



# Victoria Government Gazette

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## Transport Act 1983

### NEW YEAR'S EVE SURCHARGE NON-METROPOLITAN TAXI-CABS

#### Notice of Reference under Division 9 of the **Transport Act 1983**

I, Peter Batchelor MP, Minister for Transport give notice that in accordance with the provisions of section 186 of the **Transport Act 1983**, I have asked the Essential Services Commission to consider a proposal to authorise drivers of non-metropolitan taxi-cabs to apply a \$5.50 (includes GST) surcharge to taxi fares in the period 6.00 pm on 31 December 2005 to 6.00 am on 1 January 2006.

The Commission is asked to have regard to the following factors:

- i. the increased demand for taxi services on New Year's Eve;
- ii. the proposed surcharge is aimed at boosting taxi availability on New Year's Eve; and
- iii. in early 2006, the Commission will be asked to report on a proposal by the Department of Infrastructure to vary non-metropolitan taxi-cab licence conditions to provide for a New Year's Eve surcharge to be applied on an on-going basis.

The following directions are given under section 186(4) of the Act:

- in conducting the investigation the Commission should have regard to the objectives in section 8 of the **Essential Services Commission Act 2001**, where relevant;
- except as otherwise directed by the terms of reference, the Commission is to conduct the investigation in a manner as described in section 187 of the **Transport Act 1983**; and
- the Commission is asked to provide a report to the Minister for Transport prior to this New Year's Eve.

Dated 16 December 2005

PETER BATCHELOR MP  
Minister for Transport

**SPECIAL**

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