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Submission: I offer several reasons why I object to any further special rate variation by Coffs Council. General rates are already among the highest in NSW. Council wastes too much ratepayer money on minority groups and events that only benefit a comparatively small number of people and the business sector such as, financial support for wealthy premier football teams and theatrical groups, sponsoring car rally and other events which should really have been spent on the infrastructure backlog. Many Coffs households are still struggling to pay their rates after the last rate hike of 7.9%. The general manager who is driving this further rate hike was just given a big pay rise of \$20k even though he cannot operate council within its present budget. This brings his annual salary to approx. \$250k (around the same as the president of the USA is paid). The majority of the community when surveyed has many times voted down special rate rises with up to 88% saying NO. This council is notorious for wasting ratepayer money on outside consultants while paying their senior staff big salaries which do not equate to salaries paid in the local private sector, Consequently, they are out of touch with the burden being placed on the average household in Coffs.