



Ashfield Municipal Council

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15 July 2005

Independent pricing and regulatory tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Dear Members of the Tribunal,

RE: Energy Australia proposal To Increase Public Lighting Prices

Council would like to thank IPART for the opportunity to make a submission on Energy Australia's proposal for significant price increases.

As one of 29 Council's in the Street Lighting Improvement Program Council strongly endorses the submission made on behalf of the program.

Ashfield council would also like to state in the strongest possible terms its concerns with this proposal. Council believes that the proposed increase of 27.3% plus CPI over the next 37 months is unjustifiable especially when consideration is given to the poor work practises of Energy Australia, the ongoing utilisation of obsolete equipment and the fact that Council's own revenue source is pegged at 3.5% by the State Government.

Should the proposed increase be accepted Council will be forced to cut service delivery to its community in order to comply with such an increase, without any guarantee of improved service delivery from Energy Australia.

Council urges IPART to reject Energy Australia's revised pricing proposal as it would detrimentally impact upon local government and their communities.

Should you require any further information in regard to this matter please contact Council's Facilities Manager Mr Daniel Long on 9716-1835.

Yours sincerely

Dr David Niven
General Manager