# <u>E10/1130</u>

# <u>The following is an index associated with the information on the history of the</u> <u>Sewer Access Charge since 2002 as implemented by Bathurst Regional Council.</u>

On the pages noted are items that back our claims of corrupt conduct in regard to this matter.

The numbering for this index is at the bottom right hand corner.

## <u>2010</u>

## <u>Page 2</u>. Access charge as applied is not Council's adopted policy; only a copy of the water charge

Council currently charges an access fee based on the size of the installed meter at a property, using the same methodology that applies to the water fund. When the system was introduced, Council agreed to downsize meters at no cost to the ratepayer upon presentation of a certificate from a hydraulic engineer. The proposed system is based on nominal meter access charges to compensate for premises where the water meter is

Page 3. Councils charter to provide "equality and appropriate services"

- to provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government, after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure
- that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively

#### Page 4. To raise funds "by the fair imposition of rates charges and fees"

 to raise funds for local purposes by the fair imposition of rates, charges and fees, by income earned from investments and, when appropriate, by borrowings and grants. <u>Page 11</u>. Council claims to comply with "Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage" guidelines while duplicitously ignoring the fairness, load put on the sewer and comparable with residential charges provisions. Is it not intentional ? How can it possibly be justified ? Is it not then corrupted behavior with a view to extract a charge out of proportion with what is warranted ?

Council is now in its fifth year of user pays pricing for sewerage services. The introduction of the pricing system was completed to comply with "Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage" guidelines issued by the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS) and the "Water Supply, Sewerage and Trade Waste Pricing Guidelines" issued by the Department of Land and Water Conservation.

### Page 13. We assert through Heath Consulting Engineers that ET's are plainly still available to us

Mr Toole advises that Option (b) was adopted by Council and that the ET method is not available to customers. Option (b) plainly states that in the absence of an expert report then the access charge is based on the water meter size, therefore based on the exact wording of Option B the provision of an expert report establishing the ET's an operation places on the sewerage system is plainly still available to customers.