



Maximum prices for Water NSW's
Greater Sydney Services from
1 October 2025

Draft Determination

July 2025

Water >>

Acknowledgment of Country

IPART acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands where we live and work. Our office is located on Gadigal land and our work touches on Aboriginal lands and waterways across NSW.

We pay respect to their Elders both past and present, and recognise Aboriginal people's unique and continuing cultural connections, rights and relationships to land, water and Country.

Tribunal Members

The Tribunal members for this review are:

Carmel Donnelly PSM, Chair
Dr Darryl Biggar
Jonathan Coppel
Sharon Henrick

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Part 1 Preliminary

1 Application of this determination

This determination fixes maximum prices, or sets methodologies for fixing maximum prices, for the following services provided by Water NSW:

- (1) Water Supply Services, and
- (2) Ancillary and Miscellaneous Services for which no alternative supply exists and which relate to the supply of those Water Supply Services

(Determination Services).

2 Services excluded from this determination

- (1) This determination does not apply to any services supplied by Water NSW to Sydney Water Corporation in order to earn:
 - (a) any Annual Water Quality Incentive Payment paid to it under the "Raw Water Supply Agreement" executed on 14 October 2013 by Water NSW and Sydney Water Corporation; or
 - (b) an equivalent payment under any amended version or replacement of that agreement in force from time to time.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, and despite any other provision in this determination, this determination does not apply to any services provided by Water NSW:
 - (a) in connection with its Non-Sydney Catchment Functions; or
 - (b) that do not have a connection with the Sydney Catchment Area.

Note: The purpose of clause 2(1) is to ensure that this determination does not preclude Water NSW and Sydney Water Corporation from reaching agreement on or making payment under an incentive payment scheme pursuant to the current Raw Water Supply Agreement, or any amended or replacement version of that agreement.

3 Commencement and term of this determination

- (1) This determination commences on the later of:
 - (a) 1 October 2025, and
 - (b) the date that it is published in the NSW Government Gazette**(Commencement Date).**
- (2) Subject to paragraph (3), the maximum prices fixed under this determination apply from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2028.
- (3) The maximum prices under this determination prevailing at 30 June 2028 continue to apply beyond 30 June 2028 until this determination is revoked or replaced.

4 Replacement of 2020 Determination

This determination:

- (1) revokes and replaces the 2020 Determination, and
- (2) does not affect anything done or omitted to be done, or rights or obligations accrued, under the 2020 Determination.

5 Legislative background

- (1) This determination is made under section 11(1)(a) of the IPART Act. That provision requires IPART to determine pricing for a government monopoly service supplied by a government agency specified in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act.
- (2) The services for which this determination fixes prices are government monopoly services because they are declared to be government monopoly services by the Minister under the Order.
- (3) Water NSW is a government agency specified in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act.
- (4) This determination fixes the maximum price for some services and sets a methodology for fixing the maximum price for other services. As required by section 13A(3) of the IPART Act, where IPART has set a methodology for fixing maximum prices, its reasons for doing so are set out in Part 6.

Part 2 Determination Services supplied to Large Customers

6 Application

Part 2 sets the methodology for fixing the maximum prices that Water NSW may charge Large Customers for the Determination Services.

7 Maximum price

The maximum price that Water NSW may charge a Large Customer for the Determination Services for a month is calculated using the following formula:

$$\left(FAC \times \frac{Customer Supply}{Total Supply} \right) + VC$$

Where:

- (1) **FAC** is the fixed availability charge for the Period in which the month occurs, as set out in Table 2.1;
- (2) **Customer Supply** is the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to the Large Customer for the month, to the nearest whole ML;
- (3) **Total Supply** is the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to all Large Customers for the month, to the nearest whole ML; and
- (4) **VC** is the volumetric charge for the month, which is the sum of:
 - (a) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to the Large Customer on all Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 2.2 for the Period in which the month occurs;
 - (b) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to the Large Customer on all Non-Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 2.3 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
 - (c) the cost of the Shoalhaven transfer for the Large Customer for the month, calculated in accordance with clause 8.

