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Date of submission: Thursday, 7 March 2019

Submission: We here in Port Stephens fought against amalgamating with Newcastle city council knowing our rates would have to rise, we won that round and now here we are being chucked under the bus by the people who are suppose to look after us facing an even greater rise. Power prices are rising, water rates are rising the word recession was being used today. How are we suppose to find this extra money when most of us are already struggling to make ends meet?

I was born and raised in Port Stephens and would love to spend the rest of my days here but who knows if I'll be able to afford to.

My name is Tammy Procter and I strongly object to this rate rise.