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Your submission for this review:

To the Members of IPART, I would like to provide a Submission opposing the 34% water rate increase. Central Coast Council has mismanaged funds in the millions of dollars and now they want the ratepayers to pay for this mismanagement. I know the Mayor and Councillors have been suspended over this matter, and the [REDACTED] was handed a very large payout ending his position, a "reward" for his large part in this matter. If [REDACTED] cannot manage their finances they should not be in their positions and they should be sacked !! Why should ratepayers have to pay this exorbitant amount, we were not the ones that overspent council funds !! Over the next few years we will be paying a larger increase in our general rates and absolutely should not have to pay a 34% increase in water rates as well. I doubt that most ratepayers are aware that you have the chance to put your view forward in this manner, so I would like to speak for our ratepayers. A 34% water rate increase is a huge sum of money to a great number of people on the coast. The Central Coast is made up of lots of retired people on aged pensions and young families, who moved here because they could not afford to buy in the Sydney property market. I am a single aged pensioner and would find it extremely difficult to pay such a big increase. I ask that when IPART is making this decision, that they take into account the "human" factor and also in your consideration factor in what affects COVID-19 Lockdowns have had on our ratepayers. Ratepayers that have been forced into unemployment, and those with small businesses and industries that had to close - ALL THESE HAVE BEEN SUFFERING and now the thought of a 34% increase in water rates is just TOO MUCH !! Regards,. Lyn Pickering