



14 June 2017

Dr Peter Fisk

Chief Executive and Chief Metrologist
National Measurement Institute (NMI)
36 Bradfield Road,
Lindfield, NSW 2070

Via email: Peter.Fisk@measurement.gov.au; alexander.winchester@measurement.gov.au

**URGENTLY SEEKING OUTCOMES FROM THE REVIEW OF AUTOMATIC DENSITY
COMPENSATION IN AUTOGAS DISPENSERS**

Dear Dr Fisk

I am writing to you on behalf of the members and associates of Gas Energy Australia concerning the time it has taken to review the current mandatory requirement for automatic density compensation in autogas dispensers and the impact this is having on Australian manufacturing industry, service station operators and consumers.

In November 2015, Gas Energy Australia wrote to the NMI requesting this review and outlining how the requirement imposes unnecessary additional costs on consumers, reduces dispenser reliability and, when combined with the exemption for pre-2001 dispensers, discourages the installation of new dispensers. We also outlined that autogas metrology operates effectively in pre-2001 systems without automatic density compensation and that a requirement for such compensation does not apply to:

- petrol or diesel sold in Australia;
- the determination of quantities of autogas for fuel excise purposes in Australia; or
- autogas sold in overseas jurisdictions.

Gas Energy Australia was pleased to receive correspondence from the NMI in January 2016 and also be given the opportunity to respond to the NMI Density Measurement in the Retail Sale of Liquefied Petroleum Gas discussion paper dated November 2016. It is now mid-2017 and the delay in addressing this issue continues to impose additional costs on industry and consumers in the order of close to \$1 million per annum (refer - GEA Submission on National Instrument Test Procedure Review - June 2015).

Moreover, by forcing service stations to operate old otherwise outdated dispensers, these costs threaten the future of the autogas refueling network relied on by motorists who drive autogas vehicles, many who do so as a result of the LPG Vehicle Scheme introduced by the Coalition Government in 2006. And by discouraging the installation of new dispensers, the current regime has the effect of jeopardising the

future of Australian companies that manufacture of autogas dispensers and associated components, including local manufacturer, DJ Batchen, located in the Sydney suburb of Auburn.

Consequently, I would greatly appreciate your timely advice on the prospects of the NMI quickly resolving this matter so that we can report to the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Senator the Hon Arthur Sinodinos AO, and the Assistant Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, the Hon Craig Laundy MP, whose electorate of Reid includes Auburn, that urgent action is being taken to address it.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Griffiths", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Griffiths
Chief Executive Officer

cc. Alex Winchester Senior Policy Officer, Legal Metrology Policy, National Measurement Institute