



FAMILY FIRST



Steve Fielding **Family First** Senator for Victoria

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WONG'S GOT IT WRONG ON PETROL

CLIMATE Change Minister Penny Wong proved she, and her government, are out of touch with ordinary Australians by saying Australians have “started to adjust” to rocketing petrol prices and that families have been struggling with petrol prices only “since the beginning of the year”.

“Frankly it’s insulting for Ms Wong to tell us that Australians “understand” that petrol costs could hit as high as \$8 a litre in the future and that Australians have “started to adjust” to massive petrol costs,” Family First Leader Senator Steve Fielding said today.

“Australian families have been struggling with petrol prices, which have doubled over the past five years. But without a government willing to help them adjust by cutting petrol tax and providing good public transport alternatives to families in the outer suburbs and regional areas, what can they do?

“When is the Rudd Government going to start to ‘adjust’ to these crippling petrol prices and change its policy of grabbing more than 50 cents a litre in petrol tax from struggling Australian families?”

Senator Fielding said that over the past five years, the government’s petrol tax take had jumped by eight cents a litre to an outrageous 54 cents a litre.

“Don’t give Australians this rubbish about what good citizens they are adjusting to ever-increasing petrol costs when the government could make a difference in what they have to pay by slashing the petrol tax it rakes in.

“Family First has been pushing the government for a cut in petrol tax for two years and still the Rudd Government does nothing but pat Australians on the head and say how good they are for ‘adjusting’.”

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