

INDEPENDENT PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL

Subject: Wyong Shire Council, Special Variation Application.

Wyong Council has, in its wisdom, decided to ignore its own community consultation which overwhelmingly rejected the council's proposal for a rate increase above the pegged rate rise for seven years. The community voted for NO rate rise in excess of the pegged increase by a massive majority (about 80%) This consultation was a waste of time, effort and ratepayer's cash and the result gives council NO MANDATE to apply for such a rate rise.

If in its wisdom IPART decides to grant the council any increase over and above the peg rate we respectfully request that IPART include the condition : that at the expiry of the special variation period ,the council must adjust its income to what it would have been without the special variation.

After that period only the peg rate would apply unless the council applies for another special variation.

We feel that to permanently increase the base rate for all time based on this special variation would be grossly unfair and a denial of natural justice to all rate payers and future rate payers.

We believe IPART has the power to impose conditions in relation to variations under s508(2) and s508(A) of the Local Government Act 1993

Yours Sincerely

Mr Christopher Jones