

Fuel Price Advisory Notice. March 2026

Impact of Fuel Price Increases on Tyre Collection and Recycling Services

The Australian Tyre Recyclers Association (ATRA) advises that recent and ongoing increases in fuel prices across Australia are materially affecting the cost of tyre collection, transport and recycling operations and may warrant collection and recycling price increases.

Temporary exemptions to heavy vehicle road user charges and excise are welcome and may equate to approx. 50c reduction per litre. This will not cover the existing fuel price increases and future pricing uncertainty remains.

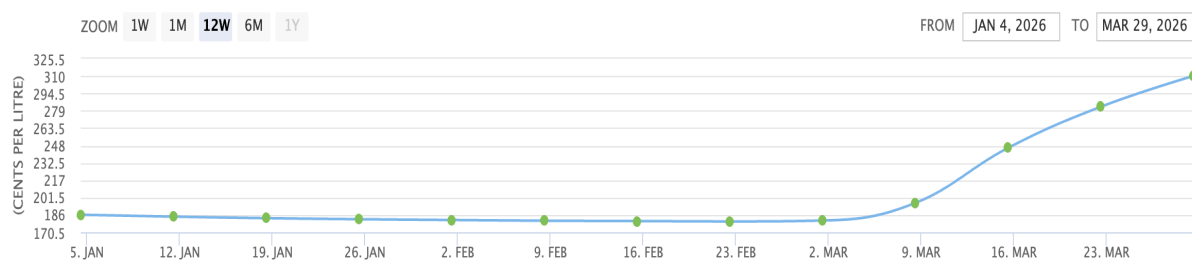
Fuel Price Developments

Recent market data and government monitoring indicate significant upward pressure on fuel costs, particularly diesel, which is the primary fuel used by heavy vehicles engaged in tyre collection and transport.

Key trends include:

- Diesel prices:**
 National average retail diesel prices have risen to approximately 310 cents per litre, representing some of the highest levels ever recorded, with regional prices often exceeding these.
- Recent increases:**
 In many capital cities and regional areas, diesel prices have increased by 20–30 cents per litre within a single week, with cumulative increases since early March exceeding \$1.34 cents per litre in several locations.

The Australian Institute of Petroleum (<https://aip.com.au/pricing/diesel/national/national-average>) shows a 66% price increase from the beginning of March 2026 to current prices.



- Underlying drivers:**
 These increases are being driven by international oil market volatility, supply disruptions linked to geopolitical conflict in the Middle East, higher refined diesel benchmark prices and increased freight and insurance costs.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) is now publishing weekly fuel price monitoring reports, confirming that diesel price increases at both wholesale and retail levels are currently outpacing petrol price rises and are disproportionately impacting freight-intensive industries.

Implications for Tyre Collection and Recycling

Fuel is a major cost input for used tyre collection and recycling, particularly for:

- Tyre collection from metropolitan, regional, and remote locations
- Long-distance transport to processing or end-use facilities
- Inter-state and export logistics where required
- And in some cases, processing equipment itself

The scale and rapid nature of current fuel price increases mean that many ATRA member companies are experiencing substantial cost increases that cannot be absorbed indefinitely within existing pricing structures.

Potential Cost Pass-Through

As a result, tyre retailers, fleets and other tyre users should be aware that:

- ATRA members may need to pass through some or all of these increased fuel costs to customers in order to maintain commercially viable and compliant collection and recycling services.
- Any pricing adjustments will be directly linked to fuel and transport cost pressures, rather than changes to underlying recycling or processing margins.
- Members will continue to seek operational efficiencies where possible; however, the current level of fuel price escalation limits the scope to absorb these costs without adjustment.

Ongoing Engagement

ATRA encourages open and proactive communication between tyre recyclers, collectors and their customers during this period of volatility. Members will continue to monitor fuel markets closely and will keep customers informed as conditions evolve.

Should you have questions about how fuel cost movements may affect your service arrangements, ATRA encourages you to discuss this directly with your tyre collection or recycling provider.

END