Yarra Valley Water

18 February 2026

Yarra Valley Water Corporation
ABN 93 066 902 501

Gerard Brody
Chairperson
Essential Services Commission
Level 8, 570 Bourke St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Gerard

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on Getting to Fair: Advancing Equity.

We welcome and are supportive of the continued focus of the Essential Service Commission (ESC) on ensuring just outcomes and equitable access to essential services for all Victorians, today and into the future. We consider that the priority themes are appropriate to support business level accountability, as well as system-level improvements. They also help to ensure an ongoing priority on lived experience and consumer voice.

As an essential service provider, our strategic focus considers intergenerational equity, to ensure fair, accessible and inclusive services now and into the future as we adapt and evolve to our operating context.

We support the development of a framework to articulate the role of the ESC in enabling self-determination and ensuring equitable participation and outcomes for First Peoples within their regulated sectors. This is particularly important given the core focus of self-determination within government policy including the recent passing of Statewide Treaty and other discussions at a local level, including the partnerships we and other water corporations hold with Traditional Owners. A commitment to support self-determination is embedded within our 2030 strategy which has a guiding principle of honouring and healing Country.

Our approach respects the inherent rights of Traditional Owners and First Peoples and supporting a self-determined role for Traditional Owners in water planning, decision-making and future management. Critical to this is building long-term trusted relationships and ensuring that we are guided by Traditional Owner priorities and how they would like to work with us. This includes working collaboratively within the water sector to ensure we are working effectively together and are easy to engage with.

In developing the framework, we encourage the ESC to engage with the water sector to ensure that we can continue to prioritise the partnerships and commitments we have with Traditional Owners and First Peoples.

We note that the priority actions will be provided within annual workplans and look forward to receiving additional detail on these as the strategy is implemented and as we initiate work on our next price submission.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Foeng
Managing Director

Contact us

Enquiries 1300 304 688
Faults and Emergencies 13 27 62 (24hr)
enquiry@yvw.com.au

yvw.com.au
25 Lucknow Street Mitcham, Victoria 3132

For language assistance

العربية	1300 914 361
廣東話	1300 921 362
Ελληνικά	1300 931 364
普通话	1300 927 363

For all other languages call our translation service on **03 9046 4173**
TTY Voice Calls 133 677
Speak and Listen 1300 555 727