



**The Hon Don Page MP**  
Minister for Local Government  
Minister for the North Coast

Mr Ray Carter  
233 College Road  
BATHURST NSW 2795

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14 MAY 2012

Dear Mr Carter

I am writing in reply to your email of 1 March 2012 to the Premier, the Hon Barry O'Farrell MP, regarding the level of sewer access charge for non-residential properties imposed by Bathurst Regional Council. The Premier referred the matter to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, who has asked me to reply on his behalf.

I understand that this is a longstanding issue between yourself and Bathurst Regional Council and you have previously raised this matter with the Division of Local Government, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and the NSW Ombudsman. I also understand you have received a number of comprehensive responses from those agencies.

While I appreciate from your viewpoint this matter has not been resolved, the charging regime adopted by Council is lawful and it does comply with the relevant pricing guidelines. It is therefore essentially a matter you will need to continue to pursue with the Council in the context of its water and sewerage pricing and charging regime.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely

  
Paul Terrett  
Senior Policy Advisor

*Carters are aware that it is NSW Government approved policy that council has in place, but the Bathurst Regional council have not fully implemented this policy.*