

1 Overview

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) has set the maximum prices that DPI Water can charge for the monopoly services it delivers on behalf of the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation. Our full Draft Report and Draft Determination are available on our website (www.ipart.nsw.gov.au).

This Fact Sheet sets out our draft decisions on:

- ▼ water take reading/assessment charges and ancillary service charges
- ▼ meter service charges, and
- ▼ consent transactions charges.

2 Water take reading/assessment charges and ancillary charges

Water take reading/assessment charges apply to water users in unregulated rivers and groundwater sources where meters are read, or water take is otherwise determined by DPI Water.

Ancillary services charges relate to meter laboratory verification, meter in-situ validation and meter restarts.

Our draft decision is presented in Table 1 below.



Table 1 Draft decision on water take reading/assessment charges and ancillary service charges (\$2015-16)

Service	Current charges	IPART's draft charges
Water take reading/assessment charges	\$212.90	\$193.76
Meter laboratory verification at request of customer (refundable if meter is tested to be outside the accuracy standard)	\$1,665.38	\$1,751.40
Meter in-situ validation charge – where a meter is moved or disturbed:		
Mechanical meter or other	\$116.42	\$240.00
Electromagnetic meter or channel meter with mobile phone	\$216.22	
Meter reset fee after suspension of maintenance for a year or more, at customer request	\$216.22	\$240.00 plus cost of parts

3 Meter service charges

Meter service charges apply to **government-owned water meters in unregulated rivers and groundwater sources**, and recover the efficient cost of operating, maintaining and in some cases reading the meter. These charges are levied annually.



DPI Water proposed a differentiated price structure based on meter type, meter size and how it is read.

We decided to adopt differentiation of charges by meter size to better reflect costs, but grouped meters in three size categories. We also applied an efficiency adjustment of 1.5% to set the charges. Our draft decision is presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2 Draft decision on meter service charges (\$2015-16)

Current charges		DPI Water proposed charges			IPART's draft charges
Type	Charge	Type	2016-17	2017-18 onwards	2016-17 onwards
Mechanical meter – with data logger	\$236.18	Telemetered sites or agency read sites	\$396.77 (50mm) to \$776.91 (1,000mm)	\$446.84 (50mm) to \$874.96 (1,000mm)	1st tier: \$481 (50 mm to 300mm) 2nd tier: \$500 (350mm to 700mm) 3rd tier: \$544 (750mm to 1,000mm)
Electromagnetic meter – with data logger	\$309.36				
Electromagnetic meter – with data logger and mobile data modem	\$403.61				
Electromagnetic meter – with data logger and satellite data modem	\$752.89	Non-telemetered sites with customer reporting	\$286.34 (50mm) to \$666.48 (1,000mm)	\$328.59 (50mm) to \$756.71 (1,000mm)	1st tier: \$378 (50 mm to 300mm) 2nd tier: \$392 (350mm to 700mm) 3rd tier: \$426 (750mm to 1,000mm)
Channel meter – with mobile phone or satellite telemetry coverage	\$752.89				
Other	\$236.18				

4 Consent transaction charges

Water consent transaction charges recoup DPI Water’s efficient costs of issuing and amending water access licences, performing water allocation assignments and works approvals.

We adopted DPI Water’s proposed structure of charges. We applied an efficiency adjustment of 1.5% to set the charges, and made adjustments to three charges (regulated rivers dealings, unregulated rivers and groundwater low risk dealings, and water allocation assignments). Most of the draft consent transaction charges (9 out of 14) decreased from 2015-16 level.



In addition, there are also substantial reductions for online lodgement. Our draft decision is presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3 Draft decision on consent transaction charges (\$2015-16)

Consent transaction activity	Current charge	IPART’s draft decision (charge per transaction)	
		No online lodgement	Online lodgement
Any new water access licence			
Zero share	282.59	322.47	288.71
Controlled allocation	604.77	322.47	288.71
Other	604.77	322.47	288.71
Water access licence dealings			
Dealings – regulated rivers	411.46	347.93	315.66
Dealings – unregulated rivers and groundwater	1,593.14	1,044.87	1,011.11
Dealings – unregulated rivers and groundwater with low risk	758.84	492.20	459.94
Dealings – administrative	758.84	237.61	203.85
Water allocation assignments			
Unregulated rivers and groundwater	254.64	347.93	315.66
Approvals			
New or amended works and/or use approval	2,607.33	1,924.63	1,890.87
New or amended works and/or use approval – low risk	1286.63	1,040.36	1,006.60
New basic rights bore approval	254.33	398.06	364.30
Amended approval – administrative	926.94	237.61	203.85
Extension of approval – lodged before expiry date	169.56	240.55	206.79
Extension of approval – lodged after expiry date	na	400.92	na