

[2015 March 16]

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Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal
P.O. Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230

Coffs Harbour City Council, application for Rates Variation

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am the executor of a deceased estate which is a ratepayer in Coffs Harbour, and I write this submission on behalf of the estate. The deceased estate is that of my late mother.

For what it's worth, my mother was formerly the mayoress of Nunawading (since merged into Booroondarra by the Kennett government), by virtue of the circumstance that her husband, my father, was the sometime secretary of the ratepayers association, and subsequently the mayor. I assume that things carry on in Nunawading much as before, due to the economies in the administration occasioned by a merger.

Coffs Harbour is a relatively poor community compared with the eastern suburbs of Melbourne.

On behalf of the Estate, I write in opposition to the special rate increase. The council could save money by trimming the administrative overheads during a merger. I do not know why the former general manager of CHCC was terminated with some amount of severance pay (?). It suggests to me that not all is as it should be in CHCC. My mother and father would both be alert to this due to their earlier experiences in civics.

I think Coffs Harbour could benefit from its own ratepayers association.

I also have written another submission. I wish to explain that I made two submissions because I wear two hats as I (currently) still have responsibilities for two (out of a former four) separate properties in Coffs Harbour.

I believe my mother would also object, if she were alive, to council's plan to remove about 10 trees from Pioneer Park near the CBD and convert it into tarmac and concrete.

Yours faithfully,

Donald Telfer

For and on behalf of the Estate of the late Betty Florence Telfer