

IJ// Mr Ian Johnson
F2004/06782

13 October 2014

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

Attention: Con Read

Dear Sir,

DISCHARGE FACTORS FOR NON RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Reference is made to the above IPART review and the Draft Report recently circulated for comment.

As indicated in the September 2013 Discussion Paper Wyong Council uses, for the purposes of determining sewerage usage charges, the discharge factors recommended by the NSW Office of Water (NOW).

The NOW discharge factors are based on typical NSW industry usage patterns and are a useful tool particularly for the non-metropolitan water utilities who may not have access to more refined methodologies.

Historically the NOW discharge factors have been found by Council to be reasonable, reflective and fair. In this regard Council has experienced very minimal customer issues in the implementation.

In instances where discharge factors are questioned by customers Council undertakes, at no cost to the customer, a review of the discharge factor and implements changes when and where required and justified. These instances are relatively uncommon typically only about 2 or 3 enquiries per annum.

In view of the above Wyong Council supports the conclusion by IPART in the Draft Report (Executive Summary) that there is no strong case at this stage to regulate discharge factors and that the current practices and arrangements can remain in place.

Yours Faithfully

Ian Johnson
Regulatory Services Engineer
Water and Sewerage