8 Calculating the cost of the Shoalhaven transfer

For the purposes of clause 7, the cost of the Shoalhaven transfer for a Large Customer for a month is the amount calculated using the following formula:

$$\frac{CST}{AS} \times Customer Supply$$

Where:

- (1) **AS** is the actual water sales (ML) to all Large Customers by Water NSW in the month, to the nearest whole ML;
- (2) **Customer Supply** is the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to the Large Customer for the month, to the nearest whole ML; and
- (3) **CST** is the amount calculated using the following formula:

$$OPT + PT$$

Where:

- (a) **OPT** is the amount calculated using the following formula:

$$OP_p \times OP_v$$

- (i) **OP_p** is the off-peak electricity price in Table 2.4 for the Quarter and Period in which the month falls;
- (ii) **OP_v** is the lesser of:
 - (A) the actual volume of water (ML) transferred during the month from the Shoalhaven system, as measured and recorded by Water NSW; and
 - (B) **OP_{max}**;

- (b) **PT** is the amount calculated using the following formula:

$$P_p \times P_v$$

- (i) **P_p** is the peak electricity price in Table 2.5 for the Quarter and Period in which the month falls; and
- (ii) **P_v** is:
 - (A) if the actual volume of water (ML) transferred during the month from the Shoalhaven system, as measured and recorded by Water NSW, is equal to or less than **OP_{max}**, then 0; or
 - (B) if the actual volume of water (ML) transferred during the month from the Shoalhaven system, as measured and recorded by Water NSW, is greater than **OP_{max}**, then the actual volume of water transferred during that month from the Shoalhaven system less **OP_{max}**; and

- (c) **OP_{max}** is, in respect of the month, a volume of water that is the sum of:

- (i) the number of Business Days in that month multiplied by 2,092ML; and
- (ii) the number of days that are not Business Days in that month multiplied by 2,510.4ML.

Note: In respect of the calculation under subclause 8(3)(a) if the actual volume of water transferred from the Shoalhaven system is equal to **OP_{max}** then that figure should be inputted as the value of **OP_v**. For example if the actual volume transferred was 69,036ML and **OP_{max}** was also 69,036ML, then the calculation in subclause 8(3)(a) should be applied as **OP_p** X 69,036ML.

Table 2.1 Fixed availability charge for Large Customers

Period	(\$ per month)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	16,978,005
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$18,736,404 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$20,725,210 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 2.2 Volumetric Charge for Large Customers on Drought Response days

Period	(\$ per ML)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	125.33
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$137.62 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$150.09 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 2.3 Volumetric Charge for Large Customers on Non-Drought Response days

Period	(\$ per ML)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	100.50
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$111.09 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$121.70 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 2.4 Off-peak electricity price (\$ per ML)

Quarter	1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
1 July – 30 September		$328.78 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$311.65 \times \text{CPI}_2$
1 October – 31 December	308.83	$299.01 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$283.49 \times \text{CPI}_2$
1 January – 31 March	329.81	$324.58 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$307.68 \times \text{CPI}_2$
1 April – 30 June	301.98	$296.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$281.38 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 2.5 Peak electricity price (\$ per ML)

Quarter	1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
1 July – 30 September		$656.87 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$621.66 \times \text{CPI}_2$
1 October – 31 December	492.38	$470.97 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$445.73 \times \text{CPI}_2$
1 January – 31 March	714.32	$699.13 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$661.69 \times \text{CPI}_2$
1 April – 30 June	902.10	$881.72 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$834.48 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Part 3 Determination Services supplied to Wingecarribee Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council and Goulburn Mulwaree Council

9 Application

Part 3 sets the maximum prices that Water NSW may charge Wingecarribee Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council, and Goulburn Mulwaree Council for the Determination Services.

10 Maximum price for the Determination Services to Wingecarribee Shire Council

The maximum price that Water NSW may charge Wingecarribee Shire Council for the Determination Services for a month is the sum of:

- (1) the fixed availability charge in Table 3.1 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
- (2) the volumetric charge for the month, which is the sum of:
 - (a) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to Wingecarribee Shire Council on all Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 3.4 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
 - (b) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to Wingecarribee Shire Council on all Non-Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 3.5 for the Period in which the month occurs.

