



Water Administration Ministerial
Corporation

Maximum prices for water management
services from 1 October 2025

Draft Determination

May 2025

Water >>

Acknowledgment of Country

IPART acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live. We pay respect to Elders both past and present.

We recognise the unique cultural and spiritual relationship and celebrate the contributions of First Nations Peoples.

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

- (1) This determination fixes maximum prices for the following services provided by the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (**WAMC**):
 - (a) the making available of water;
 - (b) the making available of WAMC's water supply facilities; or
 - (c) the supplying of water, whether by means of WAMC's water supply facilities or otherwise,(together, the **Monopoly Services**).
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, this determination fixes the maximum prices that WAMC may levy for the Monopoly Services. It does not specify on whom the maximum price may be levied.

2 Services excluded from this determination

For the avoidance of doubt, this determination does not apply to any miscellaneous or ancillary Monopoly Services for which there is no maximum price specified in this determination.

Note: The effect of clause 2 is if there is no determined maximum price for such Monopoly Services, WAMC and its customers are at liberty to negotiate a price until and unless IPART determines a maximum price.

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 set out in this determination apply from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2028.
- (3) The maximum prices prevailing at 30 June 2028 continue to apply beyond 30 June 2028 until this determination is revoked or replaced.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt clause 22(3) provides for the circumstances in which clause 17 of the 2025 Bulk Water Determination ceases to apply in relation to a Government-Owned Meter and clauses 24 and 25 of Part 6 of this determination apply.

4 Replacement of the 2021 Determination

- (1) With effect from the Commencement Date, this determination replaces the 2021 Determination.
- (2) The 2021 Determination ceases to have effect upon its replacement.
- (3) Replacement of the 2021 Determination does not affect anything done or omitted to be done, or rights or obligations accrued, under the 2021 Determination prior to its replacement.

5 Revocation of part of the 2025 Bulk Water Services Determination

- (1) With effect from the Commencement Date, clause 16(2), clause 17(2) and Part 5 of the 2025 Bulk Water Services Determination are revoked.
- (2) The revocation on the Commencement Date of clause 16(2), clause 17(2) and Part 5 of the 2025 Bulk Water Services Determination does not affect anything done or omitted to be done, or rights or obligations accrued, under those clauses or that Part prior to their revocation.

Note: See also clause 22(3) of Part 6, which provides for the circumstances in which clause 17 of the 2025 Bulk Water Determination ceases to apply in relation to a Government-Owned Meter.

6 Nil price for Aboriginal Cultural Licences

Despite anything in this determination, the maximum price for Monopoly Services provided by WAMC in respect of an Aboriginal Cultural Licence is nil.

7 Overview

Table 1.1 below lists the parts of this determination that set out the maximum prices for supplying the Monopoly Services.

Table 1.1 Overview

Part	Monopoly Services / fees and charges to which the Part applies
Part 2	The Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from Regulated Rivers.
Part 3	The Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from Unregulated Rivers.
Part 4	The Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of Groundwater.
Part 5	The service fees and charges for miscellaneous services that form part of the Monopoly Services relating to Regulated Rivers, Unregulated Rivers or Groundwater (as applicable).
Part 6	The New Metering Charges for metering services that form part of the Monopoly Services relating to any Water Licence or Water Supply Work Approval.
Part 7	MDBA and BRC components of prices set under Part 2 - Part 4.

8 Legislative background

- (1) This determination is made under section 11(1)(a) of the IPART Act. That provision requires IPART to conduct investigations and make reports on the determination of pricing for government monopoly services supplied by a government agency specified in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act.
- (2) WAMC is a government agency specified in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act.
- (3) The services for which this determination fixes prices are government monopoly services because the Minister declared them to be, by the Order.
- (4) In determining the pricing of the Monopoly Services, IPART has had regard to a broad range of matters, including the matters in sections 15(1) and 16 of the IPART Act.

Part 2 Regulated Rivers

9 Application

- (1) This Part sets the maximum prices that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from a Regulated River.
- (2) Certain charges set out in Part 5 and Part 6 also apply to Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from a Regulated River.

Note: See clause 30.9 of Part 8 for a description of the river valleys referred to in this Part.

10 Maximum prices

- (1) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence referred to in clause 9(1) (other than a Water Licence specified in clause 10(2) or clause 10(3)) is the sum of:
 - (a) the higher of:
 - (i) the minimum annual charge set out in Table 2.1 for the relevant year; and
 - (ii) the sum of:
 - (A) the entitlement charge calculated in accordance with clause 11; and
 - (B) the water take charge calculated in accordance with clause 12;
 - (b) for an MDBA Customer, the applicable MDBA entitlement charge and MDBA water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
 - (c) for a BRC Customer, the applicable BRC entitlement charge and BRC water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year.
- (2) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Supplementary Water Access Licence or a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence that authorises the taking of water from a Regulated River is the sum of:
 - (a) the higher of:
 - (i) the minimum annual charge set out in Table 2.1 for the relevant year; and
 - (ii) the water take charge calculated in accordance with clause 12;
 - (b) for a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence Customer, the additional water take charge set out in Table 2.4 for the relevant river valley and the relevant year multiplied by the Licence Holder's water take for that year;
 - (c) for an MDBA Customer, the applicable MDBA water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
 - (d) for a BRC Customer, the applicable BRC water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year.

- (3) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Major Utility (Barnard) Access Licence that authorises the taking of water from a Regulated River is the minimum annual charge set out in Table 2.1 for the relevant year.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, the licences referred to in clauses 10(2) and 10(3) of this Part are not subject to the maximum price in clause 10(1) of this Part.

11 Entitlement charge

The entitlement charge is calculated as follows:

Box 2.1 Entitlement charge

$$EC \times E$$

where:

EC is the entitlement charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or in dollars per unit share) in Table 2.2 for the relevant river valley and the relevant year; and

E is the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year.

12 Water take charge

(1) The water take charge is calculated as follows:

Box 2.2 Water take charge

$$WTC \times WT$$

where:

WTC is the water take charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of water taken) in Table 2.3 for the relevant year and:

- a. **in the case of a Tagged Water Entitlement:** the relevant river valley as set out in the Licence Register; and
- b. **in any other case:** the relevant river valley from which the water is taken; and

WT is

- a. **in the case of a Low Risk Water User:** the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year, and
- b. **in any other case:** the Licence Holder's water take for that year.

(2) Other than as provided for by clause 10(2)(b), WAMC must not recover more than one water take charge in respect of any water taken.

Tables 2.1-2.4

Table 2.1 Minimum annual charge for Regulated Rivers ^a (\$)

Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
298.32	301.01 x CPI ₁	308.53 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year.

Table 2.2 Entitlement charges for Regulated Rivers in respect of the relevant river valley ^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Border	2.45	2.51 x CPI ₁	2.64 x CPI ₂
Gwydir	1.67	1.71 x CPI ₁	1.79 x CPI ₂
Namoi	2.49	2.55 x CPI ₁	2.67 x CPI ₂
Peel	4.06	4.16 x CPI ₁	4.37 x CPI ₂
Lachlan	1.54	1.58 x CPI ₁	1.66 x CPI ₂

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Macquarie	1.88	1.92 x CPI ₁	2.02 x CPI ₂
Murray	1.55	1.59 x CPI ₁	1.67 x CPI ₂
Murrumbidgee	1.33	1.36 x CPI ₁	1.43 x CPI ₂
North Coast	6.41	6.56 x CPI ₁	6.89 x CPI ₂
Hunter	4.52	4.63 x CPI ₁	4.86 x CPI ₂
South Coast	5.00	5.12 x CPI ₁	5.37 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 2.3 Water take charges for Regulated Rivers in respect of the relevant river valley (\$/ML)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Border	1.54	1.58 x CPI ₁	1.66 x CPI ₂
Gwydir	1.22	1.25 x CPI ₁	1.31 x CPI ₂
Namoi	1.51	1.55 x CPI ₁	1.62 x CPI ₂
Peel	6.34	6.49 x CPI ₁	6.81 x CPI ₂
Lachlan	2.45	2.51 x CPI ₁	2.64 x CPI ₂
Macquarie	1.95	2.00 x CPI ₁	2.10 x CPI ₂
Murray	1.12	1.15 x CPI ₁	1.21 x CPI ₂
Murrumbidgee	0.99	1.01 x CPI ₁	1.06 x CPI ₂
North Coast	8.15	8.34 x CPI ₁	8.76 x CPI ₂
Hunter	3.08	3.15 x CPI ₁	3.31 x CPI ₂
South Coast	7.51	7.68 x CPI ₁	8.07 x CPI ₂

Table 2.4 Additional water take charge for Regulated Rivers for a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence Customer (\$/ML)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Border	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂
Gwydir	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂
Namoi	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂
Macquarie	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂

Part 3 Unregulated Rivers

13 Application

- (1) This Part sets the maximum prices that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from an Unregulated River.
- (2) Certain charges set out in Part 5 and Part 6 also apply to Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from an Unregulated River.

