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Dr Shane Broad MP
Member for Braddon

12 JUN 2026

haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear ~~Dr~~ ^{Shane} Broad

On 6 May 2026 you asked the following constituency question in the House of Assembly.

My question is from a constituent, Tony, in Somerset. Will the Minister reduce or abolish the fuel levy applied to fares on the Spirit of Tasmania now fuel pricing is dropping? Or does he intend to retain this charge as a means of bolstering the state budget? Given the cost-of-living pressures facing Tasmanians and the importance of affordable Bass Strait travel for families, workers, and freight, can the Minister explain how maintaining this levy for so long into the future is justified?

Thank you for the question.

Importantly, and as I'm sure you are aware and have advised your constituent, the Spirit of Tasmania fuel levy is an operational matter for TT-Line not requiring shareholder approval. I have, of course, been regularly briefed on the topic and it has been the subject of questioning of the TT-Line Chair at the Public Accounts Committee.

At the PAC hearing on 12 May 2026, TT-Line Chair Ken Kanofski said "...our goal is to seek to recover 100 per cent of what we would regard as the additional fuel cost. How long we need to keep a fuel levy on in order to do that and at what rate is something we continue to monitor on a monthly basis".

In correspondence tabled in the House on 28 May 2026, Mr Kanofski provided an update on the 15 per cent passenger fuel levy as of the end of April, stating:

- For April, the additional passenger-related (non-freight) fuel costs for the company compared to pre-Iran conflict pricing were \$2.6 million.
- The passenger surcharge for the same period generated approximately \$1.2 million in revenue, resulting in an under-recovery of \$1.4 million for the month.
- The April under-recovery combined with additional fuel costs incurred in the period from the start of the Iran-conflict to the introduction of the fuel levy (28 February - 31 March) equates to \$3 million.

I expect a similar report for May in coming weeks, following which it too will be tabled in both Houses.

TT-Line has been explicit the fuel surcharge is temporary and limited to recovery of the passenger share of fuel cost variances. There will be no over-recovery.

I trust this provides sufficient detail for you to provide to Tony.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kerry Vincent', written in a cursive style.

Hon Kerry Vincent MLC
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport