

From: Vest, Petra
Sent: Fri, 1 Feb 2019 02:40:05 +0000
To: 'water@accc.gov.au'
Subject: RE: Correspondence - Director-General, Ben Ponton [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Attachment C Response for ACCC- WPM RFI 2017-18.xlsx, Correspondence - Director-General, Ben Ponton.pdf

Hi Tom,

My apologies, please find letter and attachment now included.

Kind Regards,
Petra

Petra Vest | Executive Assistant to Director-General Ben Ponton
DDG Geoffrey Rutledge, Sustainability & the Built Environment
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
ACT Government | Phone 02 6205 9646 | petra.vest@act.gov.au
Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson
www.environment.act.gov.au | www.planning.act.gov.au

From: ACCC Water [mailto:water@accc.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 1 February 2019 11:28 AM
To: Vest, Petra <Petra.Vest@act.gov.au>
Cc: Donnelly, Nathan <nathan.donnelly@accc.gov.au>; Scott, Peter <Peter.Scott@accc.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Correspondence - Director-General, Ben Ponton [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Petra,

Thanks for your email and note.

Did you intend to attach the spreadsheet containing the required information to your email? It appears that it was not attached.

Could you please resend with the spreadsheet attached.

Thanks and regards

Tom Carrigg

Assistant Director | Water Section | Infrastructure Regulation Division
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Level 18 Casselden | 2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne 3000
T: +61 03 9290 6954
www.accc.gov.au

The ACCC acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to the land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to their Elders past, present and future.

From: Vest, Petra <Petra.Vest@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 1 February 2019 9:03 AM
To: ACCC Water <water@accc.gov.au>
Subject: Correspondence - Director-General, Ben Ponton

Good morning Mr Wright,

Please find attached correspondence from Director-General, Ben Ponton regarding ACCC Water monitoring information request 2017-2018.

Kind Regards,

Petra

Petra Vest | Executive Assistant to Director-General Ben Ponton
DDG Geoffrey Rutledge, Sustainability & the Built Environment
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
ACT Government | Phone 02 6205 9646 | petra.vest@act.gov.au
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2017-18 ACCC WPM Information Request

ACT Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Directorate

Table 1 - Regulated water planning and management charges

Please note all cells shaded green have been pre-populated by the ACCC with reference to your schedule of charges.

Please confirm the information in ALL green cells. Please provide answers in all cells shaded purple.

For all new and existing WPM charges identified by the ACCC, please confirm the green columns and complete the purple cells.

If you need to amend / correct any information in the green cells, please add a comment explaining the change made.

For all WPM charges not already listed, please provide details in the empty purple cells in the bottom part of the list below.

1.1	1.1 a. Charge title	1.1 b. 2016-17 Charge amount	1.1 c. 2017-18 Charge amount	1.1 d. Unit of charge	Percentage increase from 2016-17 to 2017-18	1.1 e. Please provide information to explain any changes in the amount or application of existing WPM charges between 2016-17 and 2017-18.	1.1 f. Number of units charged
		\$	\$				
	WAE fees (per ML)						

s.20 Grant of a WAE where use is not restricted to a particular location, in all cases except those specifically identified-per megalitre	\$755.20	\$770.40	per megalitre	2.0%	The increase, as explained in the Water Resources (Fees) Determination 2017 Explanatory Statement, is to reflect indexation of the fee by the change in the Wage Price Index (equal to 2 per cent for 2017-18), in line with the standard approach adopted by the ACT Government for all legislated fees and charges.	-
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s.25 Change of condition of a WAE from one that is restricted in location to one that is not restricted for use at a particular location	\$755.20	\$770.40	per megalitre	2.0%	The increase, as explained in the Water Resources (Fees) Determination 2017 Explanatory Statement, is to reflect indexation of the fee by the change in the Wage Price Index (equal to 2 per cent for 2017-18), in line with the standard approach adopted by the ACT Government for all legislated fees and charges.	
Application fees						
s.29 Application fee for a licence to take water	\$166.70	\$170.40	per application	2.2%		2
s.43 Application fee for a waterway work licence	\$166.70	\$170.00	per application	2.0%		4

