

30 JUN 2014

DATE RECEIVED

Queensland Competition Authority  
 GPO Box 2257  
 Brisbane Qld. 4001.

Dear ACA,

Thank you for sending me the Unity Water Final Report of March 2014 and Framework for SEQ Entities Position Paper of February 2014.

This is just a brief and hasty submission expressing my concerns about the increasing price of our water and sewerage services by Unitywater in our area, since it took control from July 2010, when residents were hit with a huge increase in Access charges.

Water is a common good rather than a commodity and subject to competition, and with no control by our Council. It is a basic necessity of life.

In July 2013, residents lost not only the Council subsidy of \$27.81 on quarterly bills, but with an additional Sewerage Usage charge of 90% of water usage - Unitywater the only water entity in SEQ to introduce the new charge. The \$30 discount has remained the same since July 2013.

Last bill, I paid an exorbitant Sewerage Access charge of \$178.55 for 91 days (water access of \$73.19).

I used only 10 Kls. of water. I have only one toilet, yet pay the same Access charge as a resident with two or more. I have no swimming pool, or dishwasher affecting Sewerage access.

I suggest a lower Access charge depending on the number of toilets in a residence as I understand is the case in other entities charges.

As residents are losing control of our water while separated from Council ownership, where it should belong.

Yours sincerely

HEATHER  
 (WILLIAMS)