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Date of submission: Wednesday, 29 September 2021

Your submission for this review:

Your paper states clearly that the last review gave an allocation to Council that was not put to use, nor was it set aside for future use, this Council has shown incompetence in managing their funds and now it wants to increase our water charges, not in line with neighbouring Councils but far in excess of them. Your paper makes reference to the unemployment rate, and ability to fund a rate increase, but fails to recognise that the Central Coast has one of the highest unemployment rates for those under 25 years old, it has a significant retiree population, and those that do work do so mainly out of the region, and therefore have a lower disposable income because of commuting costs. There has also been no recognition of how the Covid-19 pandemic will play out on the employment of Central Coast residents. This region has a significant number of residences being used as holiday rentals, and a significant number of commercial properties being used by non local residents visiting the area. Perhaps ALL of these properties should be registered as commercial and be levied for higher water charges, and not treat "air b&b" as normal residences. The proposed increase is exorbitant and should be rejected by IPART, it is not inline with current CPI increases in wages, and most wages have been capped by State and Federal Governments, any increase should be limited to that of CPI, and never to a level higher than those Water utilities bordering the one under review.