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Date of submission: Friday, February 26, 2016

Submission: From: Kristin den Exter [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 26 February 2016 9:55 AM

To: Local Government Mailbox

Subject: Support for Lismore City Council's application for a special rate variation of 1.8% to raise \$500,000 p.a. for the implementation of the Biodiversity Management Strategy (BMS)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm a resident of the Lismore LGA & I support Lismore City Council's application for a special rate variation of 1.8% to raise \$500,000 p.a. for the implementation of the Biodiversity Management Strategy (BMS). The rate variation is justified because the BMS reflects the community's desire to protect our environment, as indicated by the recent "Imagine Lismore" community consultation project.

The Lismore City Council area is part of the northeastern NSW biodiversity hotspot, indeed a hotspot of global significance, one that supports many threatened species. The Biodiversity Management Strategy is needed, with h resources to implement, to protect these species from further risk.

I belong to a group of local residents who have been restoring the riverbank of Lismore for over 20 years largely at our own expense, and we know of many others in the Landcare movement in the Lismore LGA with the skills and capacity to protect conserve and restore our unique biodiversity - we simply lack, as does local council, the resources, specifically recurring budgets, to do so effectively at the landscape scale. This rate variatio is small but it will much a large difference to current and future generations as well as to our unique local biodiversity of global significance.

We urge you to please approve the special rate variation request.

Yours sincerely,

Kristin den Exter

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