

## LOCAL VIEWS SOUGHT ON WATER PRICES

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will hold a public hearing in Broken Hill on Tuesday 20 November to seek community views about the price increases Essential Water is proposing for its water, sewerage and other services from 1 July 2019.

“The public hearing is an opportunity for IPART to hear first-hand local community views about Essential Water’s proposal so they can be considered during our assessment,” Dr Boxall said.

“We are particularly interested to hear from the community on Essential Water’s proposed costs, prices and service standards and whether these are reasonable and affordable.”

“Affordability is one of the key issues we are considering in assessing Essential Water’s proposal and determining new prices for Essential Water’s water and sewerage services to apply in and around Broken Hill from 1 July 2019.”

The public hearing will be held at the Broken Hill Civic Centre from 9.30am on Tuesday.

“We know there is keen interest in this review as we have received several submissions in response to the Issues Paper released in September. We will again seek submissions once our draft determination has been released in April 2019,” Dr Boxall said.

Those wishing to attend the public forum are requested to register online in advance of the forum at [www.ipart.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au). Those attending will be given the opportunity to speak as time allows.

***Media note: Any media wishing to attend the forum are asked to register online. Cameras are permitted at the back of the room to avoid interrupting proceedings.***

***Media questions will not be taken as part of the forum to enable as many residents as possible to have their say. Please contact Julie Sheather on 0409 514 643 in advance to arrange a time to interview Dr Boxall.***