

25 March 2015

26 Spindrift Avenue
Coolum Beach Qld. 4573

Dr. Malcolm Roberts
Chairman
Queensland Competition Authority (QCA)
G.P.O. 2257
Brisbane Qld.4001

QLD COMPETITION AUTHORITY

27 MAR 2015

DATE RECEIVED

Re: SEQ Retail Water Annual Performance Monitoring - March 2015 (the Report)

Dear Dr. Roberts,

The Authority has invited public submissions on this draft Report.

Please refer to previous public submissions dated 23 January 2015 and 18 September 2014 relating to bulk water charges passed through to Coolum Beach households by Unitywater, and submissions dated 6 June 2014 and 14 August 2013 relating to the investigation of retail charging practices of Unitywater.

Despite a public submission dated 6 June 2014 requesting due process be afforded to the SEQ 2013-15 Prices Monitoring investigation submission, the Report recommends practices that will continue to fail to provide households independent investigation of possible monopoly pricing abuse. To suggest in Section 1.3 that only matters raised by retailers could be referred to the Ministers QCA seems denial of due process, and makes a mockery of the public consultation process.

The draft Report reaffirms ineffective past practices used to conduct price monitoring investigations. It permits restrictive terms of reference to be set by the Queensland Government designed to prevent effective performance of QCA's obligation to protect Coolum Beach residents from possible monopoly pricing abuse by commercial business entities controlled by the Queensland Government*.

Part 6 of the QCA Act requires prices monitoring investigations to comply with "natural justice". Is "due process" not a key element of natural justice? Sunshine Coast households have been denied due process since Coolum Beach stakeholders commenced making invited public submissions on QCA's water pricing investigations in 2009.

Like past prices monitoring investigations involving Unitywater, Sunshine Coast Water and Maroochy Water Services conducted by QCA, the drafting of this Report has been a waste of public resources.

Yours sincerely,



Amy-Rose West (Ms.)

***Submission No. 34 to Senate Inquiry "Certain Aspects of Queensland Government Administration related to Commonwealth Government Affairs".**