Note: See clause 30.9 of Part 8 for a description of the river valleys referred to in this Part.

14 Maximum prices

- (1) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence referred to in clause 13(1) (other than a licence specified in clause 14(2) or clause 14(3)) is the sum of:
 - (a) the higher of:
 - (i) the minimum annual charge set out in Table 3.1 for the relevant year; and
 - (ii) **where the Licence Holder has a Meter**: the sum of the following:
 - (A) the entitlement charge calculated in accordance with clause 15; and
 - (B) the water take charge calculated in accordance with clause 16;
 - (iii) **where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter and does have a mechanism for extracting water**: the entitlement charge calculated in accordance with clause 15; and
 - (iv) **where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter and does not have a mechanism for extracting water**: the entitlement charge calculated in accordance with clause 15, as though the Licence Holder had a Meter; and
 - (b) for an MDBA Customer, the applicable MDBA entitlement charge and MDBA water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
 - (c) for a BRC Customer, the applicable BRC entitlement charge and BRC water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year.

- (2) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Supplementary Water Access Licence, supplementary Aboriginal environmental water access licence (Unregulated River), Unregulated River (Special Additional High Flow) Access Licence or a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence that authorises the taking of water from an Unregulated River is the sum of:
- (a) the higher of:
 - (i) the minimum annual charge set out in Table 3.1 for the relevant year; and
 - (ii) the water take charge calculated in accordance with clause 16;
 - (b) for a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence Customer, the additional water take charge set out in Table 3.7 for the relevant river valley and the relevant year multiplied by the Licence Holder's water take for that year;
 - (c) for an MDBA Customer, the applicable MDBA water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
 - (d) for a BRC Customer, the applicable BRC water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year.
- (3) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of an Unregulated River (Regulated Supply) Access Licence, Unregulated River (Regulated Supply – Local Water Utility) Access Licence or a Major Utility (Grahamstown) Access Licence that authorises the taking of water from an Unregulated River is the minimum annual charge set out in Table 3.1 for the relevant year.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, the licences referred to in clauses 14(2) and 14(3) of this Part are not subject to the maximum price in clause 14(1) of this Part.

15 Entitlement charge

- (1) Subject to clauses 15(2) and 15(3), the entitlement charge is calculated as follows:

Box 3.1 Entitlement charge

$$EC \times E$$

where:

EC is the entitlement charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or in dollars per unit share) for the relevant river valley and the relevant year;

- a. **if the Licence Holder has a Meter**: set out in Table 3.2; and
- b. **if the Licence Holder does not have a Meter**: set out in Table 3.3, and

E is the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year.

- (2) Where the Licence Holder is Water NSW, the entitlement charge is calculated in accordance with clause 15(1), except that EC is the sum of:
 - (a) the relevant entitlement charge specified in Box 3.1 for the relevant river valley and relevant year; and
 - (b) the additional entitlement charge for the relevant river valley and relevant year set out in Table 3.4.
- (3) Where the Licence Holder is Hunter Water, the entitlement charge is calculated in accordance with clause 15(1), except that EC is the sum of:
 - (a) the relevant entitlement charge specified in Box 3.1 for the relevant river valley and relevant year; and
 - (b) the additional entitlement charge for the relevant river valley and relevant year set out in Table 3.5.

16 Water take charge

- (1) The water take charge is calculated as follows:

Box 3.2 Water take charge

$$WTC \times WT$$

where:

WTC is the water take charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of water taken) in Table 3.6 for the relevant year and:

- a. **in the case of a Tagged Water Entitlement:** the relevant river valley as set out in the Licence Register; and
- b. **in any other case:** the relevant river valley from which the water is taken; and

WT is:

- a. **in the case of a Low Risk Water User:** the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year; and
- b. **in any other case:** the Licence Holder's water take for that year.

- (2) Other than as provided by clause 14(2)(b), WAMC must not recover more than one water take charge in respect of any water taken.

Tables 3.1-3.7

Table 3.1 Minimum annual charge for Unregulated Rivers ^a (\$)

Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
298.32	$301.01 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$308.53 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 or any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 3.2 Entitlement charges for Unregulated Rivers where the Licence Holder has a Meter ^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Border	1.98	$2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Gwydir	1.98	$2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Namoi	1.98	$2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Peel	1.98	$2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Lachlan	2.69	$2.75 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.89 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Macquarie	2.69	$2.75 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.89 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Far West	3.90	$3.99 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$4.19 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murray	2.25	$2.31 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.42 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	3.94	$4.04 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$4.24 \times \text{CPI}_2$
North Coast	6.12	$6.26 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$6.58 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Hunter	1.75	$1.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$1.89 \times \text{CPI}_2$
South Coast	2.04	$2.09 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.20 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 3.3 Entitlement charges for Unregulated Rivers where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter ^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Border	4.71	$(2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Gwydir	4.71	$(2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Namoi	4.71	$(2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Peel	4.71	$(2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.12 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Lachlan	7.70	$(2.75 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (5.13 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.89 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (5.38 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Macquarie	7.70	$(2.75 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (5.13 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.89 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (5.38 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Far West	6.32	$(3.99 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (2.48 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(4.19 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (2.60 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Murray	9.51	$(2.31 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (7.43 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.42 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (7.81 \times \text{CPI}_2)$

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Murrumbidgee	12.80	$(4.04 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (9.07 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(4.24 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (9.52 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
North Coast	13.74	$(6.26 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (7.80 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(6.58 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (8.19 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Hunter	4.94	$(1.80 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (3.26 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(1.89 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (3.43 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
South Coast	3.56	$(2.09 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (1.56 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(2.20 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (1.64 \times \text{CPI}_2)$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 3.4 Additional entitlement charge for Unregulated Rivers where the Licence Holder is Water NSW^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
South Coast	0.70	$0.70 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.70 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Note: The charge is payable in addition to standard entitlement charges for South Coast Unregulated Rivers.

Table 3.5 Additional entitlement charge for Unregulated Rivers where the Licence Holder is Hunter Water^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Hunter	1.01	$1.01 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$1.01 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Note: The charge is payable in addition to standard entitlement charges for Hunter Unregulated Rivers.

Table 3.6 Water take charges for Unregulated Rivers (\$/ML)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Border	2.73	$2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Gwydir	2.73	$2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Namoi	2.73	$2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Peel	2.73	$2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.94 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Lachlan	5.01	$5.13 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$5.38 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Macquarie	5.01	$5.13 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$5.38 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Far West	2.42	$2.48 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$2.60 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murray	7.26	$7.43 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$7.81 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	8.86	$9.07 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$9.52 \times \text{CPI}_2$
North Coast	7.62	$7.80 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$8.19 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Hunter	3.19	$3.26 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$3.43 \times \text{CPI}_2$
South Coast	1.52	$1.56 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$1.64 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 3.7 Additional water take charge for Unregulated Rivers for a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence Customer (\$/ML)

River valley	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Gwydir	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂
Namoi	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂
Far West	3.49	3.66 x CPI ₁	3.84 x CPI ₂

Part 4 Groundwater

17 Application

- (1) This Part sets the maximum prices that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of Groundwater.
- (2) Certain charges set out in Part 5 and Part 6 also apply to Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of Groundwater.

