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DATE RECEIVED

3 1 JAN SOUE

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THE COMPETITION AUTHORITY

Dear Sir or Madam:

I believe that in the last Tuesdays Gladstone Observer on the front page and from a letter read at a town meeting that same week, stated that the costs for water to the town would now be about \$1400.00 per ratepayer more, The reason given for this large change was that a formula was used to work out the costs for each town that Gladstone Water Board is charging for water like Gladstone, Boyne Island, Tannam Sands, Yarwin,

Mt Larcom and more. For each town the pipes pumps tanks and maintenance was added up and divided between each ratepayer in that town. Only Mt Larcom's pipes, pumps, etc are all paid for by Cement Australia, East End, this section of Australia Cement uses about 25 klt, Australia Cement Fisherman's Landing (About 20 km away) uses 612 klt and Mt Larcom uses 3 klt in the same time. This cost for water is unjust and should be reviewed now that the water that Gladstone Water Board is selling is on Calliope Shire Land; Mt Larcom is also in Calliope Shire.

I live on a small property that joins the town of Mt Larcom next to a the house my dad (who lived here for 30 years) and we (wife and 2 kids) use very little water and would have to stop using what we are using and find another drinking water.

Last year's rates for supply and usage of water for us was more than \$735 including a \$430 charge for one of the above council's budget. Which is also unjust and should be looked at. This town has a multi million dollar smelter 8 kms up the road being built and still most of the roads here are dirt and the cost for water now is one of the tops in the country

Can you look in to the water charges and see if this town will grow or disappear, because a lot of the people that live here will leave if this happens.

26-01-05.