

From: Bruce Crawford

To: waterplan@chw.net.au

Sent: Sunday, July 29, 2012 4:22 PM

Subject: water rates

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing about your draft water plan that is now being considered for the next 5 years. As a property owner I wish to object in the strongest way possible to your wastewater access fee and water access fee. I cant do anything about these archaic fees to reduce them at all and I feel that we should be charged on a user pays system similar to other services such as gas or power.

I realise that the price of water would have to rise under such a system (Around 25% according to your own estimates) but as my last water volume charge was only \$163.46 I would rather that happen than have the other fees attached as well. I run a small business in Ballarat and have been speaking to a range of people lately about this issue and most will agree that a user pays system is a lot fairer, but (like me) feel that any attempt to have Central Highlands water do anything about it will only fall on deaf ears.

I propose that the 2 fees mentioned earlier be scrapped in the next water plan (not just talked about for the following water plan in another 5 years) for property owners primary residence, but leave these fees in place for landlords as this would be a tax deduction for them anyway and would not disadvantage people paying rent to them or their current arrangement with their landlord over water charges.

Your Sincerely, Bruce Crawford