



Ms Liz Livingstone
CEO
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
[REDACTED]

Sydney Business Chamber
Western Sydney
Level 12, 100 George Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

PO Box 120 Macquarie Street
Parramatta NSW 2124

t +61 2 8838 0400
f +61 2 9633 5391
e enquiries@thechamber.com.au

ABN 63 000 014 504

Sydney Business Chamber:
Helping Sydney maximise its potential as a leading global city.

Sydney Business Chamber is a division of NSW Business Chamber which represents 30,000 businesses across the state.

Dear Ms Livingstone,

I refer to your review of prices for Sydney Water which are due to apply from 1 July 2020. We welcome the opportunity to again contribute to this process. The Western Sydney Business Chamber represents more than 110 of the region's leading business, community, and government organisations and is a vocal advocate for the opportunities to expand the Western Sydney economy and create more jobs locally for our growing community.

Our membership have a strong interest in the outcomes of the review as they relate to the broad infrastructure needs and future prosperity for the people of Greater Sydney. I recognise the important role IPART plays to ensure prices are kept as low as possible while also ensuring that services are provided consistent with legislative and regulatory requirements and with customer willingness to pay. It is also critically important that Sydney Water is able to meet the NSW Government's objectives, particularly in relation to the vision for a Metropolis of Three Cities and of course the burgeoning Western Sydney Airport Growth Area.

Western Sydney is already home to one in 10 Australians and the population is set to grow significantly over the next decade. The provision of high quality, resilient water and wastewater infrastructure is critical to the NSW Government's ability to provide sustainable socio-economic growth and prosperity to this area. This has never been more important with the devastation of drought and bushfires causing considerable damage to the network and the growing public sentiment in regard to the impacts of climate change on our critical infrastructure.

I write to you seeking your revaluation of some recommendations which we believe will hamper Sydney Waters ability to provide for the water infrastructure

From our initial review of IPART's draft report, some areas of potential concern include:

- \$173 million less than Sydney Water's proposed funding for capital programs that will help improve the environmental performance of the wastewater network
- the removal of \$422 million for the Prospect to Macarthur (Pro-Mac) pipeline, a project designed to improve system resilience and meet growth needs
- \$236 million less for other projects and investments to expand the network to keep pace with population growth and consumer demand.

Infrastructure and cuts to expenditure at this time would have a profound impact on the development of greater western Sydney at a time when we are facing a significant and prolonged economic recession.

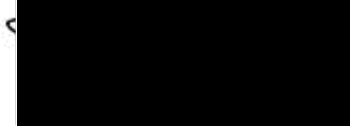


WESTERN SYDNEY



I ask you to consider these impacts when arriving at your final determination.

Yours sincerely



David Borger OAM
Executive Director