

Fuel levy talks

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REGIONAL Express executives will meet this week to consider reducing its fuel surcharge.

A spokesperson for the airline said last week there were no changes to the surcharge but the company would discuss it this week.

This follows an announcement by Qantas that it was removing its domestic fuel surcharges.

Qantas executive general manager John Borghetti said the airline had reduced domestic and international surcharges twice in recent months and had been closely monitoring oil prices.

The airline responded to falling oil prices by removing the \$18 per sector surcharge from domestic and QantasLink bookings but based on higher fuel costs associated with international operations the international surcharges would still remain.

Mr Borghetti said despite recent falls in the price of oil, Qantas' fuel costs were still greater than when surcharges were first introduced in May 2004 and they remained volatile.

Great Southern Rail is also passing on the benefits of reduced world oil prices by reducing its fuel surcharges for the Ghan, Indian Pacific and the Overland.