Note: See clause 30.9 of Part 8 for a description of the water sources referred to in this Part.

18 Maximum prices

- (1) The maximum annual price that may be charged for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Water Licence referred to in clause 17(1) (other than a licence specified in clause 18(2)) is calculated as follows:

Box 4.1 Maximum Groundwater prices

The sum of:

- a. the higher of:
 - i the minimum annual charge set out in Table 4.1 for the relevant year; and
 - ii **where the Licence Holder has a Meter**: the sum of the following:
 - (A) an entitlement charge calculated as follows:

$$EC \times E$$

where:

- (i) **EC** is an entitlement charge expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or in dollars per unit share in Table 4.2 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
- (ii) **E** is the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year; and
- (B) a water take charge expressed in dollars per megalitre of water taken in Table 4.4 for the relevant year and relevant water source, multiplied by:
 - (i) **in the case of a Low Risk Water User**: the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year; or
 - (ii) **in any other case**: the Licence Holder's water take for that year; and

Box 4.1 Maximum Groundwater prices

iii **where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter and does have a mechanism for extracting water:**

an entitlement charge calculated as follows:

$$EC \times E$$

where:

- (i) **EC** is an entitlement charge expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or in dollars per unit share in Table 4.3 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
- (ii) **E** is a Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year; and

iv **where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter and does not have a mechanism for extracting water:**

an entitlement charge calculated as follows:

$$EC \times E$$

where:

- (i) **EC** is an entitlement charge expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or in dollars per unit share in Table 4.2 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
 - (ii) **E** is the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year; and
- b. for an MDBA Customer, the applicable MDBA entitlement charge and MDBA water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
 - c. for a BRC Customer, the applicable BRC entitlement charge and BRC water take charge under Part 7 for the relevant water source and relevant year.

- (2) The maximum annual price that WAMC may levy for the Monopoly Services provided under a Salinity and Water Table Management Access Licence that authorises the taking of Groundwater is the annual charge set out in Table 4.1 for the relevant year.
- (3) WAMC must not recover more than one water take charge in respect of any water taken.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, the licence referred to in clause 18(2) of this Part is not subject to the maximum price in clause 18(1) of this Part.

Tables 4.1-4.4

Table 4.1 Minimum annual charge for Groundwater ^a (\$)

Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
298.32	301.01 x CPI ₁	308.53 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 4.2 Entitlement charges for Groundwater where the Licence Holder has a Meter (or does not have a Meter and does not have a mechanism for extracting water) ^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Inland	4.83	4.94 x CPI ₁	5.19 x CPI ₂
Murrumbidgee	4.16	4.26 x CPI ₁	4.48 x CPI ₂
Coastal	2.51	2.57 x CPI ₁	2.70 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 4.3 Entitlement charges for Groundwater where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter and does have a mechanism for extracting water ^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Inland	7.73	(4.94 x CPI ₁) + (2.97 x CPI ₁)	(5.19 x CPI ₂) + (3.12 x CPI ₂)
Murrumbidgee	6.66	(4.26 x CPI ₁) + (2.56 x CPI ₁)	(4.48 x CPI ₂) + (2.69 x CPI ₂)
Coastal	7.30	(2.57 x CPI ₁) + (4.90 x CPI ₁)	(2.70 x CPI ₂) + (5.14 x CPI ₂)

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 4.4 Water take charges for Groundwater where the Licence Holder has a Meter (\$/ML)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Inland	2.90	2.97 x CPI ₁	3.12 x CPI ₂
Murrumbidgee	2.50	2.56 x CPI ₁	2.69 x CPI ₂
Coastal	4.79	4.90 x CPI ₁	5.14 x CPI ₂

Part 5 Service fees and charges

19 Application

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), this Part sets the maximum service fees and charges that may be charged with respect to:
 - (a) the administration of applications, renewals, permanent transfers and temporary transfers of WMA Licences administered by or on behalf of WAMC under the Water Management Act; and
 - (b) the services provided by or on behalf of WAMC in relation to Government-Owned Meters (including WAMC Meters), User Meters and Approved Meter Equivalents in respect of Unregulated Rivers and Groundwater.
- (2) For a Government-Owned Meter to which Part 6 applies, on and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for that Meter, the:
 - (a) Meter service charge in clause 21(1)(a) of this Part will cease to apply; and
 - (b) charges in clauses 24 and 25 of Part 6 will instead apply.
- (3) For a Privately-Owned Meter to which Part 6 applies, on and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day for that Meter, the:
 - (a) reading/assessment charge in clause 21(3) of this Part will cease to apply; and
 - (b) charges in clause 25 of Part 6 will instead apply.

20 Maximum charges for Consent Transactions

The maximum service fees and charges that may be charged for the Consent Transactions are set out in Table 5.1 for the relevant transaction type and relevant year.

21 Maximum Meter service and other charges

- (1) The maximum Meter service and reading charge that may be charged on the holder of a Water Supply Work Approval with an installed WAMC Meter or the holder of a WA Licence with an installed WAMC Meter is the sum of:
 - (a) subject to clause 19(2) in respect of relevant Government-Owned Meters, the relevant Meter service charge, being a charge expressed in dollars per WAMC Meter per annum set out in:
 - (i) Table 5.2 for telemetered or agency-read sites; or
 - (ii) Table 5.3 for non-telemetered sites with customer reading and reporting,
 for the relevant year and Meter size, to be charged from the Commencement Date or beginning of the financial year after installation, as the case may be; and

- (b) any relevant deposit in respect of an assessment of a WAMC Meter set out in Table 5.5 for the relevant year (as applicable); and
- (c) any relevant charge for validation of a relocated WAMC Meter set out in Table 5.5 for the relevant year (as applicable); and
- (d) any relevant charge for resetting a WAMC Meter after suspension of maintenance for a year or more (with the suspension having been requested by the customer) set out in Table 5.5 for the relevant year (as applicable).

Note: On and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for a Government-Owned Meter, the charge in clause 21(1)(a) of this Part ceases to apply and the charges in clauses 24 and 25 of Part 6 will instead apply. The two sets of charges cannot apply simultaneously to a Government-Owned Meter.

- (2) A deposit for assessment of a disputed WAMC Meter will be refunded by WAMC if the assessment shows that WAMC Meter is not within the standard set by WAMC.
- (3) Subject to clause 19(3) in respect of relevant Privately-Owned Meters, the maximum water take reading/assessment charge that may be charged on the holder of:
 - (a) a Water Supply Work Approval; or
 - (b) a WA Licence;

with an installed User Meter or Approved Meter Equivalent, is the relevant Meter reading charge set out in Table 5.4 for the relevant year (being a charge expressed in dollars per User Meter or Approved Meter Equivalent per annum) for each User Meter or Approved Meter Equivalent.

Note: On and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day for a Privately-Owned Meter, the charge in clause 21(3) of this Part ceases to apply and the charge in clause 25 of Part 6 will instead apply. The two sets of charges cannot apply simultaneously to a Privately-Owned Meter.

