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Your submission for this review:

Instead of slugging the taxpayers of NSW with a near 50% increase over the next 5 years Sydney Water should stop paying any dividends to the Government. If they require these funds to pay for new infrastructure then surely that is what these dividends should be used for rather than propping up the Government's Budget. That what was done in prior years before the politicians decided to raid the coffers of Sydney Water. Previously all surpluses generated by Sydney Water were invested in maintaining and building the infrastructure which kept price rises to a minimum. As they are now claiming a shortfall to pay for these operations then surely they should stop paying dividends to the government as private companies do when they have a shortfall in profits. In addition if there needs to be more investment in new infrastructure due to population and housing increases then the government should pay for this investment from all the previous dividends paid to it by Sydney water in the past. In other words pay back their dividends to Sydney Water. This solution would then limit any price rises to CPI increases only which I would of thought would be a priority of government in this cost of living crisis we currently experience. If government wants to relieve this crisis then surely this is their best option. Sydney water is an essential service we require to live on and not some service seen as a way of making profits for politicians to waste on re-election. Its not like people can simply disconnect and live without it. Sydney water should be ring fenced from any politician or government and operate on a not for profit essential supplier only reporting to parliament and not a minister so that all surpluses are re-invested into the network infrastructure and not given to any government to waste. This was how they used to operate. For them to have to pay a government a dividend is privatisation by stealth!