

Media Release

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Feedback invited on the reviews of Sydney Water and WaterNSW operating licences

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has released draft recommendations for changes to the Sydney Water Operating Licence and WaterNSW Operating Licence, both commencing 1 July 2024.

Tribunal Chair Carmel Donnelly said IPART was seeking feedback from all stakeholders, including Sydney Water and WaterNSW customers, by **8 March 2024**.

"Our draft recommendations focus on setting regulation at the right level to ensure that health, environmental, customer and business objectives are met without inappropriately increasing the burden and cost of regulation which must ultimately be paid for by customers," Ms Donnelly said.

Sydney Water's operating licence sets requirements for Sydney Water to provide water, sewerage and stormwater services for the Greater Sydney region. It includes quality and performance standards for drinking water and recycled water, and requirements for water conservation, long-term water planning, protecting and consulting with customers, and for managing critical assets.

WaterNSW's operating licence sets the requirements for WaterNSW as Sydney's drinking water catchment manager and supplier of water used by local water utilities, regional towns and irrigators across the state. WaterNSW also releases water to maintain river health and the environment, and its licence includes requirements for water conservation and long-term planning, climate risk readiness, managing catchments and promoting river health.

"You can view our draft recommendations for the operating licences on our [website](#), along with the draft operating licences, discussion papers and supplementary information papers explaining our recommendations," Ms Donnelly said.

"We will hold public forums to discuss our draft recommendations in **February 2024**, with details on how to have your say and register your attendance to be released soon. "

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