

21 January 2008

IPART
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office
SYDNEY NSW 1230
Your Ref: 06/285



Dear Sir,

RE: INTEGRAL ENERGY PUBLIC LIGHTING REVISED PRICE INCREASE
PROPOSAL - 21 DECEMBER 2007

Thank you for your letter dated 2 January 2008 advising of the revised proposal from Integral Energy seeking an increase in public lighting charges by 5.5 percent from 1 February 2008. Council wishes to make the following comments for consideration in IPART's determination of the matter.

Firstly, as you would be aware, councils in NSW are severely restricted in revenue raising activities by virtue of the State Government's continuance of rate pegging. Consequently, Council would request that if IPART consider any increase to be warranted then this be restricted to a level commensurate with the rate pegging limit, currently 3.4%. This request is not considered to be unreasonable particularly given the number of councils impacted upon by any decision to increase public lighting charges.

Secondly, due to the timeframe in Management Plan/Budget preparation Council requests that any increase (if granted) only commence from 1 July 2008. This will allow councils to factor the increase into their budget preparation process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I trust that Council's submission will be given favourable consideration.

Yours Faithfully

Andrew Muir
Acting General Manager

(02) 6354 9999
 (02) 6351 4259

www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au
council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE
TO GENERAL MANAGER
PO BOX 19, LITHGOW NSW 2790