Tables 5.1-5.5

Table 5.1 Consent Transaction charges (\$)

Type of transaction	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Type A Consent Transactions			
New water access licences applications			
Zero share	1,391.81	1,391.81 x CPI ₁	1,391.81 x CPI ₂
Controlled allocation	1,816.45	1,816.45 x CPI ₁	1,816.45 x CPI ₂
Specific purpose access licence – Groundwater assessment may be required	3,115.66	3,115.66 x CPI ₁	3,115.66 x CPI ₂
Works and supply approvals			
Application to inactivate a Water Supply Work Approval and/or water use approval	1,013.37	1,013.37 x CPI ₁	1,013.37 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Supply Work Approval to take Groundwater under a domestic and stock right	1,245.84	1,245.84 x CPI ₁	1,245.84 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Supply Work Approval – town water supply – Groundwater assessment charge not included	5,502.09	5,502.09 x CPI ₁	5,502.09 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Supply Work Approval – Groundwater	2,345.72	2,345.72 x CPI ₁	2,345.72 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Supply Work Approval – pump	2,903.05	2,903.05 x CPI ₁	2,903.05 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Supply Work Approval - dam or storage	2,872.58	2,872.58 x CPI ₁	2,872.58 x CPI ₂
Application to extend a Water Supply Work Approval and/or water use approval – lodged before expiry date	425.58	425.58 x CPI ₁	425.58 x CPI ₂
Application to extend a Water Supply Work Approval and/or water use approval – lodged after expiry date	786.53	786.53 x CPI ₁	786.53 x CPI ₂
Application to amend a Water Supply Work Approval – Irrigation Corporation	1,207.13	1,207.13 x CPI ₁	1,207.13 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Act Approval – monitoring bore - administrative	155.68	155.68 x CPI ₁	155.68 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Act approval – injection bore – administrative	155.68	155.68 x CPI ₁	155.68 x CPI ₂
Application to surrender a new Water Supply Work Approval and/or water use approval	954.12	954.12 x CPI ₁	954.12 x CPI ₂
Application for a new Water Supply Work Approval	1,326.00	1,326.00 x CPI ₁	1,326.00 x CPI ₂
Assessment of a State Significant Development	1,756.95	1,756.95 x CPI ₁	1,756.95 x CPI ₂

Type of transaction	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Type B Consent Transactions			
Water access licences			
Application for a new water access licence – zero share	860.44	860.44 x CPI ₁	860.44 x CPI ₂
Application for a new controlled allocation	837.12	837.12 x CPI ₁	837.12 x CPI ₂
New application for specific purpose access licence – no Groundwater assessment required	872.05	872.05 x CPI ₁	872.05 x CPI ₂
Surrender (non-complex)	384.61	384.61 x CPI ₁	384.61 x CPI ₂
Surrender (complex and zero share)	525.91	525.91 x CPI ₁	525.91 x CPI ₂
Water access licence dealings			
Regulated Rivers	910.66	910.66 x CPI ₁	910.66 x CPI ₂
Unregulated Rivers	2,909.64	2,909.64 x CPI ₁	2,909.64 x CPI ₂
Groundwater (excludes Groundwater referral fee)	2,909.64	2,909.64 x CPI ₁	2,909.64 x CPI ₂
Low risk	1,318.47	1,318.47 x CPI ₁	1,318.47 x CPI ₂
Administrative	582.40	582.40 x CPI ₁	582.40 x CPI ₂
Water allocation assignments			
Water allocation assignment (temporary trade) – Regulated Rivers	59.96	59.96 x CPI ₁	59.96 x CPI ₂
Water allocation assignment (temporary trade) – Unregulated Rivers and Groundwater	60.72	60.72 x CPI ₁	60.72 x CPI ₂
Approvals			
Application to inactivate/activate a work/works on a Water Supply Work Approval	108.26	108.26 x CPI ₁	108.26 x CPI ₂
Application for a basic landholder rights bore (Water Supply Work Approval to take Groundwater under a domestic and stock right)	1,072.92	1,072.92 x CPI ₁	1,072.92 x CPI ₂
Application for a Water Supply Work Approval or use approval (excludes Groundwater referral fee)	5,403.43	5,403.43 x CPI ₁	5,403.43 x CPI ₂
Application for a combined approval (excludes Groundwater referral fee)	6,611.99	6,611.99 x CPI ₁	6,611.99 x CPI ₂
Application for a Water Supply Work Approval or use approval (low risk)	2,927.74	2,927.74 x CPI ₁	2,927.74 x CPI ₂
Application for a combined approval (low risk)	3,588.12	3,588.12 x CPI ₁	3,588.12 x CPI ₂

Type of transaction	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Application to amend approval (Water Supply Work Approval, combined or use) - administrative	644.32	644.32 x CPI ₁	644.32 x CPI ₂
Application for a Water Supply Works Approval for firefighting purposes (excludes Groundwater referral fee)	1,109.84	1,109.84 x CPI ₁	1,109.84 x CPI ₂
Application to extend a Water Supply Work Approval and/or use approval – lodged before expiry date	632.14	632.14 x CPI ₁	632.14 x CPI ₂
Application to extend a Water Supply Work Approval and/or use approval – lodged after expiry date (<60 days)	632.14	632.14 x CPI ₁	632.14 x CPI ₂
Application to extend a Water Supply Work Approval and/or use approval – lodged after expiry date (>=60 days)	1,145.41	1,145.41 x CPI ₁	1,145.41 x CPI ₂
Surrender of a Water Supply Work Approval or use approval (non-complex)	124.01	124.01 x CPI ₁	124.01 x CPI ₂
Surrender a of a Water Supply Work Approval or use approval (complex) or combined approval	275.31	275.31 x CPI ₁	275.31 x CPI ₂
Specialised assessment fee for Water Supply Work Approval, flood work or use approval (i.e. noise assessment, water quality)	1,570.30	1,570.30 x CPI ₁	1,570.30 x CPI ₂
Change application for Water Supply Work Approval, use, flood work or combined (after assessment commenced)	1,031.41	1,031.41 x CPI ₁	1,031.41 x CPI ₂
Groundwater assessment charges			
New or amended works and/or use approvals	3,516.46	3,516.46 x CPI ₁	3,516.46 x CPI ₂
Bore extraction limit reviews	3,516.46	3,516.46 x CPI ₁	3,516.46 x CPI ₂
Water access licence dealings – Unregulated Rivers and Groundwater	3,516.46	3,516.46 x CPI ₁	3,516.46 x CPI ₂
New basic landholder rights bore	339.41	339.41 x CPI ₁	339.41 x CPI ₂
Temporary trade	364.50	364.50 x CPI ₁	364.50 x CPI ₂

Table 5.2 Annual Meter service charges – Telemetered or agency read sites ^a (\$/WAMC Meter)

Meter size (mm)	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
50-300	624.55	624.55 x CPI ₁	624.55 x CPI ₂
350-700	648.95	648.95 x CPI ₁	648.95 x CPI ₂
750-1000	705.48	705.48 x CPI ₁	705.48 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 5.3 Annual Meter service charges – Non-telemetered sites with customer reading and reporting ^a (\$/WAMC Meter)

Meter size (mm)	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
50-300	489.95	489.95 x CPI ₁	489.95 x CPI ₂
350-700	509.10	509.10 x CPI ₁	509.10 x CPI ₂
750-1000	553.45	553.45 x CPI ₁	553.45 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 5.4 Annual water take reading/assessment charge ^a (\$/User Meter or Approved Meter Equivalent)

Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
251.46	251.46 x CPI ₁	251.46 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 5.5 Ancillary service charges (\$)

Ancillary service	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Refundable Meter accuracy deposit	2,125.08	2,125.08 x CPI ₁	2,125.08 x CPI ₂
Meter laboratory verification at request of customer (refundable deposit if Meter is tested to be outside the accuracy standard)	8,406.64	8,406.64 x CPI ₁	8,406.64 x CPI ₂
Meter in-situ validation charge – where a Meter is relocated or disturbed	5,617.95	5,617.95 x CPI ₁	5,617.95 x CPI ₂
Meter reset fee after suspension of maintenance for a year or more, at customer request	311.47	311.47 x CPI ₁	311.47 x CPI ₂

