

## Melbourne Water price review 2021

### Submission received through Engage Victoria

From 25 March 2021, we began accepting submissions on the Melbourne Water price review 2021 - draft decision via Engage Victoria ([www.engage.vic.gov.au](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au)). On this website, interested parties were given the opportunity to provide feedback on our draft decision on Melbourne Water's price submission.

**Date submitted: 4 May 2021**

**Submission written by: Anonymous**

I am very apposed to the Cement Creek and Bunyip River Diversions, proposed in the Price Submission document (first mentions on pages 21 and 43). These proposals will yield small amounts of water, while having very high environmental impacts to the Yarra Ranges National Park and Bunyip State Park. This is particularly pertinent to the biodiversity inhabiting the vicinity of the proposed Diversions, which includes a suite of National and State significant threatened species such as Leadbeater's Possum, Greater Glider, Powerful Owl, Sooty Owl, Platypus, Round Leaf Pomaderris, Tall Astelia, Small Fork Fern Tree Geebung, etc.

Has Melbourne Water ensured adequate investigation and consideration of the environmental flow requirements of each waterway with proposed Diversions? If so, have they accepted or will they accept the environmental flow recommendations?

Has Melbourne Water adequately considered the impacts of climate change on the proposed Diversions? Rainfall is likely to decline as a result of climate change which will reduce the harvesting capacity of new Diversions, while still having a very significant impact on biodiversity and natural values of the Parks and significant financial cost for development. Melbourne Water should be investing in rainfall independent sources of water to meet the needs, and should invest more resources into integrated water management solutions such as storm water harvesting, recycled water and efficiency, ahead of these new proposed Diversion that will have such devastating ecological consequences.

In addition, I don't believe sufficient public consultation has been undertaken for these Diversions, especially given their significant impacts to the biodiversity assets in our National Parks and State Parks.