

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 10 March 2016 10:20 AM  
**To:** Local Government Mailbox  
**Subject:** Clarence Valley Council's Rate Increase Application Objection.

Sirs,

I write in complete objection to this damaging application . 6.5% increase a year for 5 years compounds to 37% and stays that way , not reducing to the allowable % increase by the Government

I am a single pensioner, owning my own home, receiving \$867.00 per fortnight. I am already having difficulty in meeting the rates and all other utilities and cannot afford this impost. [REDACTED] where I live ,formerly part the [REDACTED] was amalgamated with Grafton City Council, Maclean and Ulmarra Shires in 2004 and the first rate notice we received our rates were increased overall by 75% to bring [REDACTED] in line with Grafton. They have increased each year since.

CVC are wasting ratepayers money internally, particularly in the transport dept. They are attempting to establish a \$17 million dollar combined depot when they are millions of dollars in debt. They cannot make development decisions and have frustrated ratepayers in many areas.

They were devious the way they surveyed the people for this proposal- only 500 phone calls to population of approx. 50,000- a paper survey which was confusing and found later to be invalid and the info not used.. It is said it was a stunt to impress IPART that they were consulting the people. There was very little of that done.

CVC rating is already known as one of the highest in the state and ratepayers do not need this proposed extravagant and exorbitant increase at this time. My rates for the 2015/2016 period are \$2776.72 and are subject to pensioner rebate- as we know they increase each year but the Pensioner Rebates have not been raised for over 17 years.

CVC can manage without this , they can prune themselves in many ways, starting at the top- too many managers- normal staff are capable of effecting a lot of this work,

If they cannot do this then perhaps an administrator may be necessary.

Hoping IPART will view this proposal fairly and with great sensibility.

[REDACTED]