

# Media Release

29 November 2022

## Have your say on SDP's water prices

IPART is reviewing the maximum prices that Sydney Desalination Plant Pty Ltd (SDP) can charge Sydney Water for its water supply and security services in the Greater Sydney region from 1 July 2023. Sydney Water passes on these prices to its customers.

SDP is the only major rainfall-independent source of drinking water in the region and can supply up to 15% of Greater Sydney's daily water needs.

"Since our last review, SDP's role has expanded beyond just drought response. The Government's [Greater Sydney Water Strategy](#) identified the need for it to contribute to the region's water security by remaining operational both in and outside of droughts."

"We will assess whether SDP's proposal is consistent with its new role of helping improve the region's water resiliency and adaptability. We will also assess whether it represents good value for money for customers and the community," said IPART Tribunal Member Sandra Gamble.

SDP has proposed higher costs and moderate price increases over the next 4 years to support its expanded role. It has also proposed changes to existing and the introduction of new mechanisms to incentivise good performance and limit its exposure to risk.

IPART has released an Issues Paper which sets out our proposed approach to determining the prices. We are seeking feedback from water users and other interested stakeholders in the Greater Sydney region.

Ms Gamble encourages customers and the community to make submissions to the review, and participate in IPART's in-person and online public hearing in February 2023.

Submissions on the Issues Paper will close on 31 January 2023. IPART will consider all submissions made in response to the Issues Paper and at the Public Hearing before releasing a Draft Report in April 2023 and a Final Report in June 2023. IPART's Issues Paper, and SDP's pricing proposals and other relevant material including IPART's 2017 Methodology Paper are available on [IPART's website](#).

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