

Council Ref: G Stewart:KW
Your Ref:



6 July 2005

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

Dear Sir/Madam

**EnergyAustralia's Proposal to Increase Public Lighting
Prices by 27% Plus CPI**

I thank you on behalf of the residents of the Woollahra Municipality for the opportunity to make this submission concerning EnergyAustralia's proposal to increase Public Lighting prices by 27% real + CPI over the next 37 months.

Woollahra Council is one of the 29 Member Councils of the Street Lighting Improvement Programme and concurs fully with the points made in the joint submission submitted on behalf of the programme participants. The points raised in this submission reflect this Council's experience in relation to the provision, repair and maintenance of street lighting, especially extended response times to reports of defective street lighting.

Woollahra Council urges IPART to reject EnergyAustralia's revised pricing proposal as it would significantly overcharge councils. Price increases of this magnitude, which cannot be substantiated and are significantly above CPI, would force Council to cut other core Council services as Council is subject to rate pegging restrictions.

Please contact Mr Greg Stewart, Council's Manager Public Infrastructure, should you wish to discuss this submission

Your favourable consideration of Council's submission would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

G James
General Manager

Woollahra
Municipal
Council



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