

Julie Thompson

From: Rupert [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 4 September 2017 2:23 PM
To: two
Subject: Submission from a rate payer

We are HCC ratepayers & residents. Our experience and that of everyone else we know in many municipalities around Tasmania, is very similar to the following: Before southern water was set up (subsequently Taswater), the annual cost of rates, including water & sewerage was about \$1,700. Then, the first year after southern water was set up, the cost for the same property for the same things was \$2,800, and it keeps rising. In plain language we have been & continue to be gouged or ripped off & if they didn't have exemption from ACCC Regulations, Taswater, as an ACN company would be operating illegally (ie a monopoly demanding payment without customers ever negotiating or agreeing to the price - this degrades our democracy & respect for government). At the time the excuse given by HCC for this, was revaluation of properties, (but this doesn't produce cash flow to pay the extra \$1100); The HCC rates officer promised me they were having a 'root & branch review' (ha! more loss of respect). The one exception in Tas that we know of is Brighton Council, so well done to them.

If you need further information, please let us know
Narelle & Rupert Badcock
New Town, Tas

Sent from my iPhone