

Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal  
PO Box Q290,  
QVB Post Office,  
NSW 1230



Dear Sir,

**Re: Review of Water Management Charges for the Peel Valley Regulated & Groundwater Users**

We are extremely disappointed that the NSW Office of Water is asking for price rises in the order of 3 to 4 times the size of current price costs.

In the Water Sharing Plan completed in April 2010 NOW was responsible for setting long term average annual extraction limits at approximately 20% of entitlement for Groundwater Alluvium Water Source. This means that 80% of entitlement in this source cannot be accessed most of the time.

The NOW would have been completely aware of this situation as they had a major input into the Water Sharing Plan. They have therefore placed themselves in the position of supplying users with 4 times the cost per megalitre of full entitlement and a usage average of 20% of that entitlement.

Irrigators are being expected to pay for the incompetence of the NSW Government. What other business would be allowed to charge full price for items and only deliver on average 20% of the total and increase the costs by 4 times.

**NSW OFFICE OF WATER PROPOSED METERING SERVICE CHARGE**

The new metering service being proposed is supposed to be more efficient and require less maintenance.

How can a proposed price of \$230 - \$700 be justified?

The present costs of maintenance on my meters are nil. Why when it is installed by Government workers is the cost of maintenance set to escalate.

The costs for water being proposed by NOW are extravagant and based on a history of Government incompetence.

If IPART is truly independent it should only make adjustments in water pricing commensurate with the annual CPI increases.

Yours faithfully,

IW & G McKNIGHT