



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

TELEPHONE: 1300 721 730

FACSIMILE: 1300 554 552

EMAIL:
info@unitedretailfederation.com.au

WEBSITE:
www.unitedretailfederation.com.au

BRISBANE:

Suite 3, 321 Kelvin Grove Road
KELVIN GROVE QLD 4059

PO Box 105
KELVIN GROVE BC QLD 4059

MELBOURNE:

Level 27
101 Collins St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

SYDNEY:

Level 57
MLC Centre
19-29 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

ADELAIDE:

Level 24
Westpac House
91 King William St
ADELAIDE SA 5000

PERTH:

Level 28
AMP Tower
140 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

ABN: 53 009 660 495

MEDIA RELEASE

Higher Food Prices to Come with Queensland Electricity Cost Blow Outs

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Peak national industry body, the **United Retail Federation**, has said the 'ETS factor' is still impacting Queensland electricity prices and warned that consumers are set to face skyrocketing food prices as a result of rising electricity costs within the supply chain. The call follows the revelation that electricity prices in the mining state of Queensland will rise by 13.29% on July 1

Specifically citing uncertainty around the Rudd Government's 'Super Tax', **Scott Driscoll**, National President of the *United Retail Federation*, was scathing of both the Rudd Government's 'Super Tax' and the head of Treasury, Ken Henry's "good in theory" claim that prices won't be affected.

"We have seen recent examples where State Governments such as New South Wales have included the 'ETS factor' into energy cost increases. You would have to be naïve not to expect that State Governments and energy providers are now also beginning to factor in the costs of this 'Super Tax'," Mr Driscoll said.

"We've already seen the dramatic effects of what a poorly thought out and rushed 'Super Tax' can do to the nation's economy. In the process of actually implementing this tax it will be business and consumers that will feel the real pain.

"One of retail's cost burdens is refrigeration. The flow on effects from a rise in electricity means everyone will be paying more for food. No one gets out of this unscathed," Mr Driscoll said.

For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.