



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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Retailers Demand Answers on Secret Gillard ETS Scheme

Driscoll: Gillard must make her "Electricity Tax Scheme" (ETS) clear pre-election

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Scott Driscoll, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body in Australia for over 120 years, has launched a scathing broad side on Prime Minister Julia Gillard for what he has termed her **"dirty little secret"** that she can't be allowed to sweep under the carpet until after the federal election.

"Julia Gillard must finally step up honestly now and disclose her secret ETS or "Electricity Tax Scheme" immediately so industry and households know the full extent of the bottom line financial impacts of this secret new tax she is trying to sneak in after the next election," Mr Driscoll said.

"We now all know Julia Gillard prefers to move in the darkness of the night when implementing big secret schemes, as evidenced in the ruthless midnight execution of Kevin Rudd, but this is not about the internal power plays of the Australian Labor Party, this is about the affordability of household and retail electricity bills.

"This Electricity Tax Scheme that Julia Gillard is trying desperately to keep secret until after the election will drive the cost of groceries and all household goods sky high. If re-elected Julia Gillard proposes to perform the stunt of getting 150 people out of the White Pages to sit in a circle, hold hands and sing Kumbaya for a day, then miraculously from a puff of smoke will come the Julia Gillard great big new tax on electricity. This is simply not on.

"I call on Julia Gillard to stop playing games on something as critical as the household budgets for every Australian and the rising costs of electricity to the entire food and grocery supply chain in this country.

"The Gillard ETS tax will make it more expensive to buy milk, bread, meat and to turn on the oven at home to put dinner on the table.

"The retail industry and our supply chain have a right to know what the full detail is of the Gillard ETS tax scheme before 21 August," Mr Driscoll said.

For further comment please call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.