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Submission: Attention: [REDACTED] Ballina Shire Council has applied for an "11%" cumulative increase in rates over two years, to be retained permanently in the rates base. This increase is mainly to upgrade Ballina and Alstonville pools. We put a submission to council objecting to such a large increase in rates for a facility we feel the council should have been reserving funds for some time. A lot of residents objected to this large rate increase, however council ignored these protests. Quite a few new estates have recently been developed in Ballina and are being built on, bringing in a lot more rates to the shire. One needs to ask, where are all the funds from council being spent? We struggle now to keep up with prices hikes in council rates, water rates, electricity costs, health fund costs etc. We strongly object to such a large rates increase and ask that IPART to really investigate this proposed rate rise. Yours sincerely, [REDACTED]