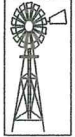


Bob & Bev Bush



**IPART Chairman
Dr Peter Boxall**

Re: Mid Coast Council Rate Variation 2017 - 18

Dear Sir,

My name is Bob Bush and my Wife and I purchased our retirement home in Tea Gardens two and half years ago.

As pensioners, we have limited finance and as such we are AGAINST the proposed rate rise by the Mid Coast Council.

Since moving here it was obvious that the Great Lakes Council was initially against the proposed amalgamation with Taree and Gloucester councils. Then without warning they changed sides and despite a majority of residents showing their disapproval at public meetings, they recommended the amalgamation and such it went ahead. Part of the reasoning was that better use of combined Council resources would lead to financial savings.

Since that decision, we as rate payers have had no elected representatives to act on our behalf.

Now there has been a recent and somewhat mysterious exemption for MCC against the freeze on Amalgamated Council's rate rises and we are now facing a 28.5% rise over the next 4 years.

It is becoming very apparent that we, (the defensive ratepayers) are funding the bill as a result of gross mismanagement and broken promises by the state and local governments.

There has been little or no public discussion regarding the rise and I respectfully ask that you "stop the rot" and rule against the MCC application for their rate rise.

I look forward to a favorable (and sensible) decision by your department.

Sincerely Yours

Bob Bush