



To IPART,

PO Box Q290, QVB Post Office, NSW 1230.

These 1654* signed petitions relate to the proposed SRV by Armidale Dumeresq Council and the email below forwarded to IPART on 9th March 2014.

* A further 104+ ratepayer signatures forwarded in error to ADC have been 'mislaidd'.

Copy of email 09/03/14: *ADC submission for a SRV of 10% on 24th February 2014 bases its claim for community support on 56% satisfaction response from a telephone survey of 300 ratepayers. That particular survey took place when it was ADC's intention to apply for a 20% increase.*

To further support the SRV at the 20% level, ADC held a public 'workshop' meeting at the Town Hall on 8th February. By this time, given greater awareness of the proposed SRV and its likely impact at a time when cattle and sheep were being sold off at give-away prices due to severe drought with consequent impact on the local economy - some rural ratepayers were faced with annual increases ranging from \$2000 - \$5000 and more - the Town Hall was packed with standing room only for latecomers, with some 300 - 350 attending.

Following an address on finances by the Acting General Manager and a consultant hired by ADC to 'sell' the proposal, the intense displeasure so obvious from the outset of the meeting boiled over, dismissing the idea of breaking into workshop groups in favour of ratepayers addressing the Councillors directly.

Given the obvious strength of opposition, supported by a petition, by Friday 21st February, the ADC formally resolved to reduce the SRV from 20% to 10%.

Placed in some 20 businesses, including coffee shops, hairdressers and newsagents, and signed by more than 1500 ratepayers, complete with addresses and phone contacts, the petition has been forwarded to IPART by mail.

In view of the projected need for an additional \$2.15m per annum plus a backlog of \$11.7m, and the fact that ADC has tended to favour 'services' other than roads/bridges and infrastructure, the attached is submitted for IPART's consideration.

Professor Keith Cleland

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Petition to IPART re the Armidale-Dumaresq Council proposal to increase rates up 20%

Having good reason to believe there is more than adequate capacity within the existing levels of staff and expenditure to complete the proposed \$2.15m additions to infrastructure, we the undersigned Armidale-Dumaresq ratepayers, strongly oppose any increase in rates beyond the annual CPI.

Name	Address + email	Signature	Date + Phone No
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