist the fuel retail sector implements prepayment systems to prevent fuel drive-offs.
- That VicRoads completes and implements its project for access to its publically available database, including access to number plate matched description data, stolen number plates and stolen vehicles.

VACC Executive Director, Geoff Gwilym yesterday met with the Victorian Government to express his disappointment in the underlying theme for industry to revert to prepay as the solution. It is widely acknowledged throughout by SSCSD members **that prepay is not an option**. It is however encouraging to note that the Committee has recommended a key VACC request for access to better vehicle data being made publically available via VicRoads.

VACC continues to have dialogue with the Victorian Government to ensure a better trading environment for its members.

Regards

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