s.38 Application fee for a bore work licence	\$166.70	\$170.00	per application	2.0%	The increase, as explained in the Water Resources (Fees) Determination 2017 Explanatory Statement, is to reflect indexation of the fee by the change in the Wage Price Index (equal to 2 per cent for 2017-18), in line with the standard approach adopted by the ACT Government for all legislated fees and charges.	2
s.34 Three year driller licence application fee where the applicant does hold an equivalent licence in a state in Australia.	\$166.70	\$170.00	per application	2.0%		5
s.26 application fee for the transfer of a water access entitlement either permanently or for a period of time	\$166.70	\$170.00	per application	2.0%		2
Annual administration fees						

s.30 Licence to take water administration fee for each licence year relating to a licenced volume of up to 1000 ML per year, except where a licensee has entered into a data collection and sharing agreement with the EPA	\$432.30	\$441.00	per year	2.0%	The increase, as explained in the Water Resources (Fees) Determination 2017 Explanatory Statement, is to reflect indexation of the fee by the change in the Wage Price Index (equal to 2 per cent for 2017-18), in line with the standard approach adopted by the ACT Government for all legislated fees and charges.	184
s.30 Licence to take water administration fee for each licence relating to a licensed volume of more than 1000ML per year	\$8,393.70	\$8,561.60	per year	2.0%		1
s.50 Recharge licence yearly administration fee	\$432.30	\$441.00	per year	2.0%		1
Water Abstraction fees						

s.30 Licence to take water abstraction fee for water taken for the purposes of urban water supply and calculated on the basis of the water abstracted – per kilolitre.	\$0.56	\$0.578	per kilolitre	3.2%	The increase reflects a decision made by the ACT Government, as part of the 2016-17 Budget Review process, to index the Water Abstraction Charge by 3 per cent per annum from 1 July 2017 (see page 44 https://apps.treasury.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1031688/2016-17-Budget-Review_.pdf).	52,171,100
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	Licence to take water – abstraction fee for all water from surface water or groundwater except for that supplied through a water supply network – per kilolitre.	\$0.27	\$0.278	per kilolitre	3.0%	The increase reflects a decision made by the ACT Government, as part of the 2016-17 Budget Review process, to index the Water Abstraction Charge by 3 per cent per annum from 1 July 2017 (see page 44 https://apps.treasury.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/1031688/2016-17-Budget-Review_.pdf).	3,889,205
	New regulated WPM charges for 2016-17						
		N/A					
		N/A					
		N/A					
		N/A					
		N/A					
							Total Revenue
1.2	Were any existing WPM regulated charges repealed in 2016-17? If yes, please state which charges were repealed and when	N/A					

Operator notes to the ACCC: <i>Please indicate which question(s) the comment(s) relate to.</i>	
	As in past reports it is difficult for the ACT to accurately provide a comprehensive analysis of costs across the activities listed. The cost of administering and maintaining the water register managed by the Environment Protection Authority can be linked to the fees and charges collected by the Environment Protection Authority but is not retained by the Environment Protection Authority. Note that the administration of water entitlement and registry system

Schedules of charges published

<http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/di/2017-164/current/pdf/2017-164.pdf> (includes 2016-17 & 2017-18)

column 1 Section of Act	column 2 Type of licence	column 3 Fee Payable 2016-17	column 4 Fee Payable 2017-18	column 5 Payment Requirements
s.30	Licence to take water – administration fee for each licence year relating to a licensed volume of up to 1000 mega litres per year, except where a licensee has entered into a data collection and sharing agreement with the Environment Protection Authority.	432.30	441.00	For the first year of the licence, the fee shall be paid in full on application for a licence and thereafter, on a date specified in the licence.
s.30	Licence to take water – administration fee for each licence year relating to a licensed volume of up to 1000 mega litres per year, where a licensee has entered into a data collection and sharing agreement with the Environment Protection Authority.	Nil	Nil	For the first year of the licence, the fee shall be paid in full on application for a licence and thereafter, on a date specified in the licence.
s.30	Licence to take water administration fee for each licence year relating to a licensed volume of more than 1,000 mega litres per year.	8,393.70	8,561.60	For the first year of the licence, the fee shall be paid in full on application for a licence and thereafter, on a date specified in the licence.
s.30	Licence to take water abstraction fee for water taken for the purposes of urban water supply and calculated on the basis of the water abstracted – per kilolitre.	0.56	0.578	Payments to be made for water charged to users in each three month period ending the last day of February, May, August and November each year and within 28 days of the end of the three month period.
s.30	Licence to take water – abstraction fee for all water from surface water or groundwater except for that supplied through a water supply network – per kilolitre.	0.27	0.278	As specified in the licence. In all cases, where fees relating to a part of a month are due, each day's use will be taken to be equivalent to average daily use for that month and, where monthly meter readings are not available, the Environment Protection Authority shall estimate water use after consultation with the licensee.
s.34	Three year driller licence application fee where the applicant does hold an equivalent licence in a state in Australia.	166.70	170.00	On application.