11 Maximum price for the Determination Services to Shoalhaven City Council

The maximum price that Water NSW may charge Shoalhaven City Council for the Determination Services for a month is the sum of:

- (1) the fixed availability charge in Table 3.2 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
- (2) the volumetric charge for the month, which is the sum of:
 - (a) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to Shoalhaven City Council on all Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 3.4 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
 - (b) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to Shoalhaven City Council on all Non-Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest

whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 3.5 for the Period in which the month occurs.

12 Maximum price for the Determination Services to Goulburn Mulwaree Council

The maximum price that Water NSW may charge Goulburn Mulwaree Council for the Determination Services for a month is the sum of:

- (1) the fixed availability charge in Table 3.3 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
- (2) the volumetric charge for the month, which is the sum of:
 - (a) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to Goulburn Mulwaree Council on all Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 3.4 for the Period in which the month occurs; and
 - (b) the total volume of water (ML) supplied by Water NSW to Goulburn Mulwaree Council on all Non-Drought Response Days during the month, rounded to the nearest whole ML, multiplied by the volumetric charge in Table 3.5 for the Period in which the month occurs.

Table 3.1 Fixed availability charge for Wingecarribee Shire Council

Period	(\$ per month)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	108,542
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	119,844 × CPI ₁
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	132,321 × CPI ₂

Table 3.2 Fixed availability charge for Shoalhaven City Council

Period	(\$ per month)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	2,035
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	2,247 × CPI ₁
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	2,481 × CPI ₂

Table 3.3 Fixed availability charge for Goulburn Mulwaree Council

Period	(\$ per month)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	2,442
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	2,697 × CPI ₁
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	2,978 × CPI ₂

Table 3.4 Volumetric charge for Wingecarribee Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council, and Goulburn Mulwaree Council on Drought Response Days

Period	(\$ per ML)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	74.21
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$81.43 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$89.34 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 3.5 Volumetric charge for Wingecarribee Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council, and Goulburn Mulwaree Council on Non-Drought Response Days

Period	(\$ per ML)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	67.85
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$74.91 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$82.71 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Part 4 Bulk Raw Water supplied to Small Customers

13 Application

Part 4 sets the maximum prices that Water NSW may charge Small Customers for the supply of Bulk Raw Water.

14 Maximum price for Bulk Raw Water

The maximum price that Water NSW may charge a Small Customer for supplying Bulk Raw Water is the volumetric charge calculated as the sum of:

- (1) the volumetric charge in Table 4.1 for Drought Response Days multiplied by the volume of Bulk Raw Water (kL) supplied by Water NSW to the Small Customer on Drought Response Days, rounded to the nearest whole kL; and
- (2) the volumetric charge in Table 4.2 for Non-Drought Response Days multiplied by the volume of Bulk Raw Water (kL) supplied by Water NSW to the Small Customer on Non-Drought Response Days, rounded to the nearest whole kL.

Note: There is no fixed component of the maximum price that Water NSW may charge a Small Customer for supplying Bulk Raw Water.

Table 4.1 Volumetric charge for Bulk Raw Water for Small Customers on Drought Response Days

Period	(\$ per kL)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	0.94
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$1.03 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$1.13 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 4.2 Volumetric charge for Bulk Raw Water for Small Customers on Non-Drought Response Days

Period	(\$ per kL)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	0.86
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$0.95 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$1.05 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Part 5 Unfiltered Water supplied to Small Customers

15 Application

Part 5 sets the maximum prices that Water NSW may charge Small Customers for the supply of Unfiltered Water.

16 Maximum price for Unfiltered Water

The maximum price that Water NSW may charge a Small Customer for supplying Unfiltered Water is the sum of:

- (1) the fixed availability charge in Table 5.1 for the applicable meter size and Period; and
- (2) the volumetric charge for the applicable Period, which is the sum of:
 - (a) the volumetric charge in Table 5.2 for Drought Response Days multiplied by the volume of Unfiltered Water (kL) supplied by Water NSW to the Small Customer on Drought Response Days, rounded to the nearest whole kL; and
 - (b) the volumetric charge in Table 5.3 for Non-Drought Response Days multiplied by the volume of Unfiltered Water (kL) supplied by Water NSW to the Small Customer on Non-Drought Response Days, rounded to the nearest whole kL.

