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RURAL LIVING

Our Reference: TRIM 1862-3#344 MDC

Peter Boxall AO Chairman Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal PO Box K35 Haymarket NSW 1240

11 February 2015

Dear Mr Boxall,

Re: Application for a Section 508A Special Rate Variation

Wollondilly Shire Council, at its meeting of 9 February 2015 resolved to submit an application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for a multi-year special rate variation for 4 years under Section 508A of the NSW Local Government Act, commencing in the 2015/16 financial year.

The variation would see total rates revenue increase by 10.8% each year for 4 years, securing the financial sustainability of Council. The variation is strongly focussed on responsible infrastructure maintenance.

Wollondilly Shire Council is currently facing an \$80 million funding deficit after 10 years and needs to address this shortfall.

This application, and associated strategies developed by Council, will address this issue and support the maintenance of the community's roads, footpaths and community buildings.

Council's proposal comes after extensive community engagement targeting all residents.

Council also adopted its Revised Delivery Program 2013/14 – 2016/17 and its Operational Plan 2014/15 at its meeting of 9 February 2015.

This proposal will allow Council to work towards meeting all of the NSW State Government Fit for the Future ratios. Council will also continue to implement service reviews and efficiencies through its Success Management business improvement and cultural change program and regular review of all fees and charges.

Please find attached Council's detailed application.

Should you have any queries or require additional information, please contact Ally Dench Executive Director Community Services & Corporate Support on (02) 4677 1170 or ally.dench@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

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Yours faithfully

Luke Johnson

GENERAL MANAGER