2

column 1 Section of Act	column 2 Type of licence	column 3 Fee Payab 2016-17
s.38	Application fee for a bore work licence.	166.7
s.48	Application for a Recharge licence.	166.7
s.50	Recharge licence - yearly administration fee.	432.3
s.43	Application fee for a Waterway work licence.	166.7
s.26	Application fee for the transfer of a water access entitlement either permanently or for a period of time.	166.7

\$	-	website	Not published in newspapers
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\$	-	website	Not published in newspapers
			Not published in newspapers
\$	340.8	website	Not published in newspapers
\$	680.0	website	Not published in newspapers

\$	340.0	website	Not published in newspapers
\$	850.0	website	Not published in newspapers
\$	340.0	website	Not published in newspapers

\$	81,144.0	website	Not published in newspapers
\$	8,561.6	website	Not published in newspapers
\$	441.0	website	Not published in newspapers

\$	30,154,895.8	website	Not published in newspapers
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\$	1,081,199.0	website	Not published in newspapers
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\$	-		
\$	-		
\$	-		
\$	-		
\$	-		
\$	31,328,792.2		



	column 4	column 5
Year	Fee Payable 2017-18	Payment Requirements
70	170.00	On application
70	170.00	On application
80	441.00	For the first year of the licence, the fee shall be paid on application for a licence and thereafter, on a date specified in the licence
70	170.00	On application
70	170.00	On application

2017-18 ACCC WPM Information Request

ACT Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Directorate

Table 2 - Water planning and management activities and expenditures

The ACCC has identified WPM activities carried out by your agency in 2017-18 and where possible has pre-filled the following table. For existing or new WPM activities, please confirm the activity title and the NWI defined category in the green cells. Please enter the 2017-18 cost for each WPM activity under question 2.1 c.

For any new WPM activities not already listed, please provide details in the empty purple cells in the bottom part of the list below

Please provide a breakdown of total capital, operating and corporate costs either:

- by activity under question 2.1 d; OR
- for ALL activities under question 2.2.

2.1	2.1 a. Please list the WPM Activities carried out by your agency in 2017-18.	2.1 b. Please select the NWI defined category that this activity primarily relates to? (link to National Water Initiative Pricing Principles in appendix B)	2.1 c. Activity cost	
			2016-17	2017-18
			\$'000	\$'000
	Water Management Systems Upgrades	Water management	\$ 399.0	
	City to Lake - West Basin Public Waterfront (Design)	Water management	\$ 63.0	
	Cravens Creek Water Quality Control Pond	Water monitoring & evaluation	\$ 1,348.0	
	Isabella Weir Spillway - Upgrades	Water management	\$ 3,538.0	
	Molonglo 2 - Water Supply, Trunk Sewer and Stormwater Infrastructure - S	Water management	\$ 511.0	
	Molonglo 2 - Sewer and Pedestrian Bridge over Molonglo River	Water management	\$ 64.0	
	Woden Valley Stormwater Retardation Basins (Design)	Water management	\$ 10.0	\$ 80.0
	Horse Park Drive Water Quality Control Pond	Water monitoring & evaluation	\$ 110.0	
	Water Policy	Water reform strategy and policy	\$ 2,260.0	\$ 2,031.0
	Sustainability Programs	Water management	\$ -	
	Inner North Stormwater Reticulation System	Water management	\$ 240.0	\$ 564.0
	Stormwater Maintenance	Water management	\$ 2,063.0	\$ 9,697.0
	Stormwater Improvement Program	Water management	\$ 1,249.0	\$ 773.0
	National Arboretum Canberra - Water Security	Water planning	\$ 1,456.0	
	Improvement of Pollution Control Measures at Gross Pollutant Traps	Water monitoring & evaluation	\$ 268.0	\$ 32.0

