

1-9-1991

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### Recommended Citation

Tyroler, Deborah. "Panama: Businesspersons Say Gasoline Price Hikes Excessive." (1991). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/4864>

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## **Panama: Businesspersons Say Gasoline Price Hikes Excessive**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

*Category/Department: General*

*Published: Wednesday, January 9, 1991*

On Jan. 4, Chamber of Commerce president Ricardo Aleman said that the 20% gasoline price hike announced Jan. 3 was excessive. Regular gasoline is now \$2.29 per gallon, and super, \$2.37. Aleman said the Chamber had created a commission to investigate whether the price increase is justified. Panama purchases 12,000 barrels of oil per day from Venezuela and Ecuador at \$24 per barrel. (Basic data from AFP, 01/04/90)

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