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**Auditor General asked to investigate extraordinary fuel bill**

Shadow Minister for Government Accountability Michael Gunner has written to the Auditor General requesting he investigate the extraordinary $17,415 fuel bill of the CLP’s Member for Arnhem, Larisa Lee.

“We asked Adam Giles to do the right thing and direct the Auditor General to conduct an inquiry, instead he has ordered Larisa Lee into hiding,” said Mr Gunner.

“The Auditor General has the ultimate oversight of the proper use of taxpayer’s money and only he can fully get to the bottom of all the unanswered questions.

“The Auditor General can look at who was driving the car, where, when and why. Larisa Lee has already admitted to breaking several rules, but only after she was busted. The Auditor General will be able to determine whether she has committed further breaches and further misuse of taxpayer’s money.”

The Auditor General will be able to assess such matters as:

- Why records show that she has never fuelled up in her own electorate.
- Why her $17,415 bill is much higher than the average of other members at $2,597.
- Why Larisa Lee was claiming taxpayer accommodation, meals, travel allowance and expenses for her husband in Darwin while at the same time he was filling up with taxpayer funded fuel over 700 kilometres away.

“The Speaker has claimed Larisa Lee’s fuel bill was $14,402 but Larisa Lee claims it was $17,415. Only the Auditor General can determine exactly how much was spent,” said Mr Gunner.

“Half of the population of Larisa Lee’s electorate lives on islands. Her CLP colleague Bess Price the member for Stuart has a bigger bush electorate, even further from Darwin, yet only spent $2,414 over the same period.

“In any other workplace the employee would be sacked, forced to repay the money or face criminal charges. The Auditor General will be able to determine what is appropriate for Larisa Lee.”

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