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Submission: After receiving my last water bill and accompanying newsletter "Waterwrap" - I felt I had to put forward my objections to any kind of rise in water bills.

We are a 2 person household, and my water bill of \$300 + per quarter, and is more than I pay for either the electricity or gas service. Considering the supply of water is FREE by all accounts, (and I can remember back when water was free), I feel the charges are exorbitant, and that we should only pay for the service, sewer, etc. We have got to the point in this house of saving water when we flush. We use tank water as well and water the garden rarely and still our bill is through the roof.

When the Sydney metropolitan area and outlying districts are suffering huge water restrictions due to an El Nino period, then one can understand it, but not when rainfall is plentiful and the dams are full.

Please consider that daily costs are always rising. As a previous employer/ owner/director of a small business in Sydney, our employees have not had a pay rise in the last 8 years, nor have we been able to put our goods and service prices up (not even CPI) in the last 5 years, just to keep the business going. If our business is just one of many, who are also in the same boat, just think of the over all impact this has on families generally across the board. IPART has got to realise that households are struggling with the day to day living costs. Please don't allow WATER to be yet another increase in our cost of living just because it's up for review.