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Your submission for this review:

I wish to thank IPart for the ongoing communications in relation to bulk water supply, specifically within the Fish River Catchment. Oberon Council is a customer of the Water NSW Bulk Raw Water Supply with its intake valve less than 200m from the Lake Oberon Wall. Council has previously highlighted the substantial cost of its Raw Water to IPART in the past and continued costs are exponentially impacting water utilities such as ours when there is no other point source of water to utilise for critical human need. It is the quality of the raw water that concerns council and has over a continued length of time. Unfortunately there are no parameters around water quality in the raw form and as a result substantial treatment (together with over inflated costs) are hugely impacting small customers such as Oberon Council. I commend IPART for its decision to implement minimal price increases however with every increase the cost disparity continues to grow. Oberon Council encourages IPART to further seek clarification on these matters now or in the future. Further, under the current system Council receives no incentive to protect water. Currently our water rate is based on a ratio that does not encourage the protection of this precious commodity. Pricing needs to further contemplate how incentives can be implemented into to protection of a supply. Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on the draft report and I encourage IPART to continue the conversation with Water NSW and Council to understand real issues relating to the Valley.