



Wyong Water

29 September 2015  
F2004/06782

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal  
Post Office Box K35  
Haymarket Post Shop NSW 1240

Dear Sir,

**Review of prices for the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC)**

Reference is made to the above review.

Wyong Water, as the water supply business unit of Wyong Shire Council has reviewed the proposed water management charges for the Unregulated Rivers (Hunter) and Groundwater (Coastal) component.

In reviewing the DPI proposal Wyong Water makes limited comment as the proposed charges/rates and the associated pricing path trends do not appear to be unreasonable.

While it is assumed that the charges presented in the "Summary of DPI Water submission to IPART" are based on "\$ per megalitre" there is nowhere in the Summary document where this is made explicit. Review of the full Submission document also highlights this difficulty.

While current stakeholders would certainly be aware of the "\$ per megalitre" charging basis it may not be obvious to new entrants or the general public. This needs to be better highlighted.

In reviewing the proposed charges it is hoped that these will incorporate all activities associated with water management in particular the operation and maintenance of relevant stream gauging facilities.

This issue/concern has previously been brought to the attention of DPI Water as there have been instances in the past where Wyong Water has been charged for necessary stream gauging services (a monopoly service) as an additional charge outside of the IPART pricing process. This situation has also raised concerns over the lack of transparency and the potential for "double dipping" where these charges could also have been included in the entitlement/usage charges.

If you require additional information/clarification or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 4350 5325.

Yours Faithfully

  
Ian Johnson  
Section Manager, Regulation