

From: <deetamana@gmail.com>
To: "E-Toll Hearings" <vcarelse@parliament.gov.za>
Date: 10/28/2012 09:49 AM
Subject: E-Toll

My Submission

I would like to firstly, present a perspective on E-tolling as an additional tax burden on an already overburdened and unrepresentative tax payer.

The essence of democracy over the last 300 odd years has been "no taxation without representation" I want to suggest that the racial and racist divides in our political and electoral system has effectively turned those not classified as African into tax payers without representation and the franchise (as opposed to the vote).

Secondly, at the same time and incidentally, taxi drivers are exempted from e-toll tax (a clearly political decision) and yet they have full, direct representation in parliament simply by dint of being classified African. And, I am staking my head on the block that the vast majority of this 'majority' do not pay income tax.

Thirdly, throughout my life under both Apartheid and Democracy, I have been spending more than 80% of my income on rates, taxes, VAT, interest on mortgages or rent, car licenses, fuel levies, an exploitative (and plain unscrupulous banking system) etc. I live on the absolute bare minimum. I can't remember when last I have eaten meat or fish. I was poor under the hated system of Apartheid; now I am relatively poorer under Freedom and Democracy.

HOW e-tolls WILL AFFECT ME.

I am retired and visit friends in an old age home in Pretoria once a week. At 30c per km toll, petrol costs of a minimum of R1 per km and excluding wear and tear on my old car, a visit will cost me close to R200. My pension is R5500 per month of which about R1000 is left over for food and entertainment - the latter an exaggerated term.

I will NOT buy an e-tag. It will be much cheaper to be arrested and go to goal. I have nothing of material value that can be repossessed. At least I will have TV and meat in goal.

Those who instituted e-tolling have lost the last ounce of morality that they might have had. They must take full responsibility for the devastating revolution that will be unleashed in our country. Greed is not good.

From:

One who has served this country through hard work for 40 years, fought in the liberation struggle -which arguably not one in the toll hierarchy of beneficiaries did- and live today on R5500.

I appeal to your better sense of judgement. Allow what may be left of your conscience dictate and do the right thing! Scrap the E-tolls and by that act you might just help to save the country from disaster. You must be astute businessmen and will succeed in another venture. I too have had to pick up the pieces after many losses and move on.

Ms D Tamana

In transition between Randburg Jhb and an unknown abode somewhere in the Cape.

Sent via my BlackBerry from Vodacom - let your email find you!