

CENTRAL VALLEYS BULK WATER PRICES RELEASED

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) today released its final decisions on the prices that WaterNSW can charge for its monopoly rural bulk water services in the Lachlan and Macquarie valleys, and the Fish River Water Supply Scheme from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021.

IPART Chair Dr Peter Boxall said these decisions will result in significant reductions in the overall revenue that WaterNSW can collect from its customers across the State, with bill impacts depending on location and the type of licence held.

“Most WaterNSW customers in the central valleys will see a decrease in their bills, of up to 11.4% for general security customers in the Macquarie valley, or no change over the next four years, under the decisions”, Dr Boxall said.

“These savings are largely due to falling operating costs in the Macquarie valley and the Fish River Water Supply Scheme. We have also included a lower volatility allowance in prices for the Lachlan and Macquarie valleys, so prices for these valleys are lower than those proposed by WaterNSW.”

“However, in the Fish River Water Supply Scheme, bills will increase by 15.1% for EnergyAustralia and 1.4% for Lithgow Council by 2020-21, as a result of our decision to move a large part of the revenue burden away from usage to fixed charges.”

The report for the WaterNSW price review is available on IPART’s website <<http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au>>.