

Media Release

22 April 2022

Annual review of WaterNSW's rural bulk water charges

IPART is seeking feedback before finalising its annual review of WaterNSW's regulated charges for bulk water services to apply from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. The charges will apply to the 9 valleys in the Murray-Darling Basin and the Fish River Water Supply Scheme.

Our draft decision is to accept WaterNSW's annual pricing application to maintain the charges set under the 2021 Determination. This means charges will only increase by inflation, which is currently estimated to be 3.2%, from 1 July 2022.

IPART Tribunal member Sandra Gamble said that although there had been some recent changes in demand, these are unlikely to be sustained based on the information available.

"At this time, there is no evidence of a sustained shift in water sales. Therefore, we see no evidence to vary rural charges for 2022-23 except for inflation. Also, it is too early to know what impact the recent floods in NSW will have on water sales.

"We will continue to use our annual reviews to monitor changes in demand. If we see any evidence of a sustained shift in demand or an opportunity to improve price stability, we will consider updating charges," said Ms Gamble.

IPART encourages customers and the community to make submissions on the Draft Report by 13 May 2022.

The Draft Report and supporting information are available on IPART's [website](#).

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