

Carters

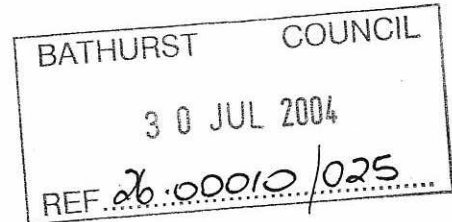
Carter Bros Engineering Pty Ltd

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Bathurst NSW 2795
Phone 02 6331 6811
Facsimile 02 6332 3185
Email cartbros@ix.net.au

19 July 2004

Ms Kath Knowles
Administrator
Bathurst Regional Council



Dear Ms Knowles

In regard to proposed Access Charges. BRC Ref.TD:AL:26.00010 and our recent meeting.

Included are our comments and calculations of the effects of Councils proposed increased charges in regard to the above for each of our properties as notified. Toni Dwyer invited us to submit the same.

You will note that water usage for most of these, is quite low even compared to residential properties. Included are our estimated figures for SDF.

We await BRC reply on previous correspondence.

In the meantime we stress our belief that any direction from the State Government to Councils under the heading "best practice pricing" or "fair pricing" would of necessity be exactly that. In this we would understand that there is meant to be a correlation between actual demand on, or load on, the sewer or water systems. Is this correct or not?

You have said that Council has taken the physical size of the water meters into account in the loading on the Sewerage Treatment Plant although the State Government does not suggest this, just in case a very large water volume is dumped into the Sewer System. Has that ever happened? With quarterly water meter readings this is very quickly found out! And in any case, control of this and the costing thereof by Council, is the explicit reason why the Sewer Discharge Factor is to be implemented as is indeed suggested by the State Government! I do not believe this has been properly considered.

Councils explanation of its version of the "Two part tariff" is incongruous, unless under the guidelines from the Dept of Energy Utilities and Sustainability it is specifically meant that the Sewer Discharge Factor has something to do with the size of a water meter and nought to do with its singular purpose of measuring water flow.

Admin ✓
CFO - R ✓ (for Admin)

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I would have thought that an Access Charge for water would reflect demand on the water system and a Sewer Access Charge would reflect a customer's peak load on that system.

Council does not define in its letter to effected property owners, whether its proposed "Access Charge" is a Sewer Access Charge or a Water Access Charge. Please tell which it is as per the DEUS guideline.

I cannot conceive that the Councils interpretation of these proposed changes is in accordance with the State Governments intentions. Could I please meet with you again on this matter and perhaps you could show me exactly how these are stated.

In our meeting I brought up the fact that on all of our properties subject to Council's notice on this matter, the water meters are merely over 20mm in size for domestic purposes because it has been a Council requirement to connect Hose Reels specific for the purpose of fighting fire, through a water meter. On the subject of possible water theft it seemed to me that Mr Roach and yourself consider that water theft is a much larger issue than I would have thought it to be. I take issue with this for two reasons, (the obvious one of course) but especially as it seems part of the case upon which Council is proposing the "Access Charge". I hope that you may be able to elaborate upon this.

In reality the "Access Charge" as proposed by BRC, is de facto charge on fire fighting and it is indeed very difficult not to take offence at the implementation of such a charge.

Yours sincerely



Ray Carter
Director

Mobile Phone 0407 258882
Fax 6332 3185

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MEMORANDUM

TO: SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

FROM: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

DATE: 23 JULY 2004

SUBJECT: **ITEM 10 CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL ON 21 JULY 2004 – USER PAYS BEST PRACTICE SEWER CHARGES**

FILE: RR:AL:26.00010

At Council's meeting held 23 July 2004, it was resolved that Council:

- (a) Engineering Staff be made available to provide on-site preliminary assessment and consultation;
- (b) That Finance Staff be made available to explain the principles of best-practice pricing;
- (c) That Council provides a Hydraulic Engineer in the first year of best-practice sewer pricing to assess requests for downsizing and rationalizing of meters;
- (d) That the cost of downsizing or removing meters be met by Council;
- (e) That nominal sizing of meters is not used for calculating access charges due to the common practice of using fire hose reels;
- (f) That no community service obligation be provided for non-rateable properties as most of these are state government bodies (e.g. schools, hospitals) and by doing so it will re-introduce cross-subsidies that will result in Council not meeting the Best Practice Guidelines;
- (g) That if it is determined by the Chief Financial Officer that the increase in sewer prices (including trade waste fees) is substantial and would create financial pressures, an agreement may be entered into to introduce the charges over a three year period. This will be done by individual application.
- (h) carry out a review of Sewerage Discharge Factors. This review will be carried out on request by Council's Engineering Department provided that sufficient information is given to warrant that review. In the first year of best-practice sewer pricing any adjustment will be effective from 1 July 2004. Reviews requested in following years that result in an adjustment from the date of receipt of the initial request.

