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Date of submission: Monday, 3 July 2017

Submission: From: Pat Brennan [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 29 June 2017 11:40 AM  
To: IPART Mailbox  
Subject: SRV proposal re Land Rates MidCoast Council

RE: Special Rate variation (SRV) proposal by MidCoast Council (MCC).

As a ratepayer, I object strongly to the proposed increase in Land Rates in the former Great Lakes Council area and demand that IPART reject MCC SRV 2017.

I am one of the many retirees in this area and cannot afford the proposed increase of rates which are even now higher than many in Sydney.

The Council is taking advantage of the fact that we currently have no elected representatives. There has been no open discussion with ratepayers of this proposal - one extraordinary meeting up north, nearly 100km away. The Administrator has no mandate to approve this major variation. In February we were told that merged Councils were restricted from applying for rate increases for four years. But now that ruling has been overthrown (but just for MCC) and ratepayers in the former Great Lakes Council (which had higher rates than the other councils that now form part of MCC).

The ruling was overthrown by Parliament in an Act instigated I understand by a Christian Democrat member from south of Sydney and with no connection to this area. Presumably he has connections with the MCC Administrator. The government appears to have agreed to the variation which goes against everything we were told about amalgamations.

I call on IPART to reject MCC SRV2017.

Patricia Brennan  
[REDACTED]