

CITIZENS' SERVICE CENTRE

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OUR REF:

1675-03 NS:JM

YOUR REF:

8 July 2005

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Dear Sir/Madam,

**ENERGY AUSTRALIA PROPOSAL TO INCREASE
PUBLIC LIGHTING PRICES BY 27% PLUS CPI**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission concerning EnergyAustralia's proposal to increase prices by 27% real plus CPI over the next 37 months.

Council is one of 29 member councils of the Street Lighting Improvement Program and concurs with the points made in the joint submission made on behalf of Program participants. This is an issue of great concern to this Council primarily because of the budget implications but also because Council is not confident that the costs being put forward by Energy Australia are an accurate and reasonable portrayal of the costs that would be incurred by a reasonably efficient operation providing these services.

Council has in the past and continues to experience considerable and unreasonable delays in the implementation of chargeable works by EnergyAustralia. This has resulted in embarrassing delays in the delivery of works which Council has promised to the citizens of this area.

Council urges IPART to reject EnergyAustralia's revised pricing proposal as it would significantly overcharge councils. Council is concerned at any cost increases that may impact on the level of service that Council is able to provide to its citizens.

Please contact Council's Acting Director, Technical Services, Neil Strickland on 9335-2210 if you wish to obtain any further information

Yours faithfully,

Kenneth Hawke

Acting General Manager

MARRICKVILLE
council

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TO	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
FAX NO	9290 2061
DATE	8 July 2005
FROM	Neil Strickland
PHONE NO	9335 2210
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SUBJECT: ENERGY AUSTRALIA PROPOSAL TO INCREASE PUBLIC LIGHTING PRICES BY 27% PLUS CPI

Please find attached letter regarding the above.