



New South Wales

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT

Attention: Mr Nigel Rajaratnam

Mid-term reviews of SWC's and SCA's Operating Licences
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230

Mid-term reviews of Sydney Water Corporation's and Sydney Catchment Authority's Operating Licences - Matter No. 01/370 and 01/372

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the review of the Operating Licences of SWC and SCA.

As the owner /manager of a large number of residential dwellings the Department is a major customer of Sydney Water Corporation.

The Department is committed to the conservation of water and has initiated a number of measures to reduce consumption in Department's dwellings. In all new housing in the Department, plus all replacement items in the existing housing are required to be AAA rated for taps and shower roses, and dual-flushing for cisterns. These devices have been included in all new construction since 1996.

Water saving devices retrofit program subsidy offered by Sydney Water to private house owners was not available to the Department in the past. A model has now been resolved in principle whereby the Department and tenants can benefit from an equivalent form of subsidy. A direct result of this program will be the retrofitting of water saving devices in over 12,000 dwellings with in the first 12 months.

Continued support through Sydney Water's Demand Management strategy will enable the Department to accelerate the retrofitting program. Department's tenants are considered as high water users, such an incentive will facilitate meeting the water conservation targets set out in the Operating Licence.

For further input into this issue, the Department's representative will be Upali Mallawaarachy, Senior Asset Strategy & Policy Officer, Strategic Asset Management (02 9821 6452).

Yours sincerely

Donald Proctor
Manager, Asset Strategy & Policy