

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). On this website, interested parties were given the opportunity to provide feedback on our draft decision on Melbourne Water's price submission.

Date submitted: 28 March 2021

Submission written by: Travis Ahearn

Hi there, we should emulate NSW and introduce flexible pricing. 'With dam levels currently plentiful, bills would fall for almost all customers from 1 July. But if drought conditions return, the water usage price would be higher. This allows Sydney Water to recover increased costs in drought, and enables customers to manage these costs by adjusting their consumption. But it does not lock in higher prices when dams are full. At the same time, we are reducing the service charge for water, meaning customers can save money during these uncertain times...From 1 July 2020, the usage price you pay for water will depend on dam levels. If dam levels are above 60% at the start of each quarterly billing cycle, then you would pay \$2.30 per kilolitre of water you consume. This price has been set with reference to the long term cost of providing water under 'average weather' conditions.

When dam levels fall below 60%, you would pay \$3.12 per kilolitre as water becomes more costly to supply. You would pay this higher price until dam levels are 70% at the start of the quarter. The small fixed charge is the same for average and drought conditions.