

Our reference: 20/566

Contact Sheridan Rapmund
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24 February 2021

Mr Dick Persson AM
Central Coast Council
PO Box 21
Gosford NSW 2250

via email

Dear Mr Persson,

Request that IPART release its decision on the Council's special variation application early

I am writing about the request that you made to Ms Deborah Cope (Acting Chair) on 18 February 2021, that IPART release its decision on the Central Coast Council's special variation application by 22 April 2021.

IPART's special variation assessment process is clearly set out on our website. The timetable is designed to allow for a period of community consultation on special variation applications submitted by councils to IPART before IPART makes its decisions on applications. To maintain transparency and allow for stakeholder consultation, we do not generally vary from this process unless there is a strong case for doing so, such as a clear benefit to ratepayers, and where we can maintain our opportunity for consultation with stakeholders on the application.

In order for us to consider your request further, please provide your request in writing. In doing so, please outline why you consider this essential, and the potential risks to the Council and ratepayers of your request not being agreed to.

As set out in our letter to the council dated 20 December 2020, we agreed to a phased timetable with the Council providing us with its community consultation documentation by 1 March 2021 and the final aspects of its application (proposed rates) by 5 April 2021. We agreed to this timetable on the basis that we considered it would allow us sufficient opportunity to consult with interested stakeholders before making our decision in May 2021.

For IPART to consider any request to amend this agreed timetable, the Council would have to agree that the community consultation material would be provided to IPART by 1 March 2021 and the complete application would be submitted to IPART prior to 15 March 2021.

IPART's contact officer for this matter is Sheridan Rapmund, Director, contactable on (02) 9290 8430.

Yours sincerely

24/02/2021

A rectangular area containing a solid black redaction box on the left side, covering the signature of Liz Livingstone.

Liz Livingstone
Chief Executive Officer
Signed by: Liz Livingstone