Part 6 New Metering Charges

22 Application

- (1) This Part sets out the maximum annual price that WAMC may levy on a:
 - (a) Licence Holder; and
 - (b) holder of a Water Supply Work Approval,
 for supplying various metering services.
- (2) For a Government-Owned Meter that measures water taken from an Unregulated River or Groundwater water source, on and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for that Meter, the charges set out in clause 21(1)(a) of Part 5 will cease to apply to that Meter and the charges in clauses 24 and 25 of this Part will instead apply.
- (3) For a Government-Owned Meter that measures water taken from a Regulated River water source, on and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for that Meter, the charges set out in clause 17 of the 2025 Bulk Water Determination will cease to apply to that Meter and the charges in clauses 24 and 25 of this Part will instead apply.
- (4) For a Privately-Owned Meter that is subject to the Metering Requirements and measures water taken from an Unregulated River or Groundwater water source, on and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day for that Meter, the charge set out in clause 21(3) of Part 5 will cease to apply to that Meter and the charge in clause 25 of this Part will instead apply.
- (5) For a Privately-Owned Meter that measures water taken from a Regulated River water source, on and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day for that Meter, the charge in clause 25 of this Part will apply.

23 Scheme management charge

WAMC may levy on a person referred to in clause 22(1) of this Part the annual scheme management charge set out in Table 6.1 for the relevant year.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, the scheme management charge set out in clause 23 of this Part applies regardless of whether a relevant person has a Meter or not, and applies from the Commencement Date. Where a person referred to in clause 22(1) of this Part holds more than one Water Licence and/or is the holder of more than one Water Supply Work Approval, then the scheme management charge may be charged in respect of each such Water Licence or Water Supply Work Approval.

24 Government-Owned Meter service charge

On and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for the relevant Government-Owned Meter, WAMC may levy on a person referred to in clause 22(1) with:

- (1) an installed Government-Owned Meter that is not a channel Meter: the Meter service charge – operating costs; or

- (2) an installed Government-Owned Meter that is a channel Meter: the channel Meter service charge – operating costs,

set out in Table 6.2 for the relevant year.

Note: On and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for a Government-Owned Meter, the charges in clause 24 of this Part apply and the charges in clause 21(1)(a) of Part 5 cease to apply. The two sets of charges cannot apply simultaneously to a Government-Owned Meter.

25 Telemetry service charge

- (1) The charges in this clause 25 apply on and from:
- (a) for a Government-Owned Meter, the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day; and
 - (b) for a Privately-Owned Meter that is subject to the Metering Requirements, the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day.
- (2) WAMC may levy on a person referred to in clause 22(1) the telemetry service charge expressed in dollars per Meter in Table 6.3 for the relevant year if the Metering Requirements require the relevant Meter to use telemetry.

Note: On and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day for a Government-Owned Meter, the charges in clause 25 of this Part apply and the charges in clause 21(1)(a) of Part 5 cease to apply. The two sets of charges cannot apply simultaneously to a Government-Owned Meter. On and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day for a Privately-Owned Meter that is subject to the Metering Requirements, the charges in clause 25 of this Part apply and the charges in clause 21(3) of Part 5 cease to apply. The two sets of charges cannot apply simultaneously to a Privately-Owned Meter.

Tables 6.1-6.3

Table 6.1 Annual scheme management charge ^a (\$)

Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
88.00	88.00 x CPI ₁	88.00 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 6.2 Annual Government-Owned Meter service charge ^a (\$ per Government-Owned Meter)

Charge	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Non-channel Meter service charge - operating costs	1,022.50	1,022.50 x CPI ₁	1,022.50 x CPI ₂
Channel Meter service charge operating costs	7,574.28	7,574.28 x CPI ₁	7,574.28 x CPI ₂

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 6.3 Annual telemetry service charge ^a (\$ per Meter)

Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
266.37	$266.37 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$266.37 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Part 7 MDBA and BRC charges

26 MDBA entitlement charge

(1) The MDBA entitlement charge is calculated as follows:

Box 7.1 MDBA entitlement charge

$$MDBAEC \times E$$

where:

MDBAEC is:

- a. **where the MDBA Customer has a Meter:** the charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or dollars per unit share) in Table 7.1 for the relevant water source and the relevant year; and
- b. **where the MDBA Customer does not have a Meter:** the charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or dollars per unit share) in Table 7.2 for the relevant water source and the relevant year; and

E is the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year.

27 MDBA water take charge

(1) Subject to clause 27(2), the MDBA water take charge is calculated as follows:

Box 7.2 MDBA water take charge

$$MDBAWTC \times WT$$

where:

MDBAWTC is the water take charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of water taken) in Table 7.3 for the relevant water source and the relevant year and:

- a. **in the case of a Tagged Water Entitlement:** the relevant water source as set out in the Licence Register; and
- b. **in any other case:** the relevant water source from which the water is taken.

WT is the Licence Holder's water take for that year.

- (2) In respect of a Part 3 Service or Part 4 Service where the MDBA Customer does not have a Meter, the MDBA water take charge is nil.
- (3) WAMC must not recover more than one MDBA water take charge in respect of any water taken.

28 BRC entitlement charge

The BRC entitlement charge is calculated as follows:

Box 7.3 BRC entitlement charge calculation

$$BRCEC \times E$$

where:

BRCEC is:

- a. **where the BRC Customer has a Meter:** the charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or dollars per unit share) in Table 7.4 for the relevant water source and the relevant year; and
- b. **where the BRC Customer does not have a Meter:** the charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement or dollars per unit share) in Table 7.5 for the relevant water source and the relevant year; and

E is the Licence Holder's Entitlement or unit share for that year.

29 BRC water take charge

- (1) Subject to clause 29(2), the BRC water take charge is calculated as follows:

Box 7.4 BRC water take charge calculation

$$BRCWTC \times WT$$

where:

BRCWTC is the water take charge (expressed in dollars per megalitre of water taken) in Table 7.6 for the relevant water source and the relevant year and:

- a. **in the case of a Tagged Water Entitlement:** the relevant water source as set out in the Licence Register; and
- b. **in any other case:** the relevant water source from which the water is taken.

Box 7.4 BRC water take charge calculation

WT is the Licence Holder's water take for that year.

- (2) In respect of a Part 3 Service or Part 4 Service where the BRC Customer does not have a Meter, the BRC water take charge is nil.
- (3) WAMC must not recover more than one BRC water take charge in respect of any water taken.

Notes: MDBA charges apply only to MDBA Customers and, similarly, BRC charges apply only to BRC Customers.

See Part 8 for the definitions of MDBA Customers and BRC Customers. It is possible for a customer to simultaneously be an MDBA Customer and a BRC Customer, in which case their maximum prices would include both MDBA charges and BRC charges.

