

From: Mark [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 18 June 2017 8:41 AM
To: Local Government Mailbox
Subject: Mid Coast Council - Submission opposing application for special rate variation

I oppose any special rate variation applied for by Mid Coast Council on the following grounds

- No council has been elected and the current management of council do not represent the rate payers and cannot claim in any way to have a mandate to seek any increase;
- The original merger proposal was based on no rate increases for 5 years and was put to the rate payers on this basis and required changes to legislation to allow it;
- The Midcoast Council regime has not been able to deliver the services that have been promised under the merger under the current funding, more money for less work is not sound economics;
- The former Great Lakes council have a long and demonstrated history of applying for rate increases then not delivering the services identified as part of the rate increases, the current council regime is based and staffed on the great lakes model.
- The level of facilities and services provided by council, based on the Department of Local Governments 5 km assessment criteria, is poor to non-existent in relation to roads, and council provides no footpaths, parks, libraries, or other services within this area;
- Councils lack of roadside weed management is causing significant additions coast to farming communities, farming communities should not have to pay addition rates for no weed control ;
- Councils lack of dust suppression from its dirt roads is causing health impacts on the community, as a major contributor to PM10 dust impacts on health (See Hunter New England Health dust health advice);
- The proposed increase far outstrips the CPI and the increase in wage growth and therefore is an imposition on families and pensioners that is unwarranted;
- Councils passed demonstrated performance is that any rate increase will only deliver reduced services;

I ask that at a minimum this application is rejected until a council is elected.

Regards

Mark Hartwell