Table 5.1 Fixed availability charge for Unfiltered Water for Small Customers (\$)

Meter size	1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
20mm	131.02	144.66 x CPI ₁	159.72 x CPI ₂
25mm	204.72	226.03 x CPI ₁	249.56 x CPI ₂
30mm	294.80	325.49 x CPI ₁	359.37 x CPI ₂
32mm	335.41	370.33 x CPI ₁	408.88 x CPI ₂
40mm	524.08	578.64 x CPI ₁	638.88 x CPI ₂
50mm	818.88	904.13 x CPI ₁	998.25 x CPI ₂
80mm	2,096.32	2,314.56 x CPI ₁	2,555.52 x CPI ₂
100mm	3,275.50	3,616.50 x CPI ₁	3,993.00 x CPI ₂
150mm	7,369.88	8,137.13 x CPI ₁	8,984.25 x CPI ₂
200mm	13,102.00	14,466.00 x CPI ₁	15,972.00 x CPI ₂
>200mm	(Meter size) ² × (20mm fixed availability charge) ÷ 400	(Meter size) ² × (20mm fixed availability charge) ÷ 400	(Meter size) ² × (20mm fixed availability charge) ÷ 400

Table 5.2 Volumetric charge for Unfiltered Water for Small Customers on Drought Response Days

Period	(\$ per kL)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	1.63
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$1.79 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$1.97 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 5.3 Volumetric charge for Unfiltered Water for Small Customers on Non-Drought Response Days

Period	(\$ per kL)
1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026	1.49
1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	$1.65 \times \text{CPI}_1$
1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028	$1.82 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Part 6 Statement of reasons for setting a methodology

17 Legislative framework

- (1) Under section 13A of the IPART Act, IPART may not choose to make a determination that involves setting the methodology for fixing a maximum price, unless IPART is of the opinion that it is impractical to make a determination directly fixing the maximum price.
- (2) If IPART makes a determination that involves setting the methodology for fixing a maximum price, then it must include a statement of reasons as to why it chose to set a methodology.

18 Statement of reasons

IPART has set a methodology for fixing the maximum prices that Water NSW may charge Large Customers for the Determination Services.

The methodology is designed to pass through to Large Customers Water NSW's electricity costs of pumping water from its storages on the Shoalhaven River to other water storages. The amount of water that Water NSW needs to pump from its storages on the Shoalhaven River varies greatly from time to time, largely depending on rainfall. Depending on the extent of the shortage and the urgency of the situation, Water NSW may have to pump water when peak electricity prices apply. Given this uncertainty, it is impractical to make a determination directly fixing the maximum price. Instead, IPART has set a methodology for fixing the maximum price that should result in prices which are closer to the actual efficient costs of Water NSW.

The methodology also provides for higher volumetric charges on Drought Days and lower volumetric charges on Non-Drought Days. This is necessary because Water NSW's forecast sales are lower on Drought Days. It would have been impractical to reflect these differences in forecast sales if IPART directly fixed maximum prices.

Part 7 Definitions and interpretation

19 Interpretation

19.1 General Provisions

In this determination:

- (1) headings are for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this determination,
- (2) a reference to a part, clause, paragraph or table is a reference to a part of, clause of, paragraph in, or table in, this determination unless otherwise indicated,
- (3) a construction that would promote a purpose or object expressly or impliedly underlying the IPART Act is to be preferred to a construction that would not promote that purpose or object,
- (4) a reference to a law or statute includes regulations, ordinances, by-laws, rules, codes and other instruments (including licences) under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of them or of the law or statute itself,
- (5) a reference to a month is to a calendar month,
- (6) a reference to a person includes a reference to the person's executors, administrators, successors, replacements (including, but not limited to, persons taking by novation), agents and assigns,
- (7) a reference to a body, whether statutory or not:
 - (a) which ceases to exist; or
 - (b) whose powers or functions are transferred to another body,
 is a reference to the body which replaces it or which substantially succeeds to its powers or functions, and
- (8) a reference to a business name which is replaced by a different business name is taken to be a reference to the replacement business name.