Bob Roach
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES • LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Gerard Martin, M.P.
Member for Bathurst

Electorate Offices:
State Office Block
140 William Street
BATHURST

FAXED
29 July 04

29 July 2004

Ref: BRC:04
Your Ref:

BATHURST COUNCIL
30 JUL 2004
26.00010/026

ATTN: Mr Bob Roach
Ms Kath Knowles
Administrator
Bathurst Regional Council
Private Mail Bag 17
Bathurst NSW 2795

Dear Ms Knowles

I write to inform you that I have written to the Minister for Energy and Utilities, Hon Frank Sartor requesting that he receive a deputation from Bathurst Regional Council at his earliest convenience.

I will advise you of his response.

Yours faithfully,

Gerard Martin MP
MEMBER FOR BATHURST

CFO ✓
Admin ✓
AGM ✓

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5 August 2004

Mr Ray Carter
3 Toronto Street
KELSO NSW 2795

Dear Mr Carter

User Pays Sewerage Charges

Further to your questions raised at Council's meeting held on 21 July 2004, and your letter received by Council on 30 July 2004. The following explanations are tendered for your information.

1. Council has followed the guidelines for the introduction of a user pays sewerage system as issued by the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability. A copy of the guidelines is **attached** for your perusal. As explained to you at our recent meeting, Council will investigate any matter raised in relation to the meter size required as compared to meter size required for fire fighting purposes. Council will shortly appoint a water hydraulics engineer to investigate cases such as yours.
2. Council will investigate your enquiry regarding meter size. The guidelines as distributed by the State Government are guidelines only. Council is permitted to decide on a system for sewerage charges.
3. Part (e) of the recommendation from the Chief Financial Officer's report to Council on 21 July 2004 is clear. Council is aware of the practice of using water from the fire hose reels in some cases. Council has developed its sewerage system based on the size of meters being used to calculate the access charge.
4. The report made to Council on 21 July 2004 states it is an "annual sewer access charge" the size of the water connection determines the amount of the charge. It is correct to assume that the size of the water meter determines the amount of the Annual Sewer Access Charge.
5. Council has not sidelined the State Government Guidelines. It has chosen to investigate and determine each enquiry on its merits and advise the customer/ratepayer of the outcome. By doing this, there are no breaches of the Guidelines.

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Mr Ray Carter
5 August 2004

6. Council's process for the introduction of the user pays sewerage charges was as follows:

28 August 2003	City Treasurer Report to Council
26 November 2003	Discussion Forum
25 February 2004	City Treasurer Report to Council
10 April 2004	Councillors Working Party
14 May 2004	Management Plan on public exhibition
3 & 8 June 2004	300 + letters to financially affected customers/ratepayers
11 June 2004	Submissions on Management Plan closed
23 June 2004	- Chief Financial Officer Report to Council outlining submissions for consideration
	- Management Plan adopted
21 July 2004	Chief Financial Officer Report to Council

The final user pays document titled "Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines" was received by Council on 10 May 2004. Council was then in a position to put in place its final documentation to determine the system required to introduce a user pays/best practice sewerage system.

Council has written in excess of 300 letters to ratepayers to advise of the introduction of this new system and to advise of the financial effect on their business. To-date 19 written enquiries have been received.

In reply to your letter of 19 July 2004, Council resolved at its meeting held on 21 July 2004 that:

- (a) Engineering Staff be made available to provide on-site preliminary assessment and consultation;
- (b) Finance Staff be made available to explain the principles of best-practice pricing;
- (c) Council provide a Hydraulic Engineer in the first year of best-practice sewer pricing to assess requests for downsizing and rationalizing of meters;
- (d) the cost of downsizing or removing meters be met by Council;
- (e) nominal sizing of meters is not used for calculating access charges due to the common practice of using fire hose reels;
- (f) no community service obligation be provided for non-rateable properties as most of these are state government bodies (e.g. schools, hospitals) and by doing so it will re-introduce cross-subsidies that will result in Council not meeting the Best Practice Guidelines;

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Mr Ray Carter
5 August 2004

- (g) if it is determined by the Chief Financial Officer that the increase in sewer prices (including trade waste fees) is substantial and would create financial pressures, an agreement may be entered into to introduce the charges over a three year period. This will be done by individual application.
- (h) carry out a review of Sewerage Discharge Factors. This review will be carried out on request by Council's Engineering Department provided that sufficient information is given to warrant that review. In the first year of best-practice sewer pricing any adjustment will be effective from 1 July 2004. Reviews requested in following years that result in an adjustment from the date of receipt of the initial request.