Tables 7.1-7.6

Table 7.1 MDBA entitlement charges where the MDBA Customer has a Meter ^a
(\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Regulated River			
Border	0.66	$0.65 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.65 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Gwydir	0.87	$0.87 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.87 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Namoi	1.00	$0.99 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.99 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Peel	0.30	$0.30 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.30 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Lachlan	0.40	$0.39 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.39 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Macquarie	0.54	$0.54 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.54 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murray	0.76	$0.75 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.75 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	0.79	$0.78 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.78 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Unregulated River			
Border	0.18	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Gwydir	0.18	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Namoi	0.18	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Peel	0.18	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Lachlan	0.16	$0.15 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.15 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Macquarie	0.16	$0.15 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.15 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Far West	0.98	$0.97 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.97 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murray	0.20	$0.20 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.20 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	0.15	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Groundwater source			
Inland	0.23	$0.23 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.23 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	0.23	$0.23 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.23 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 7.2 MDBA entitlement charges where the MDBA Customer does not have a Meter^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Unregulated River			
Border	0.33	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Gwydir	0.33	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Namoi	0.33	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Peel	0.33	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.18 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Lachlan	0.33	$(0.15 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.16 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.15 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.16 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Macquarie	0.33	$(0.15 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.16 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.15 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.16 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Far West	1.33	$(0.97 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.35 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.97 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.35 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Murray	0.56	$(0.20 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.36 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.20 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.36 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Murrumbidgee	0.35	$(0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.20 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.20 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Groundwater source			
Inland	0.31	$(0.23 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.08 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.23 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.08 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Murrumbidgee	0.31	$(0.23 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.08 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.23 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.08 \times \text{CPI}_2)$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 7.3 MDBA water take charges (\$/ML)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Regulated River			
Border	0.24	$0.24 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.24 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Gwydir	0.37	$0.37 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.37 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Namoi	0.36	$0.36 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.36 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Peel	0.28	$0.28 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.28 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Lachlan	0.37	$0.37 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.37 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Macquarie	0.34	$0.34 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.34 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murray	0.32	$0.32 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.32 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	0.34	$0.34 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.34 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Unregulated River			
Border	0.15	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Gwydir	0.15	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Namoi	0.15	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Peel	0.15	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.14 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Lachlan	0.17	$0.16 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.16 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Macquarie	0.17	$0.16 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.16 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Far West	0.35	$0.35 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.35 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murray	0.36	$0.36 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.36 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	0.20	$0.20 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.20 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Groundwater source			
Inland	0.08	$0.08 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.08 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Murrumbidgee	0.08	$0.08 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.08 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Table 7.4 BRC entitlement charges where the BRC Customer has a Meter^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Regulated River			
Border	1.57	$1.56 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$1.56 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Unregulated River			
Border	0.00	$0.00 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.00 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Far West	1.59	$1.58 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$1.58 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Groundwater source			
Border	0.36	$0.36 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.36 \times \text{CPI}_2$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 7.5 BRC entitlement charges where the BRC Customer does not have a Meter^a (\$/ML of Entitlement or \$/unit share)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Unregulated River			
Border	0.00	$(0.00 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.00 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.00 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.00 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Far West	2.17	$(1.58 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.58 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(1.58 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.58 \times \text{CPI}_2)$
Groundwater source			
Border	0.52	$(0.36 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (0.15 \times \text{CPI}_1)$	$(0.36 \times \text{CPI}_2) + (0.15 \times \text{CPI}_2)$

a. The charges in this table are annual charges and must therefore be pro-rated in accordance with clause 30.6(2) of Part 8 for any period under this determination to which this charge applies, and that is less than a full financial year (including the charges for the period from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2026).

Table 7.6 BRC water take charges (\$/ML)

Water source	Commencement Date to 30 June 2026	1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027	1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028
Regulated River			
Border	0.59	$0.59 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.59 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Unregulated River			
Border	0.00	$0.00 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.00 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Far West	0.58	$0.58 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.58 \times \text{CPI}_2$
Groundwater source			
Border	0.16	$0.15 \times \text{CPI}_1$	$0.15 \times \text{CPI}_2$

Part 8 Interpretation and definitions

30 Interpretation

30.1 General provisions

In this determination, unless the contrary intention appears:

- (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, clause, paragraph or table of 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, 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 Licence Holder's water take includes use, extraction, trade, sale or gift by that Licence Holder;
- (6) where a word is defined, other grammatical forms of that word have a corresponding meaning;
- (7) a reference to a year is to a period beginning on 1 July and ending on the following 30 June;
- (8) 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;
- (9) a reference to an officer includes a reference to the officer who replaces him or her, or who substantially succeeds to his or her powers or functions;
- (10) 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
- (11) 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.

30.2 Explanatory notes, examples and alternate text

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

30.3 Maximum prices are 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 set out in this determination, the resulting GST inclusive price is consistent with this determination.

30.4 Rounding rules

- (1) Subject to paragraph 30.4(2) and 30.4(3), each component of a maximum price calculated in accordance with this determination is to be rounded to the nearest whole cent.

Note: For example, if a maximum price for a customer for a service of Part 2 consisted of an entitlement charge, a water take charge, an MDBA entitlement charge and an MDBA water take charge, each of those four charges would be rounded separately.

- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, charges which under this determination are multiplied by entitlements or water take are to be rounded first, before that multiplication is done.
- (3) A charge set out in any of Table 3.3, Table 4.3, Table 7.2, and Table 7.5 for the year 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 or 1 July 2027 to 30 June 2028 is to be rounded as follows:

- (a) Step 1: Round the result of the first multiplication;
- (b) Step 2: Round the result of the second multiplication; and
- (c) Step 3: Add the results of step 1 and step 2 together.

Note: For example, take the charge in Table 3.3 for the Border Valley for the year 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027: $(2.02 \times \text{CPI}_1) + (2.80 \times \text{CPI}_1)$. Under Step 1, multiply 2.02 by CPI_1 , then round the result. Under Step 2, multiply 2.80 by CPI_1 , then round the result. Under Step 3, add the results of Steps 1 and 2 together, but do not round any further.

- (4) For the purposes of rounding a number under clauses 30.4(1), 30.4(2) and 30.4(3) 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.
- (5) The CPI Multipliers calculated under clause 31.2(2) and Box 8.1 are to be rounded to three decimal places before adjusting a maximum price for inflation.
- (6) For the purposes of rounding the CPI Multipliers under clause 30.4(4), 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.

30.5 Billing cycle and Meter reading

For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this determination affects when WAMC:

- (a) may issue a bill to a customer for prices or charges under this determination, or
- (b) must read a Meter.

30.6 Annual charges and pro-rating

- (1) The annual charges in this determination apply to each year (1 July to 30 June inclusive) or part of a year from the Commencement Date to 30 June 2028 or the date that this determination is replaced (including where the determination applies beyond 30 June 2028).
- (2) In respect of any period after the Commencement Date that is less than a full year, the annual charges in this determination will be pro-rated for that period, based on the proportion that the number of days in that period bears to the number of days in the year.

Note: For example, if this determination commences on 1 October 2025 the annual charges in this determination will be pro-rated based on the number of days in the period from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026 as a proportion of the total number of days in the financial year from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. The annual charges for the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025, will be determined under the 2021 Determination and pro-rated in accordance with that determination.

- (3) Different annual charges apply to Government-Owned Meters and Privately-Owned Meters. Where a person switches from a Government-Owned Meter to a Privately-Owned Meter (or vice versa), the annual charges will be pro-rated based on the proportion of days in the year that the person had a:
 - (a) Government-Owned Meter installed; and
 - (b) Privately-Owned Meter installed.

Note: Clause 30.6 is not intended to prohibit WAMC from issuing a bill for any period before the Commencement Date.

30.7 Entitlement charges

For the purpose of calculating an entitlement charge, as that term is used in Part 2, Part 3, Part 4, and Part 7:

- (1) A reference to an entitlement charge is a reference to an entitlement charge specified in a Water Licence without regard to any part of the Entitlement that may be carried over from a previous year.
- (2) A reference to an entitlement charge:
 - (a) expressed in dollars per megalitre of Entitlement is a reference to a charge expressed in dollars per megalitre in respect of an Entitlement that a WA Licence or a WMA Licence confers on the Licence Holder in a year; and
 - (b) expressed in dollars per unit share is a reference to a charge so expressed in respect of a WMA Licence that has a share component that is expressed in unit shares.

30.8 Metering of water take charges for Irrigation Corporations

For the avoidance of doubt, the metering of water take charges for the supply of water to an Irrigation Corporation from a Regulated River is to be determined at the point or points of off-take from the Regulated River or as set out in that Irrigation Corporation's Water Supply Work Approval.

30.9 River valleys

- (1) In this determination, a reference to a river valley is a reference to the relevant river valley more fully described in the following table, and for the avoidance of doubt includes any associated floodplains.

