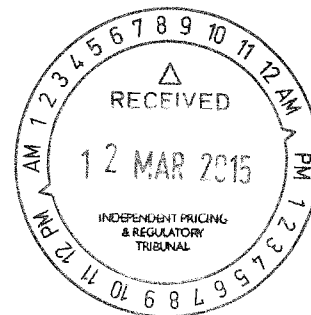


[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
10<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

Local Government Team,  
IPART of NSW,  
P.O. Box K35,  
Haymarket Post Shop 1240



Re: Narromine Shire Council – proposed rate rise

Thank you for your letter of 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 re the above. I wrote to Council on the 4<sup>th</sup> March formally objecting to the rise and my letter was not accepted as the matter closed on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

My main concern is on reading the December and February Shire business paper that there was no indication of the level of objection at the Trangie and Narromine public meetings held in December, 2014.

And, on speaking to many residents they appear unaware of Council's rate rise application.

As my earlier letter to you may not be considered due to Council having not then made the application, I would like to formally object to the rate rise as outlined in my 23<sup>rd</sup> January letter.

The season is worse now, than 3 months ago. The water allocation for irrigators is virtually nil and the area is in drought. One prominent irrigation farmer told my wife yesterday that he knew nothing about the rate rise application.

I tried to inform the public by writing to the Narromine News & Trangie Advocate but they refused to publish it after many requests. A copy of the letter is attached.

Perhaps my approach is old fashioned and face book or twitter would have been better, but all I can say is that all the people that I have spoken to are against the rate rise.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Bob Meadley

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
12 Feb 2015

The Editor,  
Narromine New,  
Narromine, 2821

Dear Madam,

Councillor McCutcheon writes of the complaints about Council in the 11/2 issue, and it is a tough job representing ratepayers. On the Federal Scene there is a fair amount of complaint as well.

I was surprised at the quiet response by the farming community at the 4/12 Public Meeting on the proposed rate rise of 6.5% (now 5.9%), and probably the pre Christmas period had something to do with it. [REDACTED] of Tomingley gave details on his rate rises over 10 years:- 2004 \$9000 - 2014 \$15,000. Not a bad rise but [REDACTED] was not supported as he should have been. Other farmers spoke such as [REDACTED] [REDACTED] but they were thin on the ground. It was clear that the vast majority at the meeting were against the rise.

Like the Cenotaph objections they were swept aside by Council.

Personal attacks are unfortunate but I understand why they are made. Take possible amalgamation with a neighbouring Council. Narromine Council seems to want to go towards Dubbo yet surely we would be better served with Councils of our size such as Warren and Bogan? After the State election if the current Government is re-elected the pressure will be on about amalgamations.

The Prime Minister just got a red card, and Narromine Council is heading for one. The reason why is similar.

[REDACTED]  
Bob Meadley