

From: Walker, IanS
Sent: Fri, 29 Jan 2021 06:26:54 +0000
To: EPSDD DLO
Cc: EPD Ministerials - Environment; EPSD Government Services
Subject: FW: Follow up question - DUE - 20210120 - 21/03443 - DLO Request -
Rattenbury - Water Abstraction Charge Questions
Categories: 01. Karley to action

OFFICIAL

Hi Karley – please see below

Ian Walker

Executive Group Manager | Environment

ph: +61 2 6205 9027 m: 0437 198 706 e: IanS.Walker@act.gov.au

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

Naas Neighbourhood, Level 2, 480 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT

2602 www.environment.act.gov.au

We acknowledge and celebrate the Ngunnawal peoples whose traditional lands we work on and pay our respect to elders past and present

From: Malouf, Chris <Chris.Malouf@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 29 January 2021 5:02 PM
To: Walker, IanS <IanS.Walker@act.gov.au>
Cc: EPD Ministerials - Environment <EPDMinisterials-Environment@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Follow up question - DUE - 20210120 - 21/03443 - DLO Request - Rattenbury - Water Abstraction Charge Questions

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Hi Ian,

In regard to the ACT Government's provision of information to the ACCC Water Monitoring report, the revenue figure is calculated as per the Water Resources (Fees) Determination 2019 (<https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/di/2019-128/>) managed by ACT Treasury which sets out the fees to be charged depending on different categories of water abstraction activities. The Environment Protection Authority then provides data on the number of units charged per category and this provides a total figure for the Water Abstraction Charge (WAC).

In regard to costs, all ACT Directorates are asked to report on annual expenditure against the National Water Initiative pricing principles (<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/water/policy/nwi/pricing-principles>). These principles classify water planning and management activities into the following categories:

- A. Water Reform, Strategy & Policy
- B. Water Planning

- C. Water Management
- D. Water Monitoring & Evaluation
- E. Information Management & Reporting
- F. Water Administration & Regulation
- G. Water Industry Regulation

In addition, expenditure is further categorised as Capital, Operating and Corporate cost.

The costs figures presented in the graph represent the collective response from all Directorates on their expenditure against the ACCC criteria.

Please let me know if you require any further clarification.

Thanks,

Chris Malouf

Senior Director - Business Manager, Environment

Naas Neighbourhood, Level2, 480 NBA

Phone: +61 (02) 6205 4678 | Mobile: +61(0) 407 200 817 | Email: Chris.Malouf@act.gov.au

From: EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 29 January 2021 3:25 PM

To: EPD Ministerials - Environment <EPDMinisterials-Environment@act.gov.au>; Walker, IanS <IanS.Walker@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Follow up question - DUE - 20210120 - 21/03443 - DLO Request - Rattenbury - Water Abstraction Charge Questions

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hello

Just following up on this one.

Thanks

Karley Anderson | Directorate Liaison Officer | 02 6207 7415

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government

From: EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 12:43 PM

To: EPD Ministerials - Environment <EPDMinisterials-Environment@act.gov.au>; Walker, IanS <IanS.Walker@act.gov.au>

Cc: EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>

Subject: Follow up question - DUE - 20210120 - 21/03443 - DLO Request - Rattenbury - Water Abstraction Charge Questions

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi team

See below follow up question from MO.

Happy for this information to be provided back to me via email and I will provide to Anna.

If I can get this by COB tomorrow that would be great.

Thanks

Karley Anderson | Directorate Liaison Officer | 02 6207 7415

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government

From: McGuire, AnnaX <AnnaX.McGuire@act.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 12:07 PM

To: EPSDD DLO <EPSDDLO@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Water Abstraction Charge questions

Hi Karley/Erica

Thanks, this is very useful.

I have one follow up question, which is how water costs are calculated in the below graph (from the national report linked to in the information provided). Does the team have information on what is included/excluded from these costs? I assume we provide this information to the Commonwealth?

