

FACT SHEET

Prices and bills for unregulated river users

Based on *Review of prices for the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation - Determination and Final Report*, February 2011

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) has set the maximum prices that the NSW Office of Water (NOW) can charge for the monopoly services it delivers on behalf of the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation. IPART's full report and determination are available on IPART's website (www.ipart.nsw.gov.au). The prices in the determination have been adjusted for inflation to bring them to 2013/14 dollars for this fact sheet.

This fact sheet sets out the charges that will apply to customers in 2013/14 and demonstrates how water bills are calculated.

Licence holders on unregulated rivers are billed a water management charge from NOW. Note that Unregulated river customers must pay the minimum bill of \$105.34 if their calculated water management charge from NOW comes to below \$105.34 (ie, customers must pay the higher of \$105.34 or their calculated water management charge).

NOW's water management charge for customers on area based charges is \$31.25 per hectare.

The list of entitlement charges, usage charges and example calculations for a hypothetical customer are contained in Tables 1 and 2.

Where the water licence holder has a meter, the maximum annual charge is based on a fixed and usage component as follows:

$$EC \times E + U \times W$$

Where:

- ▼ **EC** is an entitlement (fixed) charge expressed in dollars per megalitre of entitlement or in dollars per unit share in Table 1.
- ▼ **E** is a licence holder's entitlement in megalitres or unit shares.
- ▼ **U** is a usage charge expressed in dollars per megalitre.
- ▼ **W** is a licence holder's water usage for that year in megalitres.

Where the licence holder does not have a meter the annual charge is as follows:

$$EC \times E$$

Where:

- ▼ **EC** is an entitlement (fixed) charge expressed in dollars per megalitre of entitlement or in dollars per unit share in Table 2.
- ▼ **E** is a licence holder's entitlement in megalitres or unit shares.

NOW's water management charges for customers on area based charges pay:

$$AC \times A$$

Where:

- ▼ **AC** is an area based charge in dollars per hectare.
- ▼ **A** is a licence holder's authorized area of irrigation as set out in that holder's WMA (Water Management Act) or WA (Water Act) licence for that year.

Table 1 Water bill for a hypothetical unregulated river customer on a 2 part tariff with entitlement of 100ML and metered usage of 50ML (\$2013/14)

Valley	NOW Entitlement charge (\$/ML)	Total NOW Entitlement charge (\$)	NOW Usage Charge (\$/ML)	Total NOW Usage Charge (\$)	Total NOW bill (\$)
	EC	$EC \times E$	U	$U \times W$	$EC \times E + U \times W$
Border	3.73	373	1.60	80	454
Gwydir	3.73	373	1.60	80	454
Namoi	3.73	373	1.60	80	454
Peel	3.73	373	1.60	80	454
Lachlan	5.87	587	2.52	126	713
Macquarie	5.87	587	2.52	126	713
Far West	4.67	467	2.00	100	567
Murray	6.77	677	2.91	145	822
Murrumbidgee	8.30	830	3.55	178	1007
North Coast	7.00	700	3.00	150	851
Hunter	2.30	230	2.17	109	339
South Coast	2.26	226	1.48	74	300

Table 2 Water bill for a hypothetical unregulated river customer on a 1-part tariff with entitlement of 100ML (\$2013/14)

Valley	NOW Entitlement charge (\$/ML)	Total NOW Entitlement charge (\$)
	EC	$EC \times E$
Border	5.34	534
Gwydir	5.34	534
Namoi	5.34	534
Peel	5.34	534
Lachlan	8.39	839
Macquarie	8.39	839
Far West	6.67	667
Murray	9.67	967
Murrumbidgee	11.85	1185
North Coast	10.01	1001
Hunter	4.48	448
South Coast	3.74	374