

WARREN SHIRE COUNCIL

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Contact: Ashley Wielinga

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
AND RE
TRIBUNAL

Mr Thomas Parry
Chair
Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB POST OFFICE NSW 1230

11 th May, 200 1

Attention: Kumar Rasiah

Dear Sir,

Re: Submission to the Independent Regulatory Tribunal on proposed Department of Land & Water Conservation bulk water prices

Firstly, I wish to advise that Council is both concerned and disillusioned that on such a complex issue, with far reaching effects to Local Government and its relevant communities, the period called for public submissions has not been adequate enough for Councils and local communities to be consulted.

Council's concerns also extend to the whole process of review in light of the following points.

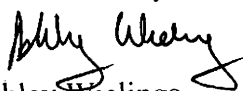
The Department of Land & Water Conservation (DLWC) in preparation of their submission has had significant resources and time to be able to prepare. From this Council gets the impression that they have the monopoly and are setting the ground rules with minimum consultation with the relevant communities.

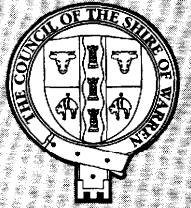
The proposed cost sharing ratio's are not realistic as identification of all beneficiaries has not been fully investigated as many have not been included.

Finally, the various committees are departmental driven and not fully transparent, with members of the public on these committees getting minimum information. Council feels that the split between DLWC and State Water, should be undertaken first to enable realistic operating costs to be captured then examine appropriate funding regimes.

Council has had the opportunity to peruse the submissions by NSW Local Government Water Industry Directorate and Macquarie River Food & Fibre and concurs with these submissions.

Yours faithfully,


Ashley Wielinga
General Manager



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