

MEDIA RELEASE

Commission commences review of SA Water's regulatory business proposal for 2016-2020



1 September 2015

SA Water today provided the Essential Services Commission of SA with its Regulatory Business Proposal, signalling the start of a review of the regulatory arrangement between SA Water and its customers for a four-year period, starting 1 July 2016.

The Commission's Chief Executive Officer, Adam Wilson, said: "The Commission's review will seek to ensure that SA Water is planning to deliver water and sewerage retail services in an efficient and prudent manner."

SA Water's proposal sets out its view of the lowest long term cost of delivering water and sewerage retail services in line with its statutory obligations. Mr Wilson said: "The Commission will continue to work with other regulators and government agencies to ensure that SA Water's proposal is consistent with its environmental, public health, safety, technical and social policy obligations set by those bodies."

The Commission's regulatory determination will not be based solely on the proposal put forward by SA Water. Mr Wilson said: "SA Water's proposal is an important submission for the review process. However, the Commission needs to consider the broadest range of evidence available to it in reaching its decisions. This includes giving all South Australians the opportunity to provide comment on SA Water's proposal directly to the regulator."

Following review and consultation, the Commission will release a draft determination in February 2016. This will allow South Australians to provide feedback on the Commission's preliminary views before the review process is finalised in May 2016.

Once the Commission has determined the maximum revenue SA Water would require, SA Water will determine the prices it will charge its customers for water and sewerage services from 1 July 2016.

SA Water's proposal is available online at www.sawater.com.au. Written submissions on SA Water's proposal can be provided to the Commission by close of business Friday, 16 October 2015. Further details on how to make a submission are available on the Commission's website: (www.escosa.sa.gov.au/consultation/making-a-submission.aspx)

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The Essential Services Commission of South Australia is an independent statutory authority with functions in a range of essential services including water, sewerage, electricity, gas, rail and maritime services, and also has a general advisory function on economic matters.

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