

Anthony G Shannon

14th March 2016

IPART,
PO Box K35,
Haymarket Post Shop
NSW 1240

Dear Sir,

**CLARENCE VALLEY COUNCIL
SPECIAL RATE RISE APPLICATION**

I wish to place my objection against the granting of **any** Special rate Rise approval to the Clarence Valley Council. I believe there is no basis whatsoever for any increase and I object as follows;

- Ever since the creation of this Council by forced amalgamation it has been of no benefit to the Lower River ratepayers.
- The conduct and record of this Council since amalgamation has been a disgrace. The inefficiencies have increased and not improved.
- It is the current and immediate past Council, Management and senior staff that have allowed the Council to get in the current position and to give them more money does not ensure any problems will be solved. You would be bailing out the very people that created the problem.
- Council supposedly engaged in "Public Consultation" which was deliberately vague and did not enable Ratepayers sufficient opportunity to give their own opinion.
- Local press statements confirm that several existing Councilors do not support such an increase, it is a divided Council.
- The hardship of any increases to pensioners, small businesses and landlords would be very bad for the area. We would become less attractive for investment.
- When we have highly paid senior staff and management stating the increases are very small they are insulting most people who do not have the large salaries they receive.
- This Council has a bad record for cost overruns at great cost to the ratepayers on public projects. They do not have the skills to manage large projects.(e.g. Maclean Council depot)
- The mayor of this Council regularly makes statements to the press dismissing the volume of discontent among ratepayers about proposed rate rises which is an insult to the Community. He is out of touch with Community expectations.
- We have had to meet significant increase in other charges such as water, garbage and sewerage that the Council has already made. Like us they should learn to live within their means.

Regards,



ANTHONY G SHANNON.