19.2 Explanatory notes

Explanatory notes and examples do not form part of this determination, but in the case of uncertainty may be relied on for interpretation purposes.

20 Consumer Price Index

- (1) CPI means:
 - (a) the consumer price index All Groups index number for the weighted average of eight capital cities, published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics; or

- (b) if the Australian Bureau of Statistics does not or ceases to publish the index, then CPI will mean an index determined by IPART from time to time.
- (2) The CPI Multipliers are calculated using the following formulas:

$$CPI_1 = \frac{CPI_{March\ 2026}}{CPI_{March\ 2025}}$$

$$CPI_2 = \frac{CPI_{March\ 2027}}{CPI_{March\ 2025}}$$

Where:

- (a) $CPI_{March2025}$ means CPI for the March quarter of 2025;
- (b) $CPI_{March2026}$ means CPI for the March quarter of 2026; and
- (c) $CPI_{March2027}$ means CPI for the March quarter of 2027.

21 Maximum prices exclusive of GST

- (1) Maximum prices specified in this determination do not include GST.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, where GST is lawfully applied to maximum prices under this determination, the resulting GST inclusive price is consistent with this determination.

22 Rounding

- (1) Any maximum price calculated in accordance with this determination is to be rounded to the nearest whole cent.
- (2) For the purposes of rounding a maximum price under clause 23(1), any amount that is a multiple of 0.5 cents (but not a multiple of 1 cent), is to be rounded up to the nearest whole cent.
- (3) The CPI multipliers calculated under clause 20 are to be rounded to three decimal places before adjusting a maximum price for inflation.
- (4) For the purposes of rounding the CPI multipliers under clause 22(3), any amount that is a multiple of 0.0005 (but not a multiple of 0.001) is to be rounded up to three decimal places.

23 Apportionment of water supplied within a Billing Period

Where Water NSW supplies water to a customer, and data showing the volume of water supplied to that customer is not available on a daily basis, for the purposes of this determination, the volume of water supplied to that customer on each day in a Billing Period is deemed to be equal to the total volume of water supplied to that customer during that Billing Period, divided by the number of days in the Billing Period.

Example: A Billing Period has 30 days. During the Billing Period, Water NSW supplies 300kL of water to a customer and data showing the volume of water supplied to that customer is not available on a daily basis. Under clause 2.5, Water NSW is deemed to have supplied the customer with 10kL of water on each day of the Billing Period.

24 Definitions

In this determination:

2020 Determination means IPART's determination titled 'Water NSW – Maximum prices for Water NSW's Greater Sydney Services from 1 July 2020' published in New South Wales, *Government Gazette*, No. 127 of 19 June 2020, p 2791.

Available Storage means the total available storage in Greater Sydney's water supply reservoirs as published through a Daily Verified Storage Figure.

Billing Period means the period of time covered by a bill Water NSW sends to a customer.

Bulk Raw Water means water that has not been treated in any way.

Business Day means a weekday that is not a public holiday in Sydney, New South Wales.

Cease Day means a day that is exactly 31 days after a day on which the following two criteria are satisfied:

- (a) it occurs after the First Drought Level Day; and
- (b) a Daily Verified Storage Figure is published showing Available Storage is equal to or greater than 70% for the first time since Available Storage last fell below 60%.

Commencement Date has the meaning given to that term in clause 3.

Daily Verified Storage Figure means:

- (a) a verified figure showing the level of total available storage in Greater Sydney's water supply reservoirs and published daily on the Water NSW website; or
- (b) if for any reason the verified figure described in paragraph (a) is not published, a figure showing the level of total available storage in Greater Sydney's water supply reservoirs notified or published by Water NSW or another authority nominated by the Minister responsible for Part 2 of the WIC Act.

Determination Services means the government monopoly services for which this determination fixes maximum prices, or sets methodologies for fixing maximum prices, as set out in clause 1.

Drought Response Day means a day that falls within a period which commences on and includes a Trigger Day and ends on and includes the day before the next Cease Day.

First Drought Level Day means the first day on or after the Commencement Date on which a Daily Verified Storage Figure is published showing Available Storage is below 60%.

