

May 2023

The Director

Fuel Efficiency Standards—Surface Transport Emissions and Policy Division  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and  
the Arts  
GPO Box 2154  
**Canberra ACT 2601**



Dear Director

**Re Fuel Efficiency Standard—Cleaner and Cheaper-to-run Cars for Australia**

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the consultation process for the Fuel Efficiency Standard.

The Association of Motoring Clubs is one of the peak bodies for heritage motoring and vehicle clubs in Victoria representing some 250 clubs and 30,000 individual members.

We recognise the importance of clean fuels and the need for a fuel efficiency standard for daily drives and commuter vehicles however we ask you to please consider the importance Australia's Heritage fleet in the formation of any such standards.

Australia's heritage fleet is wide and varied and consists of vehicles from the late 1800's right through to more modern classic cars and motorcycles. It is also important to note that many stationary engines and steam vehicles also comprise part of this fleet.

The heritage fleet are vital pieces of Australia's moveable cultural heritage and need to be preserved as does their usage.

Each year owners spend thousands of dollars maintaining as well as restoring their vehicles. Money is spent on items such as upholstery, tyres, paint and body works, mechanical repairs much of this being spent with small to medium businesses. This is in addition to the fuel, registration and insurance costs. The economic impact of the heritage vehicle movement is of considerable worth.

Many heritage fleet owners belong to clubs. These clubs are a vital source of community connections as well as social care and support for many of their members. This sense of community and camaraderie also extends to the many rallies and runs undertaken by clubs right across Victoria, often bringing much appreciated financial investment into regional communities in the form of meals accommodation and activities as well as often the engagement of many local regional community groups such as service clubs and historical societies. All of this is in addition to the enjoyment experienced by many members of the public as they see historic vehicles on the road or at displays and shows.

The special vehicles that make up our heritage fleet are often driven/ridden on club permits allowing for 45/90 days use in Victoria, this use is generally in line with club activities or rallies as mentioned. The milage undertaken by heritage vehicles and therefore the impact on the environment is minimal in comparison to the commuter fleet and therefore any legislative impact will result in little environmental benefit. It should also be noted that many enthusiasts are also aware of their impact and a respondent to initiatives such as the AOMC carbon offset program. <https://www.aomc.asn.au/carbon-offset>

In conclusion we note that under Point 4 of the FES consultation principles, "*Equitable so all Australians can access the vehicles they need for work and leisure. The cars that we drive are a critical part of how Australians live and work and need to be practical. The Australian FES will need to be equitable and not unduly negatively impact any particular group of people or part of Australia.*" Under this principle we wish to ensure that heritage vehicles that are not generally driven as commuter vehicles do not suffer and undue negative impact. On behalf of the movement, we wish to ensure that the enjoyment of Australia's moveable cultural heritage is not an unintended consequence of any legislative changes.

We would be delighted to provide input into any legislation that may affect the historic fleet and trust you will consider our submission.

Yours in Motoring

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President

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