

As a Farmer/ Primary Producer I strongly disagree & oppose the submission Central Coast Council is making to IPART to increase Stormwater Charges on our Rural Rates.

My husband & I have had no consultation, & very little information available until very recently regarding the increase to the Storm Water Drainage Charge on our Rural Rates. Why should we have to accept this 4500% increase, when to our knowledge we have little to no Storm Water Drainage infrastructure in place by Council for our farm??

My husband & I have paid for our own infrastructure to manage and maintain these (as well as paying council an annual septic license fee)

We collect rainwater for our personal water supply, & our property is underground drained with the excess water going back to our dam for irrigating our crop.

I believe this new charge is unjust and unfair by expecting a small number of ratepayers, (FARMERS) to incur severe financial impost so the majority can enjoy a reduction of rates.

The lack of information to the most affected properties has been completely unacceptable.

The proposed pricing for our sized property is to say outrageous at the very least. To go from paying a flat rate of \$124.64 per year for Storm Water Drainage to \$5427.81 is unacceptable.

What services do we on this Mountain Plateau actually receive for the \$124.64 we are currently paying?

We are not connected to a town water supply.

We are not connected to town sewerage.

We are not connected to a storm water drainage system.

I see there is an opportunity for non-residential (Rural Rate customers), to apply for a Low Impact rate. Will those who already fall under this banner continue to be considered low impact? Or will they again have to waste time applying for this Low Impact Rate??

Just to finish, I ask IPART to listen to my case & hope that common sense prevails. Central Coast Farmers are already dealing with drought & I find it unfair to expect us to wear this increase.

Regards,

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