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Date of submission: Thursday, 21 March 2019

Submission: From: Pamela Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 March 2019 12:15 PM
To: Local Government Mailbox
Subject: Propose Special Rate Variation Port Stephens Council

I have tried making a submission on line but keep getting error messages. Please note below the content of my submission which I have no problem being published but want it to be anonymous. I am an owner in the area.

“I wish to express my strong opposition to the proposed Special Rate Variation by the Port Stephens Council. I do not recall this being mooted when Councillors were elected. An increase of 7.5%pa for seven years in today’s economic climate it ridiculous.

How can this be justified when:

1. Wages are not growing at this rate
2. Power costs are soaring
3. Fruit Vegetable and Meat prices are soaring due to recent weather conditions
4. Private Health Insurance is escalating , but not at this rate
5. Pensioners and Self Funded retirees are being hit from all sides
6. Rents are rising
7. Housing is becoming less affordable

It is accepted that there needs to be rate increases to provide services that are NEEDED. This is very different to what may be WANTED. Many of the projects outlined in this proposal can only be viewed as WANTS not NEEDS.”

It concerns me that my attempts to do an online submission have not been successful and wonder how many submissions have been lost because of this

Pam Smith
[REDACTED]