



21 January 2013
Mining questions



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With data supplied by



About the Poll

This report summarises the results of a weekly omnibus conducted by Essential Research with data provided by Your Source. The survey was conducted online from the 16th and 20th January and is based on 1,007 respondents.

This report comprises results of questions on subsidies for fossil fuels and mining.

The methodology used to carry out this research is described in the appendix on page 5.

Note that due to rounding, not all tables necessarily total 100% and subtotals may also vary.

Government Expenditure on Fossil Fuels

Q. Each year, the Federal Government spends over \$10 billion on measures to encourage the production and consumption of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas. This money is given out in the form of rebates, offsets and other taxation measures. Do you think this expenditure is too much, too little or about right?

	Total	Men	Women	Aged 18-34	Aged 35-54	Aged 55+	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Too much	38%	45%	31%	38%	37%	38%	37%	37%	64%
Too little	11%	11%	10%	8%	12%	11%	8%	12%	8%
About right	19%	20%	18%	18%	17%	24%	26%	20%	5%
Don't know	33%	24%	41%	36%	34%	27%	29%	32%	23%

38% think that Government expenditure of \$10 billion per year to encourage the production and consumption of fossil fuels is too much, 19% think it is about right and 11% think it is too little. 33% could not give an opinion.

Those most likely to think it is too much were men (45%) and Greens voters (64%)

Fuel Subsidies for Mining Companies

Q. Mining companies receive a discount on fuels such as petrol and diesel, which is paid by the Federal Government and costs about \$2 billion annually. Do you approve or disapprove of the Federal Government spending \$2 billion a year to subsidise the fuel costs of mining companies?

	Total	Men	Women	Aged 18-34	Aged 35-54	Aged 55+	Vote Labor	Vote Lib/Nat	Vote Greens
Total approve	18%	22%	12%	21%	16%	16%	15%	23%	7%
Total disapprove	64%	65%	63%	57%	65%	72%	70%	57%	88%
Strongly approve	4%	4%	3%	6%	3%	3%	2%	6%	-
Approve	14%	18%	9%	15%	13%	13%	13%	17%	7%
Disapprove	36%	32%	40%	33%	34%	45%	41%	33%	44%
Strongly disapprove	28%	33%	23%	24%	31%	27%	29%	24%	44%
Don't know	18%	12%	24%	22%	20%	12%	15%	19%	5%

18% approve of the Federal Government spending \$2 billion a year to subsidise the fuel costs of mining companies and 64% disapprove. 18% gave no opinion.

Those most likely to disapprove were aged 55+ (72%), Labor voters (70%) and Greens voters (88%)

Appendix – Methodology

The data gathered for this report is gathered from a weekly online omnibus conducted by Your Source. Your Source is an Australian social and market research company specializing in recruitment, field research, data gathering and data analysis. Your Source holds Interviewer Quality Control Australia (IQCA) accreditation, Association Market and Social Research Organisations (AMSRO) membership and World Association of Opinion and Marketing Research Professionals (ESOMAR) membership. Senior Your Source staff hold Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS) membership and are bound by professional codes of behavior.

Essential Research has been utilizing the Your Source online panel to conduct research on a week by week basis since November 2007. Each Monday, the team at Essential Media Communications discusses issues that are topical. From there a series of questions are devised to put to the Australian public. Some questions are repeated each week (such as political preference and social perspective), while others are unique to each week and reflect prominent media and social issues that are present at the time.

Your Source has a self-managed consumer online panel of over 100,000 members. The majority of panel members have been recruited using off line methodologies, effectively ruling out concerns associated with online self-selection. Your Source has validation methods in place that prevent panelist over use and ensure member authenticity. Your Source randomly selects 18+ males and females (with the aim of targeting 50/50 males/females) from its Australia wide panel. An invitation is sent out to approximately 7000 – 8000 of their panel members. The response rate varies each week, but usually delivers 1000+ responses. The Your Source online omnibus is live from the Wednesday night of each week and closed on the following Sunday. Incentives are offered to participants in the form of points.

EMC uses the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software to analyse the data. The data is weighted against Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data.