Your letter requested a review of the Sewerage Discharge Factor for your properties. To address your concerns Council will make Engineering Staff available to provide an on-site preliminary assessment and consultation. This assessment will also incorporate a review of the Sewerage Discharge Factor estimated for your property.

In respect to your comments regarding the possible water theft, I wish to advise that at no stage did the Chief Financial Officer or I ever consider water theft to be a problem. As you are aware, fire fighting hose reels are currently metered through Council's water metering system and what was asserted to you was that there are some customers who use fire fighting hose reels for purposes other than fire fighting. It was indicated to you that because of the high water pressure these hoses are used for purposes that the customers decides upon and in some cases the water generated through these hose reels goes back through Council's sewer system.

In relation to Council's interpretation, you will see that upon reading the Guidelines attached, Council has met the State Government requirements in respect of implementing this new system.

Council will continue to monitor this introduction of this new system and will work with its ratepayers to ensure a proper and equitable system is introduced.

Yours faithfully


Kath Knowles
ADMINISTRATOR


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MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That the Report be noted.

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. **CORRECTIVE SERVICES (07.00050)** - Mr Bobby Bourke advised that the Corrective Services Consultative Committee met on 6 July 2004 and a number of issues, which may affect Bathurst Regional Council were raised. Mr Bourke will put these issues in writing to be reported to Council.

9. **USER PAYS SEWER (26.00010)** - Mrs Janice McGilchrist raised issues such as access charges, capability and usage level guidelines.

The Chief Financial Officer advised the following:

- * Access charge in State Government Guidelines.
- * Size of supply has been raised as an issue. Council have and are contacting users and will appoint a hydraulic engineer to review the size of water mains as required.
- * Size of water mains is important as need to have capacity at sewerage works to meet possible maximum demand.
- * Council has received approximately 20 letters back from users.
- * Council is reviewing the trade waste issue and will report to the July meeting of Council on this.

10. **BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CENTRE (18.00025)** - The Administrator responded to the issue raised by Mr John Byrne at the previous Council meeting of tendering for the Business Enterprise Centre.

The Administrator advised that she has met with the Business Enterprise Centre and a letter from Cowra, Oberon and Bathurst Regional Councils has been prepared in support of the Business Enterprise Centre.

11. **QUEEN SCOUT HONOUR BOARD (21.00007)** - The Administrator advised that if the Queen Scout Honour Board could not be found that the Scout Group have requested Council assistance concerning the sponsoring of a new honour board for centenary activities. A report is to be prepared for Council.

The meeting closed at 5.55pm.

Bathurst Regional Council area.

2. To consider a Social Community Cultural Plan, Regional Activities and Services, Art Gallery, Library, Entertainment Centre, Museums, Child Care Services and Community Facilities, 50 Year Plan, 5 Year Management Plan, LEP and Structure Plan, Promotion, Tourism and Regional Development.
3. To give members of the public (particularly local organisations) and former Councillors the capacity to nominate policy subjects in writing for consideration.
4. To consider Development Applications which are referred by the Director Planning and Development where there are unresolved objections.
5. To make recommendations to Council in respect of requests for donations.
6. To consider delegates reports.
7. To make recommendations to Council in respect of requests for donations.
8. To affect the responsibilities of a Saleyards Committee in accordance with the NSW Meat Industry Authority License.

4. AUSTRALIAN FOSSIL AND MINERAL MUSEUM (SOMERVILLE COLLECTION) (18.00186)
MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

5. STRUCTURAL REFORM PROCESS - BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL (11.00004)
MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES' REPORT

6. SISTER CITY STRATEGY (23.00011)
MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That Council refer the Sister City Strategy to the Sister City Working Party for comment.

DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES' REPORT

7. MT PANORAMA REDEVELOPMENT (04.00019)

Somerville Collection.

The Chief Financial Officer advised that the former Bathurst City Council had included, as part of its Management Plan until 30 June 2008, amounts totalling approximately \$580,000 to underwrite this collection.

YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

- 1. PREVIOUS REPORT (11.00002)**
MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That the report of the Policy Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 2 June 2004 be adopted with the following matters noted:

Item 4 - Upgrade of Saleyards (21.00001) - The Director Planning & Development spoke to the Development Application and the public meeting held 1 July 2004. The main issues raised were noise, flooding and odour. He noted that an air quality assessment, in relation to odour, will be undertaken. It was also noted that after the Development Application comes off public exhibition a Discussion Forum would be held and Council will take on board concerns raised.

Item 5 - Aquatic Centre (20.00092) - Council has received Expressions of Interest and a Working Party will be held next Tuesday, 13 July 2004.

Item 8 - Development Application No. 2004/0791 - Two Lot Residential Subdivision at 9 Kerr Place, Kelso. Applicant: RP Welsh; Owner: RP & KA Welsh - This Development Application was withdrawn. However, a new Development Application has been lodged and it is anticipated that this will be reported at the July meeting of Council.

- 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (11.00002)**
MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- 3. CHARTER POLICY COMMITTEE (11.00005)**
MOVED: Administrator K Knowles

RESOLVED: That Council establish a Policy Committee with the following Charter:

POLICY COMMITTEE CHARTER

1. To consider policy development and overall developmental needs of the

TO THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 04 AUGUST 2004

General Manager
BATHURST NSW 2795

1 REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 JULY 2004 (07.00064)

Recommendation: That the report of the Policy Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 7 July 2004 be noted.

Report:

PRESENT: Administrator Knowles

Acting General Manager, Director Planning & Development, Director Engineering Services, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Administration, Manager Rural Governance

APOLOGIES: Nil.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

(1) **Mr Bill Gates** requested Policy Committee charter to reflect regional issues.

Also asked if \$3.2million for roads is inclusive or exclusive of forestry grant monies announced.

The Manager Rural Governance advised that this was an additional amount.

Asked if question times are recorded in the minutes.

The Administrator advised that question times are recorded in the minutes.

(2) **Mr Peter Stark** asked if the Administrator has parameters set to call an election.

The Administrator advised will attempt to meet with the Department of Local Government in August to discuss how process is going and what criteria the Department sets. The overall criteria is to bring organisations together.

(3) **Mr Gordon Crisp** requested that the Policy Charter should say "former" Councillors.

(4) **Mr John Byrne** asked what the anticipated costs for underwriting the



26.00010/050

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Bathurst NSW 2795 www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au

11 August 2004

The Hon. Frank Sartor
Minister for Energy & Utilities
Level 31
Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

User Pays Sewerage System

Thank you for taking time to see Council to discuss the implementation of Best Practice Sewer Pricing. As you are aware, Bathurst Regional Council has been very pro-active in the introduction of this State Government initiative.

Council has taken considerable care to ensure the Guidelines as detailed in your document titled "Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines" have been met. Council has also been in close liaison with its customers and is currently addressing problems raised by them to ensure a very smooth introduction of this new system.

Council has recently appointed a Hydraulic Engineer to assist with the assessment of water meter sizing and the correct analyzing of Sewerage Discharge Factors to ensure that each customer is treated correctly.

Council was surprised to receive a letter from your Director General dated 20 July 2004 in relation to the introduction of the new Best Practice sewer pricing.

As discussed at our meeting, Council is making every effort to ensure a smooth transfer and accordingly seeks your comments in relation to the letter from your Director General and also on Council's position in relation to Best Practice sewer pricing.

Your advice in due course would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Kath Knowles
ADMINISTRATOR

Copy: Mr Gerard Martin MP
Member for Bathurst

Reference: RR:AL:26.00010
Enquiries: Mr Bob Roach (02) 6333 6257

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19/08/04

Ms Kath Knowles
Administrator
Bathurst Regional Council

BATHURST	COUNCIL
24 AUG 2004	
REF.	26-00010/052

Dear Ms Knowles

In regard to proposed Access Charges. BRC Ref.TD:AL:26.00010 and your reply dated 5 August 2004 to my letters.