	City to the Lake – West Basin infrastructure	Water management	\$ 6,218.0	
	Waterwatch	Water monitoring & evaluation	\$ 470.0	\$ 481.0
	Healthy Waterways Project - Isabella Pond rejuvenation project	Water management	\$ 1,236.0	\$ 2,724.0
		Please Select ...		
		Please Select ...		
	New WPM Activities for 2016-17			
		Please Select ...		
		Please Select ...		
		Please Select ...		
		Please Select ...		
		Please Select ...		
		Please Select ...		
		Total Cost of WPM Activities above	\$ 21,503.0	\$ 16,382.0
2.2	If you have not answered question 2.1 d, please indicate what proportion (either as a percentage or a dollar amount) of WPM activity costs were:	Capital Costs		
		Operating Costs		
		Corporate Costs		
		Total of Cap/Op/Corp categories	\$ -	\$ -
		Difference between cost totals:	-\$ 21,503.0	-\$ 16,382.0
	Check on cost totals: If there is a discrepancy in cell above between sum of costs of WPM activities and sum of capital, operating and corporate components, please check calculations or explain.			
Operator notes to the ACCC: <i>Please indicate which question(s) the comment(s) relate to.</i>				

Options for 2.1b

Water reform strategy and policy

Water planning

Water management

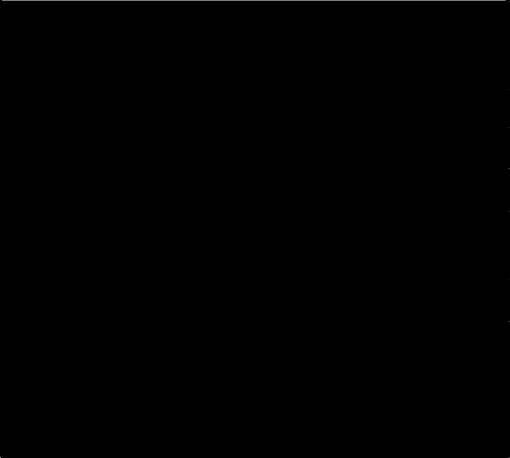
Water monitoring & evaluation

Information management & reporting

Water administration & regulation

Water industry regulation

[illegible]



2017-18 ACCC WPM Information Request
ACT Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Directorate

Table 3 - Statement of executive responsibility

Please provide a signed copy to the ACCC (an electronic version is adequate)

I, Ben Ponton, am an authorised agent in my capacity as Director General of the Environment, Planning and Sustainability Directorate, having the appropriate authority to verify and supply information to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission in meeting the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's functions under the *Water Act 2007*.

In my opinion, the information provided to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission presents an accurate and fair representation of ACT Government water resources activities and compliance information concerning the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

Signature

Date



ACT
Government

Environment, Planning and
Sustainable Development

18/24546

Mr Robert Wright
General Manager Insurance, Water and Wireline Markets Branch
Infrastructure Regulation Division
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Level 18 | 2 Lonsdale St (Casselden Place)
Melbourne VIC 3000
water@accc.gov.au

Dear Mr Wright

ACCC Water monitoring information request 2017-18

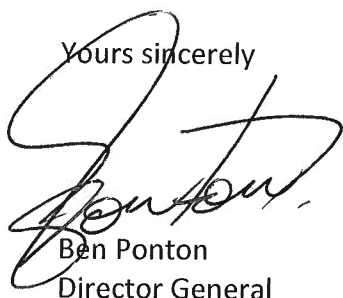
Thank you for your letter requesting the provision of information for the preparation of the ACCC's 2017-18 Water Monitoring Report.

Attached is the ACT's information for the water monitoring report 2017-18 as per the spreadsheets provided. The information is also being provided electronically.

I apologise for the delay in providing the required information.

The contact officer for this matter is Stewart Chapman tel. (02) 6207 0290.

Yours sincerely



Ben Ponton
Director General

31.1.19