

The Bullroarer - Thursday 22nd November 2007

Posted by Phil Hart on November 21, 2007 - 5:56pm in The Oil Drum:

Australia/New Zealand Topic: Miscellaneous

NZ: Petrol, diesel prices skyrocket

Petrol prices rose 5c a litre at most services stations yesterday, and diesel hit prices not seen for more than a year. The rises are in response to the continuing world oil squeeze, which has sent crude oil prices soaring. The price of 91-octane petrol went up to 173.9c a litre and diesel to 127.9c.

Old vows to improve fuel subsidy scheme

The Queensland government has promised to improve its flawed fuel subsidy scheme after an inquiry confirmed motorists in the state were being short-changed at the bowser by \$100 million a year.

Premier Anna Bligh on Wednesday refused to abolish the scheme, despite Queensland Fuel Subsidy Commission of Inquiry head Bill Pincus describing the laws governing the payment as "rubbish" and saying they should be overhauled or scrapped.

Phil says: I wonder what ASPO Australia Patron Andrew McNamara (Queensland's new Minister for Sustainability, Climate Change and Innovation) would say about this!

Others covering the same story (interesting to see the different slants in the headlines):

Courier Mail: Motorists ripped off

The Australian: Taxpayers lose out on petrol subsidy

ABC: Govt ignores recommendation to scrap fuel subsidy

WA sees exploration spend double

Petroleum exploration investment in Western Australia doubled to A\$1.5 billion (US\$1.33 billion) in 2006/07 compared to the previous year, the state's resources minister Francis Logan said.

Backing for clean energy projects

CLEAN energy has become flavour of the month with one of Australia's energy giants and aminnow benefitting from the Coalition's pre-election largesse.

Hot-rocks hopeful Petratherm, one of several South Australian companies exploring for hot-rock geothermal energy, with the ultimate objective of providing energy for producing electricity, was promised \$50million yesterday for its Paralana project.

NZ gets a bad report from UN on greenhouse

The Greens are calling for renewed efforts to reduce our greenhouse emissions in light of a UN report that shows that New Zealand is amongst one of the worst in the industrialised world for increases in greenhouse gas emissions over the period 1990-2005.

How to spend \$60 billion

SALLY CAPP, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, COMMITTEE FOR MELBOURNE

MY priorities would be improving the nation's environment, education and transport.

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Finally, Australia's transport system requires more attention. I would allocate the final \$10 billion to deliver Australia a better multimodal, integrated transport system.

Cooper outlines overseas campaign

Cooper Energy said today it was targeting increased oil production from its Australian operations as it gears up for its first international drilling programme in 2008.

Woodside eyes Pluto options

Australia's Woodside Petroleum said today potential expansion of its Pluto liquefied natural gas facilities currently under construction in Western Australia would not be dependent on the Belicoso-1 well, adding that it was looking at alternative sources of gas supply.

Kogas fancies Australian LNG

South Korea's state-owned Korea Gas Corporation (Kogas) is in talks to buy liquefied natural gas from the Gorgon and Browse projects in Australia, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy said in a statement today.

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Santos CO2 project gets cash boost

Santos said today it welcomed the Australian Coalition Government's announcement that it would commit A\$10 million (US\$8.77 million) to fast track development of the Moomba Carbon Storage concept.

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