

# ONLINE ARTICLE

<b>Title:</b>	"Road trains fear rego rip-off"
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Cattle loading on a road train at Kalala Station, near Daly Waters in the Northern Territory. (Carl Curtain )

Road train operators claim they'll soon be significantly overcharged for registration and fuel taxes.

The majority of transport ministers last month voted in favour of new charges, recommended by the National Transport Commission (NTC).

The Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association has obtained figures from the National Transport Commission, through Freedom of Information, which it says show the burden on road trains will be unfair.

Association spokesman Phillip Halton says he'll continue lobbying transport ministers before they meet again next month.

"My members in rural Australia are facing a 21 per cent increase in a single year to the cost of registering their road trains," he said.

"And on fuel, the National Transport Commission recommended the single largest increase to the diesel tax that the entire industry's ever faced. That was a 2.4 cent per litre increase."

The commission says its methodology for working out the charges ensures that overcharging doesn't occur.

It says the livestock transporters are looking at the road train figures in isolation, and that charges for other heavy vehicles, like B-doubles, will actually decrease from July.