River valley	Description
Regulated Rivers	
Border	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Border Rivers including the Severn, the Macintyre and Dumaresq Rivers down to Mungindi.
Gwydir	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Gwydir River and Gwydir Wetlands, Mehi River, Gil Creek and Moomin Creek to the junction with the Barwon River.
Namoi	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Namoi River to Peel River and Pian Creek to Barwon River.
Peel	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Peel River to junction with Namoi River.
Lachlan	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Lachlan and Belubula River to the Murrumbidgee River junction.
Macquarie	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Macquarie River, the Cudgegong and Bogan Rivers to junction with Darling River.
Murray	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Murray River including the Darling River below Menindee.
Murrumbidgee	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Murrumbidgee River to junction with Murray River, including Yanco, Colombo and Billabong Creeks and Tumut River.
North Coast	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Regulated flows for Iron Pot and Eden Creeks.
Hunter	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Hunter River, including Paterson River and Glennies Creek.
South Coast	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Brogo and Bega River Catchments.
Unregulated Rivers	
Border	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Border Rivers Catchment.
Gwydir	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Gwydir River Catchment.
Namoi	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Namoi River Catchment.

River valley	Description
Peel	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Peel River Catchment.
Lachlan	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Lachlan River Catchment.
Macquarie	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Macquarie, Castlereagh and Bogan River Catchments including the Bogan River above Murrawombie Road.
Far West	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Barwon-Darling from Mungindi to Menindee including Bogan River below Murrawombie Road, and those rivers west of Barwon-Darling River which originate in Queensland and minor Unregulated Rivers in the Western Division not in other valleys.
Murray	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Murray River Catchment, including Billabong Creek.
Murrumbidgee	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Murrumbidgee River Catchment.
North Coast	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers east of the Great Dividing Range from Queensland to the Hastings River Catchment.
Hunter	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Unregulated Rivers in the Hunter Region, including the Manning, Karuah and Williams Rivers.
South Coast	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Shoalhaven, Woronora, Warragamba and Hawkesbury/Nepean River Catchments, Lake Illawarra, Sydney City including Georges River and Port Jackson, Clyde, Moruya, Tuross, Towamba and Bega River Catchments, NSW portions of Genoa and Snowy River Catchments.
Groundwater	
Border	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Largely riverine aquifers in the Border Rivers Catchments including the Border Rivers Alluvium, the Inverell Basalt and the Great Artesian Basin.
Gwydir	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Largely riverine aquifers in the Gwydir River Catchment including the Lower Gwydir Alluvium and the Great Artesian Basin.
Namoi	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Largely riverine aquifers in the Namoi River Catchment including the Upper and Lower Namoi Alluvium, the Great Artesian Basin and the Gunnedah Basin.
Peel	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Largely riverine aquifers in the Peel River Catchment including the Peel Valley Alluvium and Fractured Rock.
Lachlan	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan.

River valley	Description
	In any other case: Largely riverine aquifers in the Lachlan River Catchment including the Upper and Lower Lachlan Alluvium, Belubula Valley Alluvium, the Great Artesian Basin, Young Granite, Orange Basalt and the Central West Fractured Rocks.
Macquarie	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Largely riverine aquifers in the Macquarie, Castlereagh and Bogan River Catchments including the Upper and Lower Macquarie Alluvium, the Cudgegong Valley Alluvium, the Collaburragundry Talbragar Valley, the Great Artesian Basin, Mudgee and Molong Limestone.
Far West	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: The Great Artesian Basin Aquifer and minor aquifers in the Western Division.
Murray	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Aquifers in the Murray River Catchment.
Murrumbidgee	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Aquifers in the Murrumbidgee River Catchment including the Lower Murrumbidgee Alluvium, Mid Murrumbidgee Alluvium and the Billabong Creek Alluvium.
North Coast	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Aquifers east of the Great Dividing Range from Queensland to the Hastings River Catchment including the Richmond River Alluvium, Richmond Coastal Sandbeds, Coffs Harbour Coastal Sands and Alluvium, Alstonville Basalt, Dorrigo Basalt, Clarence Moreton Basin, Hastings Coastal Sands, Hastings River Alluvium, Macleay River Alluvium, Bellingen Coastal Sandbeds and Viney Creek Alluvium.
Hunter	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Aquifers in the Hunter Region, including the Manning and Karuah River Catchments including Tomago-Tomaree Sandbeds, Stuarts Points and Tributaries Alluvium, the Pages River Alluvium, Goulburn River Alluvium, Mangrove Mountain Sandstone and Wollombi Brook Alluvium.
South Coast	If a Water Sharing Plan under the Water Management Act is in place, then the water sources as defined in that plan. In any other case: Aquifers east of the Great Dividing Range from the NSW central coast to Victoria including Botany Sandbeds, Bega River Alluvium, Sydney Basin, Cocks River Sandstone and Fractured Rock, Blue Mountains Richmond Sandstone, Araluen Alluvium and Maroota Tertiary Sands.

- (2) A reference in this determination to the 'relevant river valley' (other than in the case of the water take component of a licence) is a reference to the river valley for a Licence Holder as set out in the Licence Register. In the case of the water take component of a licence, the 'relevant river valley' is the river valley from which water is taken unless the water take component relates to a Tagged Water Entitlement (in which case, the relevant river valley is the river valley for a Licence Holder as set out in the Licence Register).

31 Definitions

31.1 General definitions

In this determination:

2021 Determination means IPART's determination titled 'Water Administration Ministerial Corporation – Maximum prices for water management services from 1 October 2021' as published in the New South Wales Government Gazette and amended by the IPART Amendment Notice No.1 of 2022, 'Amendment of 2021 WAMC Determination'.

2025 Bulk Water Services Determination means IPART's determination of 2025 titled 'Water NSW – Prices for Bulk Water Services from 1 July 2025' as published in the New South Wales Government Gazette.

Aboriginal Cultural Licence means any of the following categories of access licence referred to in Schedule 3 of the Water Management Regulation:

- (a) regulated river (high security) Aboriginal cultural licence;
- (b) unregulated river Aboriginal cultural licence; and
- (c) aquifer Aboriginal cultural licence.

Approved Meter Equivalent means an apparatus or a methodology for the quantification of the volume of water taken or to be taken from Unregulated Rivers or Groundwater by reference to factors other than direct measurement of water taken, that is approved by WAMC or the Minister.

BRC means the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission constituted under the New South Wales–Queensland Border Rivers Agreement made in 1946 and ratified under section 5 of the *New South Wales—Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947* (NSW).

BRC Customer means a holder of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from:

- (a) Regulated Rivers in the Border valley;
- (b) Unregulated Rivers in the Far West valley; or
- (c) Groundwater from the Macintyre Alluvial Groundwater Source, NSW Border Rivers Upstream Keetah Bridge Alluvial Groundwater Source, NSW Border Rivers Downstream Keetah Bridge Alluvial Groundwater Source and Ottleys Creek Alluvial Groundwater Source.

Coastal means the Hunter, North Coast and South Coast river valleys.

Commencement Date has the meaning given to that term in clause 3(1).

Consent Transactions means those types of transaction set out in Table 5.1.

CPI₁ and **CPI₂** have the meanings given in clause 31.2 and Box 8.1 of Part 8.

CPI Multiplier means, as the case may be, CPI₁ or CPI₂.

Entitlement means the maximum quantity of water that a Licence Holder has a right to take and use by means of a Water Licence.

Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence means a floodplain harvesting access licence referred to in sections 57 and 57A of the Water Management Act.

Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence Customer means a holder of a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence.

Government-Owned Meter means a Meter that is owned by the NSW Government and installed in connection with a Water Supply Work, including any such Meter owned by Water NSW, WAMC or any other NSW government agency or state owned corporation.

Groundwater means water accessed from an aquifer or other below-ground water source.

Hunter Water means the statutory corporation constituted under the *Hunter Water Act 1991* (NSW).