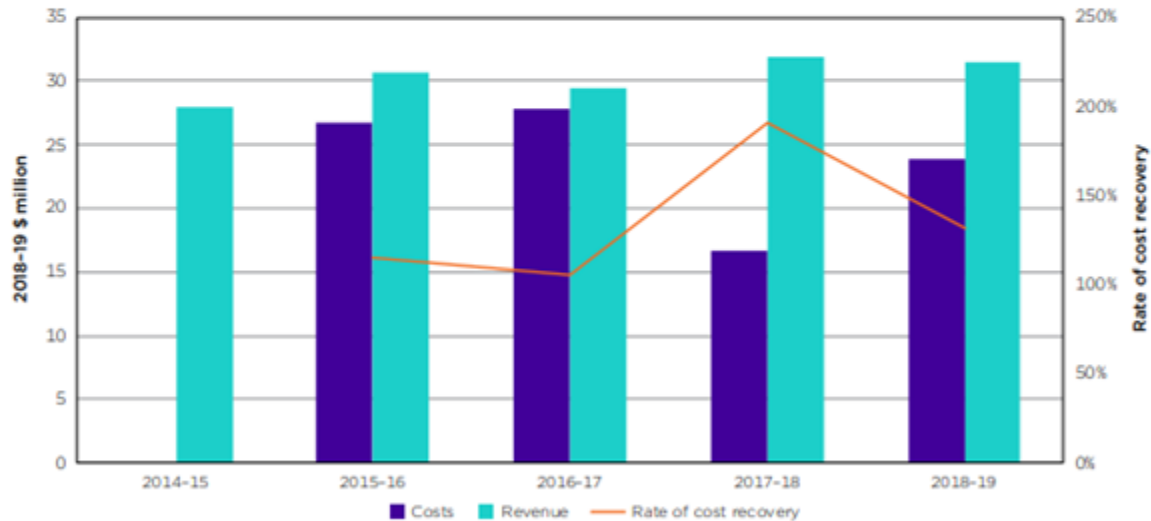
Thanks

Anna

Total revenue derived from water charges decreased marginally (1 per cent in real terms) in 2018-19 to \$31.5 million. The ACT's total WPM revenue is mostly derived from its three water extraction fees, which comprised 99.7 per cent of the total. This share has remained virtually the same over the past three years. WPM charges in the ACT are set by the ACT Government via an annual determination made by the Minister.¹⁵¹

With the large increase in expenditure and little change in revenue, the ACT's rate of cost recovery dropped from 191 per cent in 2017-18 to 132 per cent in 2018-19. Chart 6.6 presents the ACT's WPM expenditure, revenue and rate of recovery over the past five years.

Chart 6.6: Australian Capital Territory's water planning and management costs, revenue and cost recovery rate in real terms 2014-15 to 2018-19



Source: ACCC from data provided and published by Basin state agencies.

Notes: The ACT's WPM cost data is not available before 2015-16. Real values in 2018-19 dollars.

From: EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 January 2021 4:58 PM
To: McGuire, AnnaX <AnnaX.McGuire@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Water Abstraction Charge questions

OFFICIAL

Hi Anna
Please see information attached.
Thanks
Erica

From: McGuire, AnnaX <AnnaX.McGuire@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 January 2021 5:07 PM
To: EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>
Subject: Water Abstraction Charge questions

Hi Karley

If possible, can we please get some advice on the Water Abstraction Charge (WAC). This has been mentioned in EPSDD briefings previously, but if these aren't questions the water team can answer I can try elsewhere under AG portfolio.

Given that it is charged 'to recover catchment management costs and environmental costs associated with water extraction' I'm wondering:

- How the WAC is set (under what legislation and by who)
- Whether there is any process/guidance on how the revenue from the charge can be allocated
- Whether there is public reporting on how the revenue is spent.

Thanks

Anna