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Submission: From: John Pegg [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 30 June 2017 10:56 AM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Special Rate Variation

Susan and John Pegg

[REDACTED]

To: Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW,
Level 8, 1 Market Street,
SYDNEY 2000

To whom it may concern

We have recently been made aware that a special law had been passed to allow Mid Coast Council to be the only Merged Council that could apply for a Special Rate Variation. Other merged Councils are expected to wait four years before they could apply.

We are aware and gravely concerned that at the Consultation Meeting, while many ratepayers objected, the appointed administrator ignored all opposition. Instead the administrator has applied to IPART for an 11% Special Rate Variation which many believe will end up 30% over four years. It has also been stated that 80% of ratepayers accept this rate rise.

As ratepayers within the Great Lakes Shire we are aware that we pay a special rate variation. But now with the merged council the issue is more complex. It is our information that the other two shires are \$180 million behind in required infrastructure and maintenance works. Our Great Lakes Shire is only \$12 million behind in required works.

It appears to us that the forced merger is a cynical political ploy to pass this debt burden onto the Great Lakes Shire ratepayers and relieve State Government of the burden these two other councils carry.

This email is our formal acknowledgement that we do not agree with the report of the Appointed Administrator and the special rate variation proposed.

Yours Sincerely

Susan and John Pegg