Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, P.O. Box K35 HAYMARKET Post Shop, NSW 1240

Dear Sir,



Re: Lismore City Council's proposed Special Rate Variation (SRV)

Lismore City Council has completely ignored residents views on this special rate rise as the majority of residents contacted via phone and workshop surveys voted against it as we have been told that there is going to be another special rate rise within the next couple of years for roads. We are a city with high unemployment and aged people and our current Mayor spends far too much money on the arts and ignores what the majority of people want their rates spent on (mainly roads).

I asked myself why did I waste my time attending this workshop which we voted against the rise.

Rural farmers will be hit the hardest – Council reason for this is that they will clean up roadsides. FACT- Most responsible farmers are already keeping the council roadsides immaculate at their own expense to prevent weeds on council land from spreading onto farmers properties. Lismore City Council should be in fact refunding farmers for the work done in keeping roadsides clean instead of giving them a price hike in rates.

Another reason – Council will provide field days and workshops on land and weed management for rural farmers.

FACT- (Which I brought up at the workshop) Farmers are already attending many field days and workshops provided by other government and non-government departments.

When I mentioned this at the workshop, I was told that not many people attend these days. I then said that 200 people attended the last field day/workshop that we went to. This reply by me was quickly ignored as they obviously didn't want to hear this.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L OÇonnor