

Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports Minister for Energy and Water Supply

Your Ref: 10.4 Petitions

2 JUL 2015

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000 Level 15 Capital Hill Building
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 5 June 2015 enclosing a copy of Petition No. 2395-15 lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Petition draws to the attention of the House the desire from Moreton Bay residents for the Government to adopt the bulk water prices for the Moreton Bay area in accordance with the recommendations of the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) in the report "SEQ Bulk Water Price Path 2015-18 – Final Report – March 2015".

Unitywater has responsibility for setting water distribution and retail and sewerage prices charged to households in the Moreton Bay area, with the price of bulk water, set by the Government, making up the remainder of an average household water and sewerage bill.

I can confirm that the Government has accepted the prices recommended by the QCA for 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2018. As the Minister responsible for bulk water prices, I have decided the prices to apply based on prices recommended by the independent QCA in its April 2015 report. These prices are lower across the south east than the bulk water prices previously forecast under the former government. Also, as the petition indicated, these prices include essentially a 'price freeze' for the Moreton Bay area with a decrease of 0.03 per cent for 2015-16.

As a result of this decision, and also Unitywater's decision to freeze its water and sewerage charges, there will be no increase in charges to the average household in Moreton Bay over the next 12 months.

Yours sincerely

Mark Bailey MP

Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports

Minister for Energy and Water Supply