

**STRATHFIELD MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

Our reference: 779
Your reference:
Council contact: Warwick Gray

21 January 2005

IPART
PO BOX Q290
QVB POST OFFICE
SYDNEY NSW 1230

ATTENTION: MS EMMA KELSO

Dear Ms Kelso

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL SUBMISSION ON ENERGY AUSTRALIA'S PROPOSED STREET LIGHTING CHARGES

Strathfield Council is strongly opposed to Energy Australia's proposed increase in charges of approximately 70% for street lighting services up until July 2007.

Furthermore, Strathfield Council endorses the submission **made** by the Street Lighting Improvement Program which suggests that a price decrease of about 12% for street lighting services is in order.

The proposed increases in charges by Energy Australia, if approved by IPART, would be a significant burden on Local Government. Strathfield Council would need to **make** significant service cuts to accommodate the size of the increases in its street lighting charges. These charges are an unjustifiable attempt by Energy Australia at cost shifting on to Local Government.

Strathfield Council condemns the proposal put forward by Energy, Australia and strongly requests that IPART not support the increase in charges **as** outlined by Energy Australia.

Yours faithfully,



WARWICK GRAY
DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

SMC107429