

Water price review 2018

Submission received through Engage Victoria

Date submitted: 23 February 2018

Water business: Yarra Valley Water

Submission written by: Mike Jorgensen

Postcode: 3070

From 6 December 2017, we began accepting submissions on our 2018 water price review via Engage Victoria (www.engage.vic.gov.au). On this website, people were given the option to send us general feedback or respond to a set of questions we provided.

1. What do you think of the prices proposed by the water business?

While the proposed reduction in the fixed portion is welcomed, the real problem is the high cost of debt, which is over 7%. Considering the low interest rates currently available the debt needs to be re-financed to them support even lower fixed and usage rates.

2. What do you think of the proposed outcomes?

No comment.

3. Are there any other customer outcomes or issues we should consider?

Need to bring back discounts for large households. Mine varies between three and nine people. Our per-person consumption is around 100 L/day, but when nine people are occupying my house my usage hits Block 3. A rebate would be appreciated.

4. What do you think of the proposed guaranteed service levels?

No response

5. Do you have any comments on the proposed major projects?

Make sure the developers of these greenfield areas pay their impact fees before occupancy certificates are issued.

6. Is there anything else we should consider as part of our price review process?

Force the water companies to provide real-time usage data like I have for my electricity.