

13 June 2017



What is this fact sheet about?

We have released a Final Report and Determination on our review of the maximum prices that WaterNSW can charge for rural bulk water services from 1 July 2017, for a period of four years. This fact sheet highlights key decisions made as part of our review that affect the **Lowbidgee valley**.¹ This information is not exhaustive. Further information is available in our General Overview Fact Sheet and our Final Report.²



Bills will increase in the Lowbidgee valley

Bill impacts for the Lowbidgee valley under our Determination are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Bill impacts of bulk water charges for the Lowbidgee valley for 2017 Determination (\$ nominal – ie, with inflation)

		Current charge (2016-17)	IPART Decision (2017-18)	IPART Decision (2020-21)	% Change (2016-17 to 2020-21)
All customers	↑	\$627,480	\$597,600	\$642,420	2.4%

Note: Bill impacts analysis is based on the valley as a whole (ie, 747,000 ML of entitlements and forecast usage at 57,261 ML).

Source: WaterNSW pricing proposal June 2016, ACCC Final Report June 2014 and IPART analysis.

- Under our Determination, bills will increase (in nominal terms – ie, with inflation) for customers in the Lowbidgee valley, but below the rate of inflation. Our prices will also result in lower bills than those proposed by WaterNSW (which would result in a 10.3% increase).



Prices will decrease in Lowbidgee valley

Table 2 Bulk water charges for Lowbidgee valley for 2017 Determination - \$/ML of entitlement and usage (\$2016-17 – ie, without inflation)

		Current charge (2016-17)	IPART Decision (2017-18 to 2020-21)	% Change (2016- 17 to 2020-21)
General security charge	↓	0.84	0.78	-7.1%

Source: ACCC Final Report June 2014 and IPART analysis.

- Under our Determination, charges in the Lowbidgee valley will decrease compared with current charges (in real terms – ie, without inflation), as a result of our decisions on the customer share of efficient costs (which reduce by 14.9% per year on average relative to current levels³).

¹ In the Lowbidgee valley, customers only hold supplementary entitlements.

² See Appendix G.9 of our Final Report for further Lowbidgee valley specific information.

³ In real terms – ie, without inflation.