

16 April 2019



WHAT

IPART is undertaking an Annual Review of the regulated charges that WaterNSW can charge for its rural bulk water services in the Murray Darling Basin (MDB) and the Fish River Water Supply Scheme (FRWSS) set under the *Water Charge Infrastructure Rules 2010* (WCIR) for the 2019-20 financial year.

IPART's draft decision is to maintain the regulated charges as set under the 2017 Determination, which includes making adjustments for CPI. We consider there is no strong evidence available to show a sustained or permanent change in water consumption that would support a change to the charges we set in the 2017 Determination.

This draft decision supports WaterNSW's Annual Review application to have regulated charges increase by CPI only.



WHY

The WCIR requires WaterNSW to submit an annual pricing application for IPART's approval or determination of prices for 2019-20. The Annual Review provides an opportunity to vary charges for 2019-20, which were originally set in the 2017 Determination. When assessing if it is reasonably necessary to vary charges, we consider changes in demand and consumption forecasts, and price stability.



WHO

WaterNSW delivers bulk water to irrigators and other licence holders on regulated rivers across NSW. It operates 42 large

dams and weirs, and infrastructure to deliver water to its customers.



WHEN

Key dates for this review

13 May 2019	Receive all submissions
4 June 2019	Release of Final Report and Approval

We are seeking stakeholder feedback, which we will consider when making final decisions on charges to apply from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.



WHERE

This review applies to all nine of the MDB valleys, and rural customers for both filtered and raw water in the FRWSS. It does not affect WaterNSW's North Coast, South Coast and Hunter Valley customers, for which prices are set under the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992* (NSW).



WHAT NEXT

Submissions on the Draft Report are due by **13 May 2019**.

We prefer submissions via our online form, which is available on our webpage www.ipart.nsw.gov.au. You can also send comments by mail to:

WaterNSW Annual Review of regulated charges

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
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Haymarket Post Shop NSW 1240