In response to point no.1. I ask so as to be prepared to speak to Councils water hydraulics engineer when our case is investigated. For what purpose will you "investigate any matter raised in relation to the meter size required as compared to the meter size required for fire fighting purposes"? On first reading this statement it appeared at first to me that the purpose Council would be to consider the obvious calculation of a "nominal" size for the water meter charge as advised by the State Govt., however in (e) it says that "Council resolved", that *"nominal sizing of meters is not used for calculating access charges due to the common practice of using fire hose reels"* Again, if Councils hydraulics engineer is to "investigate", what is the purpose? Also, in regard to the separate matter of a review of Sewer Discharge factors you say that will be warranted if *"sufficient information is given"* without any clarification. Obviously the number of person using premises is the major factor constituting the load on the sewer system. Could you please let me know what are the criteria for this? I have supplied information though you have not given any guidelines whatever.

In three places in your letter you refer to fire hose reels.

In 2. You state "Council is aware of the practice of using water from the fire hose reels in **some** cases." This is a downgrading of the actual resolution from the 21 July meeting, which is, "nominal sizing of water meters is not used for calculating access charges due to the common practice of using fire hose reels". I raise two issues here. First these are very sweeping statements, one of which is, incredibly, a resolution. Second, this resolution (e), without explaining what the suspected "common practice" is, remains a crucial resolution in the formulation of Council's Access Charge and the rejection of nominal sizing of water meters. There is obviously more to this notion than is simply stated, so could you please tell what this means?

Admin ✓
DES ✓
CFO ✓

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I am glad you have assured me that you have never considered "water theft to be a problem" because it remains that Council's resolution (e) states "*the common practice of using fire hose reels*" is the very reason "*nominal sizing of meters is not used for calculating access charges*".

I have always understood that water cannot be "stolen" when it is metered through a hose reel. Of course the reason for having hose reels supplied through the water Meter is for that very purpose. A hose reel, being a statutory requirement, has to be installed and maintained in accordance with the BCA.

A fire hose reel consists of a coiled up hose, a bit better quality than a run of the mill garden hose but otherwise it's just a hose. It is interesting to note that you believe that "*because of the high water pressure these hoses are used for purposes that the customer decides upon*". Please note that hollow bit inside a hose reel is very like the hollow bit inside any common hose and, possessing no special qualities that would increase either the static or dynamic pressure, conveys water that originates at the water meter just as any common hose would do. Such a hose, exuding higher pressures than an ordinary hose, if it existed, would be a very valuable thing!

I note that you believe that "*in some cases the water generated through these hose reels goes back through Council's sewer system*". Please note that it is Councils responsibility to ensure that this does not occur. A check with Council's Engineering Department would reveal that in order to do so legally, an agreement of Council's making, called a Trade Waste Agreement, is required. It is accepted practice in NSW that the dumping of illegal waste into the sewerage system, whether it be by the said hose reel or by any other means, is a crime, commonly punished in the courts of the state and though not exactly theft nor the perpetrators termed exactly thieves, it is very close to being so.

The proper way to manage the situation you have illustrated is to have the perpetrators of this alleged illegal trade waste dumping to desist and to do so only in the legal Council prescribed manner, described above. Should Council not wish to do this then this is exactly where the accurate calculation of the Sewer Discharge Factor comes into play in contrast to the arbitrary one noted on Councils letters.

As you illustrate that illegal trade waste dumpers are small in number, being just the "some cases" of the "some cases" that Council acknowledges that it is "aware of", in order to make these statements. As this misuse is only a small portion of the total obviously it would be quite easy to eliminate the practice. Has Council made any attempt at all to eliminate the practice, especially in the lead up to making such important decisions in regard to Access Charges?

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Does Council intend to implement the Access Charge system as proposed in order to merely abrogate or minimise responsibilities in regard to trade waste or best practice trade waste management?

Your letter headed User pays Sewerage Charges implies that even in not implementing the advised "*nominal sizing of meters*" that you can still use that term "*user pays*", fairly. This is impossible. In the guidelines that you invite me to read it states in regard to sewerage "*Annual non-residential sewerage access charge reflective of the customer's peak load on the system*" and in regard to Water Supply Pricing "*annual access charge reflective of the customer's demands on the system*" These are the criteria for a fair User Pays system!

Contrary to these criteria Council has introduced anomalies into the User Pays Sewerage Charges which has introduced a sewer charge to water availability for fire fighting purposes.

