



**United Retail Federation**

*Serving Members Australia Wide™*

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Prime Minister Has Misled the Parliament and the Australian People

### Driscoll- "Rudd Government Claims Super Tax will not affect Cost of Living Proving to Be Lies"

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Peak national industry body, the **United Retail Federation**, has again condemned the Rudd Government for lying to the Australian people and misleading parliament in the face of growing cost of living pressures as a result of the ill conceived Super Tax.

**Scott Driscoll**, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, has repeatedly warned of out of control electricity and food prices adding that the "entire supply chain – from the farm gate to the grocery store shelf" will be sluggish with increased costs due to the "fundamental and fatal uncertainty surrounding the Super Tax".

"If you increase the costs of getting coal out of the ground to fuel the coal-fired power stations there is no doubt those costs will flow on to drive up things like electricity and refrigeration at each point of production. It will hit agricultural production, it will hit the refinery and manufacturing points and then hit the costs of refrigeration in the supermarket itself," Mr Driscoll said.

"With every mouthful Australians will pay more. The cost of a bottle of milk, slice of cheese, lamb roast or scoop of ice cream will cost more under the Rudd Government's Super Tax.

"If you impose a tax on the mining sector, which has kept the Australian economy at its healthiest, you will not only destroy jobs in that sector you will push up prices and destroy jobs across the entire economy.

"The 'ETS Factor' was built into future electricity costs in states like New South Wales and this latest Super Tax will be no different. It is a fatal uncertainty for business.

"Mums and Dad small business operators are staring at a perfect storm of job losses, price increases, a hit to their business and a hit to their retirement savings through their superannuation.

"Food prices will certainly go up as a result of increased electricity imposts. It is the uncertainty around this tax that is the killer that will put prices sky high, place a huge burden on small business and result in job losses," Mr Driscoll said.

**For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.  
Editor's Note: Scott Driscoll will be available for comment at Parliament House in Canberra today.**