Inland means the Border, Far West, Gwydir, Lachlan, Macquarie, Murray, Namoi and Peel river valleys (but does not include the Murrumbidgee river valley for the purposes of this determination).

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).

Irrigation Corporation has the meaning given to that term under the Water Management Act.

Licence Holder means the holder of a Water Licence.

Licence Register means the Water Licence register and/or water accounting register maintained by or on behalf of WAMC.

Low Risk Water User means a user of works exempted by Schedule 9, Part 2 of the Water Management Regulation and in relation to which relevant and reliable metering information is not reasonably available to WAMC.

Major Utility (Barnard) Access Licence means a licence issued by the Minister as a major utility (Barnard) access licence.

Major Utility (Grahamstown) Access Licence means a licence issued by the Minister as a major utility (Grahamstown) access licence.

MDBA means the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, being the authority established under section 171 of the *Water Act 2007* (Cth).

MDBA Customer means a holder of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from:

- (a) Regulated Rivers in the Border, Gwydir, Namoi, Peel, Lachlan, Macquarie, Murray and Murrumbidgee valleys;
- (b) Unregulated Rivers in the Border, Gwydir, Namoi, Peel, Lachlan, Macquarie, Far West, Murray and Murrumbidgee valleys; or
- (c) Groundwater in the Inland and Murrumbidgee valleys.

Meter means:

- (a) a WAMC Meter;
- (b) an Approved Meter Equivalent;
- (c) a Government-Owned Meter;
- (d) a Privately-Owned Meter;
- (e) where a Licence Holder has a single off-take point from Unregulated Rivers or Groundwater, the User Meter installed on or near that off-take point; or
- (f) where a Licence Holder has multiple off-take points from Unregulated Rivers or Groundwater and has a User Meter on all off-take points, each of the User Meters installed on or near those off-take points.

Metering Requirements means the metering equipment requirements set out in Schedule 8 of the Water Management Regulation.

Minister means the Minister administering the Water Management Act (or, where relevant, the Water Act).

ML means megalitre or one million litres.

Monopoly Services has the meaning given to that term in clause 1(1).

National Water Initiative means the initiative which is the subject of the Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Water Initiative, dated 25 June 2004.

New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day means, in respect of a Government-Owned Meter, the later of:

- (a) the day the Meter becomes compliant with the Metering Requirements; and
- (b) if there is a date specified in the Water Management Regulation from which a temporary exemption from the Metering Requirements would cease to have effect in respect of the Meter, that date.

New Metering Charge means any charge included in Part 6.

New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day means, in respect of a Privately-Owned Meter:

- (a) where a person is directed by the Minister under the Water Management Act to have a Meter installed, the date by which that person is required to have an operational Meter as specified in that direction; and
- (b) in all other circumstances, the date specified in the Water Management Regulation from which a temporary exemption from the Metering Requirements would cease to have effect in respect of the Meter or if no such date exists in respect of the Meter, then the Commencement Date.

Order means the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (Water Services) Order 2004 published in New South Wales Government Gazette, No. 144 of 10 September 2004, p 7519.

Part 3 Service means a service for which a maximum price is set under Part 3.

Part 4 Service means a service for which a maximum price is set under Part 4.

Privately-Owned Meter means a Meter that is not a Government-Owned Meter.

Regulated River has the meaning given to that term under the Water Management Act.

River has the meaning given to that term under the Water Management Act.

Salinity and Water Table Management Access Licence means a licence referred to in clause 4(1)(i) of the Water Management Regulation.

Supplementary Water Access Licence means an access licence referred to in section 57(1)(h) of the Water Management Act and includes, for the avoidance of doubt, a supplementary water access (environmental) licence and a supplementary water access (Lowbidgee) licence.

Tagged Water Entitlement means a water Entitlement which has been permanently transferred by a Licence Holder in a river valley or state to a Licence Holder in another river valley or State.

Type A Consent Transactions means Consent Transactions of a type set out in Table 5.1 that relate to:

- (a) a major utility;
- (b) a water supply authority;
- (c) a local water utility;
- (d) an Irrigation Corporation;
- (e) the Commonwealth, a State or Territory, a NSW Government agency or a state owned corporation under the *State Owned Corporations Act 1989* (NSW);
- (f) an activity where the applicant has been required to obtain any authority, lease or licence under the *Mining Act 1992* (NSW), the *Offshore Minerals Act 1999* (NSW), or the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* (NSW) or any permit or licence under the *Petroleum (Offshore) Act 1982* (NSW);
- (g) a development which has been:
 - (i) declared a State significant development section 4.36 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) or under a State environmental planning policy; or
 - (ii) declared State significant infrastructure under section 5.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) or under a State environmental planning policy; or
 - (iii) approved under the now repealed Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW);
- (h) an aquifer interference approval;
- (i) a floodplain harvesting licence and associated works approval;
- (j) an Aboriginal commercial, Aboriginal community development, Aboriginal cultural or Aboriginal environmental subcategory of access licence.

Type B Consent Transactions means Consent Transactions of a type set out in Table 5.1 other than Type A Consent Transactions.

Unregulated River means a River that is not a Regulated River.

Unregulated River (Regulated Supply) Access Licence means a licence referred to in clause 4(1)(l) of the Water Management Regulation.

Unregulated River (Regulated Supply – Local Water Utility) Access Licence means a licence referred to in clause 4(1)(k) of the Water Management Regulation.

Unregulated River (Special Additional High Flow) Access Licence means a licence referred to in clause 4(1)(h) of the Water Management Regulation.

User Meter means a mechanical, electromagnetic or similar apparatus where:

- (a) the apparatus is not a WAMC Meter; and
- (b) one of the following applies:
 - (i) the apparatus complies with the national water meter standards developed under the National Water Initiative; or
 - (ii) the apparatus complies with the NSW Government metering standards applicable to it from time to time; or
 - (iii) the apparatus:
 - (A) accurately measures and records the amount of water taken by a Licence Holder and is manufactured for that purpose; and
 - (B) is installed appropriately on or near a Licence Holder's off-take point or points from an Unregulated River or Groundwater; and
- (c) WAMC is notified in writing, prior to the commencement of the year for which an annual charge is calculated, of:
 - (i) the existence and specifications of the apparatus;
 - (ii) the manufacturer and model of the apparatus; and
 - (iii) a description of the location and installation of the apparatus.

WA Licence means any licence, permit or authority under Part 2 or Part 9 of the Water Act, to the extent that it authorises the taking of water.

WAMC means the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation established under section 371 of the Water Management Act, and which is a continuation of, and the same legal entity as, WAMC of that name constituted by the *Water Administration Act 1986* (NSW) (by virtue of clause 17 of Schedule 9 of the Water Management Act).

WAMC Meter means a Meter that is installed by or on behalf of WAMC.

Water Act means the *Water Act 1912* (NSW).

Water Licence means a WMA Licence or a WA Licence.

Water Management Act means the *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW).

Water Management Regulation means the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2018* (NSW).

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

Water Sharing Plan means the water sharing provisions of a management plan for a water management area or water source under the Water Management Act.

Water Supply Work has the meaning given to that term in the Water Management Act.

Water Supply Work Approval has the meaning given to that term in section 90(2) of the Water Management Act.

WMA Licence means an access licence referred to in section 57 of the Water Management Act.

31.2 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.

(2) The CPI Multipliers are calculated using the applicable formula in Box 8.1:

Box 8.1 Calculation of CPI Multipliers

$$CPI_1 = \frac{CPI_{March2026}}{CPI_{March2025}}$$

$$CPI_2 = \frac{CPI_{March2027}}{CPI_{March2025}}$$

where:

$CPI_{March2025}$ means CPI for the March quarter of 2025;

$CPI_{March2026}$ means CPI for the March quarter of 2026; and

$CPI_{March2027}$ means CPI for the March quarter of 2027.