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**Reference: S11574  
2018/350558**

29 November 2018

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal  
Level 15, 2-24 Rawson Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

### **NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR SPECIAL RATE VARIATION**

I wish to advise that Ku-ring-gai Council resolved on 27 November 2018 to apply for a Special Rate Variation under section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the permanent continuation of its Environmental Levy at a rate of five per cent (5%) above the ordinary rate, commencing on 1 July 2019.

The proposed, permanent Special Rate Variation is consistent with the Council's current Special Rate Variation (or Environmental Levy) under section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for eight years at a rate of five per cent (5%) above the ordinary rate, which commenced on 1 July 2011 and is due to expire on 30 June 2019. This incorporated the final year of the 2005-2012 Environmental Levy and the seven year works program proposed under the new Environmental Levy.

The purpose of the proposed, permanent Special Rate Variation is to deliver a broad range of environmental programs and works across the key program areas of energy management; biodiversity management; water and catchment management; community engagement and environmental education; and sustainable transport and community recreation.

The future Environmental Levy program is based on the priorities and areas of importance expressed by the community through the development of the Community Strategic Plan, the experience of the current Environmental Levy and the extensive community consultation to date on Council's environmental and sustainability programs, as well as the consultation conducted on the proposed Special Rate Variation application.

As per the current Environmental Levy program, the future program aligns with Council's capital works and operational programs; has a strong focus on the delivery of on-ground outcomes to improve the condition of the natural environment and to address climate change; and works closely with residents and local businesses to facilitate behavioural change. Ongoing funding for the

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maintenance of current Environmental Levy projects and the continuation of successful programs are also paramount.

Council's resolution on this matter is included below and responds to a report titled *Results of consultation on the continuation of the Environmental Levy* which was included as General Business Item 6 at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 November 2018:

- A. That Council notifies IPART of its decision to apply for a Special Rate Variation under section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at a rate of five per cent above the ordinary rate, commencing on 1 July 2019, by the due date of 30 November 2018.
- B. That Council submits a Special Rate Variation application to IPART under section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the permanent continuation of the Environmental Levy at a rate of five per cent above the ordinary rate, commencing on 1 July 2019, by the due date of 11 February 2019.

This notification has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Office of Local Government's *Guidelines for the preparation of an application for a Special Rate Variation to general income for 2019/20*.

The Council's principal contact for this Special Rate Variation application is Marnie Kikken, Manager Environment and Sustainability. Marnie can be contacted on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
John McKee  
General Manager