



MANGROVE MOUNTAIN DISTRICTS COMMUNITY GROUP INC.

CALGA, CENTRAL MANGROVE, MANGROVE MOUNTAIN
KULNURA, MOUNT WHITE, PEATS RIDGE, SOMERSBY

PRESIDENT:

Georgia Sidiropoulos

HON. SECRETARY:

Margaret Pontifex

16/10/18.

Submission to IPart regarding IPart's review of prices for Central Coast Council from 1 July 2019.

We wanted to express our strong objection to the unreasonable attack on the farmers of the Central Coast region by Central Coast Council in this proposal to charge us a large drainage fee (up to \$5,427.81 per annum!!) The management of this proposal also requires a proper review also.

There are ~~some~~ so many issues we will present them in point form:-

1. Persons with multiple titles will receive multiple charges even if the second title is an access issue.
2. The notification was received days after the initial closing date. No other warning of this price hike and the notice addressed to "the resident"!!
3. There ~~is~~ is much confusion and angst about this. Council and media tell different stories. Do we have to apply every year to be considered for relief?
4. If you live in a town or a village or a residential zone ~~to~~ do extra charges apply?
5. There appears to be a regulation 2005/25A which makes this proposed cost hike in farm areas illegal?
6. Most of us travel 50 Km to Gosford to shop and pay the bills once a week.
7. The proposal discriminates against farm folk as opposed to rural residential folk.

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8. Farmer's lives are already hard work, a constant battle with the elements, climate and so on without this kind of concerted attack. After all farming is essential to feed us all, a valuable part of our national economy. How, people can get work.

9. The financial inequality in the farming regions is surely not acceptable!!

10. We can't find out about how a "low impact rate would work or criteria?"

11. IPART's roll is "to protect consumers!!" How can they agree to a price hike to farmers who traditionally need to preserve the ~~down~~ drainage water to survive!!

12. In rural communities we don't get the infrastructure provided to urban areas. Roads, garbage, a bit of weed control, maybe some fox, dog, ~~and~~ rabbit and deer control on a regular basis could be helpful.

13. How come the farm sector is only remembered when a non compatible project is dumped here like garbage dumps, mines or excessive numbers of factory farms. These DAs are traditionally notified over Christmas!!

Please note the Pontifex family submission enclosed. There are many other generations of farmers with similar self help survival stories.

Could we please get a response.

Yours sincerely

M J Pontifex OAM.

(Hon. Sec)