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Your submission for this review:

Dear [IPART Representatives Name], I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed price adjustments for Sydney Water and WaterNSW. While I understand the need for maintaining quality services and addressing growth, I do not agree with the proposed scale of these increases. The anticipated 18% rise in 2025, followed by 7% annual increments, places a considerable financial burden on customers, especially when compounded by inflation. Key Concerns: 1. Affordability: A price hike of this magnitude could lead to affordability issues, especially for households already managing high costs of living. 2. Fixed Service Charge Increases: The focus on increasing fixed service charges rather than usage-based fees limits consumers control over their bills, potentially discouraging water-saving behaviors. 3. Efficiency and Accountability: It would be helpful to have more transparent assurances that all proposed expenditures are essential and represent the best value for customers. Suggested Alternatives: 1. Performance-Based Adjustments: Tie any significant increases to clear performance indicators, with adjustments only applied if service quality or environmental benchmarks are demonstrably met. 2. Encouraging Water Conservation: Instead of higher fixed charges, consider adjusting variable charges to support water conservation and allow customers greater control over their bills. More related to business and revenue Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) Green Bonds or Sustainability-Linked Bonds Infrastructure Investment Funds Revenue from Value-Added Services Developer Contributions and Impact Fees Applying for Government Grants and Subsidies