

E6 WOULD BE A WASTE OF CASH 20-09-09

Sorry, here it is. And I agree with the last email, make it annual Another Tax for the consumer ("Port tax will hurt families" Herald Sun September 18) Mr Pallas would have us believe that we need this new tax to "help pay for promises included in the \$38 billion Victorian transport plan". Well, Mr Pallas, I can save you approximately \$1billion simply by excluding the E6 Freeway from your plans. This freeway in your words will create a link between Thomastown and Donnybrook, when in fact that link already exists by way of the Hume Freeway and Craigieburn By-pass. By building the E 6 you will affectively be duplicating infrastructure that will lie 5 kilometres parallel from each other! Hardly effective planning Minister! Essentially wasting **taxpayers' money**. Take a look at your transport plans a little closer Mr Pallas before you commit OUR money unnecessarily and then try to tax us even more for the privilege.

Wendy Campbell

Secretary

Protect Our Heritage

Wollert

Article printed in the Herald Sun 21-09-09

Trucks also need right-hand lanes

SO often when a significant accident occurs on one of Melbourne's arterial roads, the cry goes up that it's the fault of trucks and we can fix the problem by getting trucks off the road or keeping them out of the right-hand lane.

It is apparent that some car drivers are intimidated by trucks.

I can tell you also that many truck drivers are worried by car drivers who speed, change lanes incessantly without indicating and cut in front of trucks without leaving adequate room.

Do we solve any of these problems by keeping trucks out of the right-hand lane? It's hard to see how.

A continuing problem on our arterials is merging.

Many nervous drivers merge in fits and starts.

Will things get any better if the already nervous and erratic mergers face a continuous line of trucks in the left lane, rather than a mix of large and small vehicles?

The right-hand lane on any multi-lane highway is designed for overtaking, not for sitting in. It is certainly not just truck drivers who forget this.

All drivers need to better learn how to share the road.

Bill Noonan, Victorian branch secretary, TWU

E6 Freeway would be waste of cash

ANOTHER tax for the consumer ("Port tax will hurt families", September 18).

Roads and Ports Minister Tim Pallas would have us be-

LETTER OF THE DAY

ALCOHOL has been consumed in this country for more than 200 years.

So why is it that late-night assaults are getting more violent and extreme than ever?

There must be another reason, and one likely culprit is the excessive consumption of so-called energy drinks.

These drinks contain up to six times the caffeine of a cup of coffee.

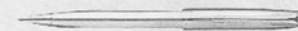
Some people seem to consume these drinks like water. They help you stay up later and drink more alcohol, but there are other side-effects from too much caffeine,

including nervousness, irritability and short-temper in some people, and even psychosis at the extreme end.

There is also the problem of young children consuming these drinks when it is well-known they shouldn't have any caffeine.

These drinks should not be so freely available and a study into their effects is long overdue.

Nick Bryant, Heatherton



Our letter of the day winner receives a stylish Parker Sonnet ball pen, courtesy of Parker.

lieve we need this new tax to help pay for promises included in the \$38 billion Victorian transport plan.

Well, Mr Pallas, I can save you \$1 billion simply by excluding the E6 Freeway from your plans.

This freeway in your words will create a link between Thomastown and Donnybrook, when in fact that link already exists by way of the Hume Freeway and Craigieburn bypass.

By building the E6 you will be duplicating infrastructure that lies parallel 5km away.

Take a look at your transport plans a little closer, Mr Pallas, before you commit our money unnecessarily and then try to tax us even more for the privilege.

Wendy Campbell, secretary, Protect Our Heritage, Wollert

English is stupid, go phonetic

MOST of my teaching career was expended teaching remedial reading. In most cases, I could build self-esteem by pronouncing, "English is stupid, not you!" On hearing that, an individual's eyes would light up.

I became so frustrated with the irregularities of English that I devised a phonetic written English. The short vowels remained the same, *a* in cat, *e* in egg, *i* in igloo, *o* in not, *u* in mug.

The long vowel sound simply doubled the short vowel, so say became *saa*, for example.

The whole system is too much to elaborate on, but little by little we could change the English language to a phonetic