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General Manager Cobar Shire Council P.O. Box 223 COBAR NSW 2835

7<sup>th</sup> January 2013

## Cobar Shire Rate Increase

Dear Sir,

I would like to place my objection to the proposed 25% rate increase in our general rates by the Cobar Shire for years 2013- 2014.

As we own property within Cobar Shire we feel that an increase of 25% is excessive. While I do not object to a rate increase by the Shire as increases are necessary in order to keep up with the cost of living, the actual amount of the increase seems quite excessive considering the Cobar Shire do not support the small villages in the Shire other than general road grading once or twice a year if they have the funds available to do them.

We have just received our land valuations and property valuations are much higher in the southern part of the shire than in the northern part, therefore people in our end of the shire will be affected more by the 25% increase than in the northern part of the shire. People living in the Gilgunnia, Mt Hope and Euabalong areas of the shire generally do there business and shopping in Lake Cargelligo, Condobolin in the Lachlan Shire or travel to Griffith or Parkes for major shopping trips and do not use Cobar as our main centre and therefore do not receive any of the benefits our rates provide for the shire i.e. Swimming pool, Youth and Fitness Centre and Museum ect.

At the Council meeting held in Euabalong on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 a large gathering of community members including many farmers from the district voiced there concerns for the proposed rate increases as we have all had to cope with the last 10 years of server drought and it is going to take quite a few years to recover from the loss of income that has caused many of us, we feel the allowable government increase of 3% would be more appropriate and therefore give the community time to get back on it's feet after many years of hardship.

**Yours Sincerely** 

Helen R. Gleeson

Roply posted 30.1.13 As.

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