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Your submission for this review:

As a concerned Sydney resident, I am deeply worried about Sydney Waters proposed 46% rate increase over the next five years. These hikes starting with an 18% increase in the first year, followed by 7% annually could make water costs nearly double by 2030. For many households, this added financial burden would come on top of already rising costs in other essential areas, like groceries, housing, and energy. At a time when residents are doing their best to manage these expenses, such a dramatic increase feels like too much to bear, especially with inflation continuing to affect day-to-day expenses. While I understand the need to invest in infrastructure and improve service quality, the question is whether such investments should be made in a way that disproportionately impacts residents who are already feeling the financial strain. Water is a basic necessity, and access to it should not come at such a high cost that it affects the standard of living for thousands across Sydney. I believe there are more balanced approaches to achieving these improvements, like gradual increases or exploring alternative funding options that don't place such a heavy burden on the community. Water is a basic necessity for human life. This is unequivocally taking advantage of this basic human need at a time when our pockets are already hurting.