



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 for the periods 6.00 pm on 31 December 2006 to 6.00 am on 1 January 2007 and 6.00 pm 31 December 2007 to 6.00 am on 1 January 2008.

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

- i. the proposed surcharge is aimed at boosting taxi availability on New Year's Eve to meet the increased demand for taxi services on this night;
- ii. the proposed surcharge has been applied annually since 1999;
- iii. the long term applicability of a New Year's Eve surcharge will be included in a major review of taxi fares that the Commission has recommended be undertaken during 2007/08;
- iv. whether the proposed surcharge should be subject to indexation under the arrangement proposed for 2006 and 2007.

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 15 December 2006.

Dated 28 November 2006

PETER BATCHELOR MP
Minister for Transport

SPECIAL

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