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24th March 2006

Re Issues Paper Recycled Water Pricing

Dear Richard,

I wish to make a submission related to the Recycled Water Pricing.

My simple question is who is to pay the price set?

Is it to be the consumer, is it the customer as defined for potable water or who is it?.

I do not believe the price can be set unless this issue is addressed.

The issues paper does not contain any definitions of terms used and especially "customer" and "consumer"

The dictionary defines a customer as one who purchases good and or services from another.

The dictionary defines a consumer as one who uses a commodity or service.

The electricity, gas, phone, pay tv, bus passengers, tollway users and parking meters and all other suppliers to households consider the consumer to be their customer.

Sydney Water, Hunter Water and the other water authorities have their own dictionary for potable water as they say consumers are not customers unless they own property.

Can you please advise me what IPART will be using as definitions of the terms "consumer" and "customer" for recycled water?

I believe this is absolutely essential before any submissions are made and before any discussion takes place and certainly before any determination is made.

Rick Banyard