

Dear Sir/Madam:

On the 10/01/2005 North Sydney Council received notification from EnergyAustralia (EA) that it had put a submission to IPART to increase its prices it charges Council for the supply and maintenance of street lighting. This letter was dated the 20/12/2004. The letter informs us that we have until the 17/01/2005 to make a submission to IPART.

I have significant concerns about the EnergyAustralia notification. Firstly after considering normal internal mail processing times for any organization, EnergyAustralia is only effectively only giving Council's three working days to evaluate and prepare a submission for a proposal that will have a major impact on Council's resources. This problem is made worse by having the deadline and notification period occur in the Christmas school holiday break.

Secondly, EA in their letter of notification describes the proposed price rise as only being 27%. My understanding is the proposal is for a total increase of 67% over 30 months. EA's letter totally misrepresents the scale and scope of the price increase sort. For north Sydney Council this represents an increase of over \$270,000 p.a. This increase will have a major impact on service levels delivered by this Council.

North Sydney Council has joined with other Council's in the Sydney Region and made a combined technical submission to IPART. This email confirms our support for the content of the submission made by the Street Lighting improvement Program.

Yours Faithfully

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