

To whom it may concern

I want to object to the large increase in water prices contained in your draft report on Central Coast Council's water prices starting this year.

A 109% increase in the water service charge is extreme, and that is ignoring the increase in sewerage and stormwater service charges as well. The council has recently added a number of directors and other senior staff and it is hard to see that this money will not be wasted. Council's costs are going up and up. It has made many direct staff redundant then employed more people in management positions, and is spending more on external consultants and contractors. The council could also save money by having a more competitive tendering process for some of its water system renewal programs.

As a self-funded retiree on a fixed income, I and many others on the Central Coast do not have the ability to just absorb this increase. This on top of the proposed general rate rise and other cost-of-living increases will be more than we can cope with.

Please for all our sakes reject the council's increase in water prices.

Graeme Wilson – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]