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Submission: From: Peter Economos [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 28 June 2017 1:17 PM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: objection to MCC application for Special Rate Variation 2017

Dear Sir,

I wish to lodge my objection to the application for a Special Rate Variation (rate rise by Mid Coast Council.)

The forced merger between Great Lakes, Greater Taree and Gloucester Councils, has resulted in a great disparity of works needing to be done. Great Lakes were 12 million behind in works required. The other two combined are 180 million dollars behind.

The State Government ruled that no merged council could apply for a rate rise for four years. Suddenly a law was engineered that would allow MCC only to apply for this huge increase. The MP who put it forward comes from Wollongong and knows nothing of our areas. No voter backlash there.

Great Lakes ratepayers have always paid a special rate variation on top of their normal rates. We are paying one now, but we will not accept this Special Rate Variation to pay for the backlog of the other two merged shires. Areas that are more than one and a half hours drive away. That is the responsibility of the State Government.

The MCC Administrator was appointed by the Premier, and is a member of her party. He was not elected by the ratepayers.

Results of the survey – 20% could afford the rise, 55% would find it difficult, however, it was put forward as 75% accept it, rounded up to 80%.
Creative statistics there.

The Consultative Meeting was farcical – held only to report it had been held. Despite all the objections, Mr. Turner applied immediately for this huge Special Rate Variation.

We do not accept this unfair imposition of a Special rate Variation on our normal rate payments.

Peter & Betty Economos, [REDACTED]