

Author name: P. Beckett

Date of submission: Monday, 27 February 2017

Submission:

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, 18 February 2017 10:54 AM

To: IPART Mailbox

Subject: Shoalhaven City Council Rates Increase Inquiry

To whom It may Concern – We are residents of Sussex Inlet NSW and feel that the current request for a 11.5% rate increase is beyond our capacity as age pensioners to pay . However we do feel that our Council needs to increase rates due to the abrogation of so many State & Federal Government issues on to them , the vast area to maintain , and the needs of infrastructure for our growing population demands .

Regional Coastal Councils such as ours have other compounding responsibilities such as the Coastal Erosion issues of Climate Change and Flooding , Homelessness , Drug Addiction , Domestic Violence and Child Care as well as trying to maintain safe roads and infrastructure assets, with also looking to the needs of a growing ageing retired population .

Although council amalgamations was an attempt to come to grips with some of these funding issues not enough is being done to address the aforementioned and we would request that your entity report the need of a study and inquiry into this problem by way of a Special State Government Commission Inquiry for the tax base funding of Regional Councils .

In the mean time the mooted rate increase option of 6.5% over a longer period which in our opinion has not received enough consideration, and would have less impact on fixed income ratepayers, also is in our opinion the lesser of evils for the immediate issue at this juncture .

Paul (JP Retired) and Wilhelmina Beckett . [REDACTED]