Goulburn Mulwaree Council means any council constituted from time to time under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) in respect of an area which covers all, or a substantial part, of the area of the Goulburn Mulwaree Council as constituted at the Commencement Date.

GST has the meaning given to that term in *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999* (Cth).

IPART means the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of New South Wales established under the IPART Act.

IPART Act means the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992* (NSW).

kL means kilolitre or one thousand litres.

Large Customer means:

- (a) Sydney Water Corporation; or
- (b) any one of the following persons to whom Water NSW provides Determination Services:
 - (i) the holder of a WIC Act Licence;
 - (ii) a water supply authority within the meaning of the *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW);
 - (iii) a council or county council constituted under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) that exercises water or sewerage functions;
 - (iv) a person who, pursuant to:
 - (A) a coverage declaration which has been determined under section 26 of the WIC Act and is in force;
 - (B) an access undertaking which has been approved by IPART under section 38 of the WIC Act and is in force;
 - (C) an access agreement (as referred to in section 39 of the WIC Act); or
 - (D) an access determination (as referred to in section 40 of the WIC Act),
 has access to some of Sydney Water Corporation's infrastructure services (as defined in the WIC Act), to the extent that the relevant infrastructure services relate to the Determination Services; or
 - (v) a person not referred to in paragraphs (i) – (iv) above who:
 - (A) is able to purchase water from Sydney Water Corporation but instead purchases it directly from Water NSW (regardless of whether Water NSW supplies the water to the person by means of Sydney Water Corporation's systems); and
 - (B) in purchasing that water directly from Water NSW, reduces the amount of such water that Sydney Water Corporation would otherwise need to obtain from Water NSW to supply the person,

but excludes Wingecarribee Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council and Goulburn Mulwaree Council.

ML means megalitre or one million litres.

Non-Drought Response Day means a day that falls within a period which commences on and includes the Commencement Date or a Cease Day, as the case may be, and ends on and includes the day before the next Trigger Day.

Non-Sydney Catchment Functions has the same meaning as under clause 12(4) of schedule 2 to the *Water NSW Act 2014* (NSW).

Operational Approval has the meaning given in the WIC Act.

Order means the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (Water Supply Services) Order 2000* published in New South Wales, *Government Gazette*, No. 22 of 11 February 2000, p 816.

Period means (as the case may be):

- (a) 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026;

(b) 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027; or

(c) 1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028.

Quarter means each three month period beginning on 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October of each year.

Shoalhaven City Council means any council constituted from time to time under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) in respect of an area which covers all, or a substantial part, of the area of the Shoalhaven City Council as constituted at the Commencement Date.

Small Customer means a person to whom Water NSW supplies Bulk Raw Water and/or Unfiltered Water in connection with Water NSW's operations in the Sydney Catchment Area, other than:

(a) a Large Customer;

(b) Goulburn Mulwaree Council;

(c) Shoalhaven City Council; or

(d) Wingecarribee Shire Council.

Subsequent Drought Level Day means a day:

(a) which occurs after the First Drought Level Day; and

(b) on which a Daily Verified Storage Figure is published showing Available Storage is below 60% for the first time since Available Storage was last equal to or greater than 70%.

Sydney Catchment Area has the same meaning as under section 3 of the *Water NSW Act 2014* (NSW).

Sydney Water Corporation means the Sydney Water Corporation constituted as a corporation under the *Sydney Water Act 1994* (NSW).

Trigger Day means:

(a) the day that is exactly 31 days after the First Drought Level Day; or

(b) a day that is exactly 31 days after a Subsequent Drought Level Day.

Unfiltered Water means water that has been treated for quality, whether or not by chemical treatment, but not treated at a water filtration plant.

Water NSW means the corporation constituted under the *Water NSW Act 2014* (NSW).

WIC Act means the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* (NSW).

WIC Act Licence means:

(a) a licence under the WIC Act; and

(b) any similar instrument granted under the WIC Act.

Wingecarribee Shire Council means any council constituted from time to time under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) in respect of an area which covers all, or a substantial part, of the area of the Wingecarribee Shire Council as constituted at the Commencement Date.