

Dear Sir/Madam:

Further to the Gippsland Meeting which I was unable to attend, I would like to bring to your attention the "inadequate" notice to those who you do not consider as "priveledged" to receive advance notice of the meeting as well as the time frame of the meeting and would request in future, that you schedule an evening meeting as well.

Prior to the 2008 increase, I attended a ESC meeting about Gippsland Water and do recall quite clearly that the facilitator at the time, noted that the 71.4% increase would be a ONE OFF increase just for the 5 year period and that at the end of 2013, the rates would then return to PRE 2008 prices.

Those of you from Melbourne would not realise how hard those in country areas have been hit and I feel that the ESC should not renig on its promise and DECREASE the Gippsland Water Tarrif by 71.4%. Our water rates are roughly 70% of our council rates, coupled with the huge increase in gas and electricity tarriffs (and our family by no means is a huge user, but still pays exhorbitant bills) makes water almost UNAFORDABLE for many families. Gippsland Water needs to tighten its belt and stick to more efficient ways to operate, including having FIXED priced contracts to those of us on the minimum wage can still afford clean water, which is a right, not a necessity.

I don't agree with ESC nor Gippsland Waters pricing strategy. It needs a 71.4% reduction!!!

Yours sincerely,

Adrienne Evans