



Peter & Carol Hawken

4-3-2015

Dear Sir/Madam;

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of our concerns regarding the proposed application to you by the Blue Mountains City Council for rate variations above the Govt cap.

The above mentioned Council has for the last two years been engaged in rate variations way above the Govt cap. The last two years has seen our rates increase by six and then ten percent. Council has informed me that this programme is not yet finished.

We are concerned that if the proposed forty percent increase over three years is approved, we will actually have increased more than sixty percent! That increase would equal 25% of ^{our} my annual pension (bring ^{our} my rates to a level of 25% of my pension)

Please consider our predicament when considering the Blue Mountains Council's application. They maintain they are losing more money than they make due to vast ageing infrastructure but at a time of unprecedented low interest rates not one infrastructure upgrade has been suggested, looking to the future.

We are not alone the entire upper mountains are being subject to this rate upgrade programme that has been going for two years.

Thank you ^{Yours} sincerely