



IM14/5158

The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Small Business

Mr Hugo Harmstorf
Chief Executive Officer
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Dear Mr Harmstorf

Thank you for your letter of 5 February 2014 (*reference: 14/44-3*) and also your letter of the same date to the Hon Andrew Stoner MP, Deputy Premier, providing an invitation to make a submission on the application by Solo Water Pty Ltd (Solo Water) for a retail supplier's licence under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* (WICA).

It is understood that the WICA licence applications are to supply:

- (a) non-potable water and sewerage services for the Bingara Gorge development, and
- (b) potable, non-potable water and sewerage services for the Catherine Hill Bay development.

The application for the Bingara Gorge development indicates that all wastewater will be sourced from wastewater produced within the development and will be treated by a membrane bioreactor. Part of this water will be used for irrigating a golf course and the rest will be treated further for use within the development for toilet flushing, laundry washing, outdoor cleaning and irrigation. From the information provided in the application, there are no concerns in relation to the administration of the *Water Management Act 2000* with regard to Solo Water's application for a retail supplier's licence.

The infrastructure to be used to supply the Catherine Hill Bay development has previously been the subject of assessment through the application of Catherine Hill Bay Water Utility for a network operator's licence. Solo Water is the parent company of this utility. There are no concerns in relation to the administration of the *Water Management Act 2000* with regard to Solo Water's application for a retail supplier's licence in this location.

Should you require further information on this matter, I have asked that Mr Mark Harris, Manager Water Policy, NSW Office of Water, be available to discuss this matter further with you. Mr Harris may be contacted at mark.harris@water.nsw.gov.au or on 02 8838 7823.

Yours sincerely

Katrina Hodgkinson MP
Minister for Primary Industries

30.3.14