These anomalies were no doubt envisaged and capably assessed by the NSW State Govt., which advised taking nil account of that additional portion of the water Meter size required for hose reels, namely the nominal sizing of water meters for this purpose.

Thank you for the inclusion of Councils timing process for the introduction of the "user pays sewerage charges", I have no doubt that this would follow the letter of the law but who would have thought "user pays" would be anything but paying for the use of something, that being as the State Govt so properly envisaged. Would it be possible to see the documentation of this process especially the Feb 04 advise from the State Govt and how that was presented in the public consultation?

It is noted that in the Strategic Business Plan – Check List 6.7, Council is to supply a Summary of Community Consultation. Would this be the summary that will be given to the State Govt?

I would think that of the 19 written enquiries received perhaps the vast majority have been made in belated reply to Councils June 3 and 8 letters posted near to the close of Councils submission period on 11 June, or even in response to rate notices. As businesses even now only become aware of the implications of Council's version of user pays, how does this evidence a true consultative process touted widely as part of Councils due process?

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It was stated that for many years that when water rates (domestic water) were based on land value, residential property subsidised industrial in this regard. As you have access to past records you will note that then as now, most industrial properties use a fraction of the residential average water use, so this statement can only be an erroneous premiss, already used in decision making.

Will Council reconsider the implementation of a nominal sizing of water meters for the purpose of the Access Charge?

I thank you also for your time and look forward to meeting with the water hydraulics engineer appointed.

Yours sincerely



Ray Carter
Director

Mobile Phone 0407 258882
Fax 6332 3185

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New South Wales
OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND UTILITIES
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MEDICAL RESEARCH
MINISTER ASSISTING THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (CANCER)
MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER ON THE ARTS

MSO/08854

Kath Knowles
Administrator
Bathurst Regional Council
Civic Centre
Cnr Russell and William Streets
BATHURST NSW 2795

BATHURST COUNCIL
- 1 SEP 2004
REF. 26.00010/057


26 August 2004

Dear Ms Knowles

I refer to your letter of 11 August 2004 regarding "User Pays Sewerage System".

The Minister has requested that I inform you the matters raised are under consideration, and a reply will be provided as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely


Aldo Pennini
Chief of Staff

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XXXXXX

Admin ✓
CFO ✓
DES ✓

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26-00010.

~~K Knowl~~

KaR.

I followed this up today.

No further reply received, so I phoned Aldo - he was not available as was at Pop's house

Secret advised will have someone phone to advise what is going on.

Bob

20/10

Bob,

let me know if I have to ~~re-write~~ ~~the~~ a letter requesting a response.

KaR

Letter of reply on Memorandum table awaiting signature
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Bob,

Thanks for chasing this up.

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New South Wales
OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND UTILITIES
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MEDICAL RESEARCH
MINISTER ASSISTING THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (CANCER)
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MSO/08854

Kath Knowles
Administrator
Bathurst Regional Council
Civic Centre
Cnr Russell and William Streets
BATHURST NSW 2795

BATHURST COUNCIL
- 1 SEP 2004
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26 August 2004

Dear Ms Knowles

I refer to your letter of 11 August 2004 regarding "User Pays Sewerage System".

The Minister has requested that I inform you the matters raised are under consideration, and a reply will be provided as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely


Aldo Pennini
Chief of Staff

Admin
CFO
DES

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PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES • LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

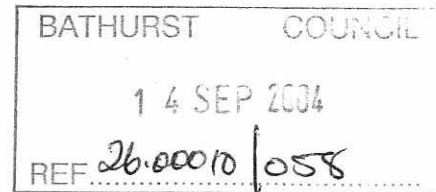
Gerard Martin, M.P.
Member for Bathurst

Electorate Offices
State Office Block
140 William Street
BATHURST

13 September 2004

Ref:C:04
Your Ref:

Ms Kath Knowles
Administrator
Bathurst Regional Council
Private Mail Bag 17
BATHURST NSW 2795



Dear Kath,

Please find attached correspondence from Messrs Carter and Baird in relation to Bathurst Regional Council's Sewer Access Charge.

My understanding of this matter was that the charges were not primarily based upon the availability of water for fire fighting purposes.

Could I ask that you confirm whether the latter is correct and could you also comment on Messrs Carter and Baird's remarks?

Yours faithfully,

Gerard Martin MP
MEMBER FOR BATHURST

MAIL

MAIL

*CFO-R (For Admin) / /
Admin*

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