

Author name: I. Shippen

Date of submission: Sunday, 15 March 2015

Submission: To Whom It May Concern; As the largest rate payer in the Wakool Shire, on behalf of myself and my family, I am writing to you regarding my concern about the proposed 7% rate increase submitted by the Wakool Shire. I attended the consultative information session in December at the Moulamein Bowling Club where it was overwhelmingly voted that rate increases be pegged at CPI. I also believe this was the same result at the majority of other meetings. The Wakool Shire has decided to ignore the rate payers decision and embark on an expedient increase in rates. Not only is this undemocratic but will mean economic suicide for a lot of farmers and small business. The area has suffered through water buybacks and poor seasons and can ill afford to have another large increase in costs to their businesses. We would hope the Wakool Shire would look for efficiency savings in its business structure rather than taking the easy option of another large rate increase. Yours sincerely, Ian Shippen