

Author name: Anonymous

Date of submission: Monday, 13 March 2017

Submission: I am a long term local and I am opposed to the special rate variation application on the following grounds: 1) It is not a one off increase in levies but a permanent imposition on the community. 2) Due to steep increases in land valuations in Byron Shire we are already experiencing significant rate increase for a small village community. 3) There is a disparity between the commercial rate levels and residential rate levels as compared with surrounding LGAs, Byron Bay has a lower commercial rate and this is not fair given the significant increase in commercial activity and promotion of Byron Bay as a tourist attraction. 4) Alternative means of taxing tourism industry and visitors has not been adequately addressed. 5) It is unfair to expect local residents to cover the impact cost of ever increasing tourism promotion by local & state gov't and industry by such a significant and permanent hike in the residential rate formula. 6) The past performance of our Local Gov't provides no confidence that they are efficient managers and or administrators worthy of further \$millions of rate payers dollars to squander.