

His Excellency General the Hon. Sam Mostyn AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
Government House, Canberra ACT 2600

The Hon. Chris Bowen MP
Minister for Climate Change and Energy
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

FIFTH NOTICE — DECLARE THE NATIONAL FUEL EMERGENCY NOW

Your Excellency. Minister Bowen and GG Sam Mostyn.

The world is experiencing the largest oil shock in recorded history. Brent crude has broken through US\$111 per barrel as I write this letter — confirmed this morning — a 55% rise in a fortnight. Goldman Sachs called \$100 last week. The market blew through that ceiling and kept going. Qatar's Energy Minister has publicly warned of US\$150 if Gulf producers shut down entirely. The Strait of Hormuz — through which a fifth of the world's oil moves — remains effectively closed. President Trump has stated there will be no deal with Iran. This is now the eighth day of the war. There is no resolution in sight. Nobody knows how this unfolds. That is precisely the point. The unknown is the emergency.

Seven days ago today — Monday 2 March — Minister Bowen stood before Parliament and the press and stated: "there is no immediate threat to petrol suppliers in Australia." In the seven days since that statement, Brent crude has risen from approximately \$70 to \$111. Seven days. Forty dollars. That is the world Minister Bowen said did not require emergency measures. Australia's fuel reserves are lower than they should be, the trajectory is worsening by the day, and the situation is becoming alarming. Diesel shortages are already present in regional communities across this country. Diesel — which powers every freight truck, every farm, every mine, every cold chain in this nation — is the clock that is ticking. Australia has been non-compliant with the IEA's 90-day reserve obligation since 2012. We have two refineries where we once had seven. We import more than 90% of our liquid fuel. We are among the most exposed nations on earth to exactly this crisis, and the government is still telling Australians there is nothing to see.

I am calling on both of you — jointly, today — to declare a National Fuel Emergency under the Fuel Security Act 2021. This declaration activates priority rationing frameworks, emergency procurement authority, domestic refinery maximisation, supply chain transparency obligations, and formal IEA emergency reserve engagement. Nobody knows how this war unfolds. Nobody knows whether the Strait opens tomorrow or in three months. Nobody knows whether Gulf producers hold or collapse. That uncertainty is not a reason to wait. It is the reason to act. Governments declare emergencies precisely when the future is unknown and the cost of being unprepared is catastrophic. That is this moment. Declaring in week three of empty bowlers and grounded freight will be too late. Every farmer, every truckie, every miner, and every nurse in this country is watching what you do in the next 48 hours.

The Maritime Union of Australia went on record on 3 March: fuel sovereignty is a national responsibility and decisive action is required now. The Victorian Farmers Federation has stated publicly that if fuel supply runs dry, Australia's agriculture and ability to feed millions stops in a heartbeat. The Australian Strategic Policy Institute has warned that a five-week conflict would cause fuel shortages devastating to mining and agriculture. These are not fringe voices. These are the people who run this country's physical economy. They are calling for emergency action. You are calling for calm. \$111 oil is not calm.

Your Excellency, I write to you because the constitutional role of the Governor-General is precisely relevant in moments when elected government fails to act on a demonstrable national emergency. Minister Bowen has the power under the Fuel Security Act 2021 to advise the declaration of a National Fuel Emergency. I am calling on him today to do so — and I am calling on you to receive that advice and act upon it without delay. If the Minister will not bring that advice, I respectfully submit that the circumstances of this crisis — \$111 oil, a closed Strait of Hormuz, fuel reserves that are falling and already causing diesel shortages across regional Australia — are sufficient to warrant the Governor-General's personal attention and intervention. The reserve powers of this office exist for national emergencies. This is one. Minister Bowen: advise the Governor-General to declare the emergency today. Your Excellency: if that advice is not forthcoming, I ask you to inquire directly of your ministers why it is not.

The Fuel Security Act 2021 exists precisely for this moment. The largest oil shock in history is unfolding in real time. No one knows how it ends. Acting now is responsible governance. Not acting is negligence — and in the context of national security, it is treasonous to the people of Australia who depend on this government to protect

them. Minister Bowen: advise the Governor-General to declare the National Fuel Emergency today. Your Excellency: receive that advice and act on it. The nation is watching. History will record what was done — and what was not.

Yours sincerely,

Brett Murrell (Boh Morel)

Moral Majority Party — Sovereign Power

Candidate for Farrer, Federal By-Election 9 May 2026

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