

# Industry Panel

MS MARY ANNE HARTLEY Q.C.

MS SALLY FARRIER

MS CLAIRE THOMAS PSM

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Mr J Knox  
Managing Director  
Icon Water Limited  
GPO Box 366  
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Dear Mr Knox

## **APPLICATION MADE UNDER SECTION 24S OF THE *INDEPENDENT COMPETITION AND REGULATORY COMMISSION ACT 1997***

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23 January 2015, applying for an alteration to the Price Direction of 26 June 2013 for regulated water and sewerage services in the ACT.

The Industry Panel (the Panel) has commenced its consideration of your application, which has been provided to the ACT Treasurer, and those who notified their interest in the Panel's ongoing review of the Price Direction. The Panel has indicated it will accept written submissions from these persons until Wednesday 4 February. A copy of the correspondence is attached for your information.

If, after consideration, the Panel forms an initial view favourable to the application, it proposes to seek assistance from the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission in relation to identifying any issues associated with the implementation of any alteration.

The Panel will endeavour to complete consideration of the application expeditiously.

Yours sincerely



**Mary Anne Hartley QC**  
President of the Industry Panel

28 January 2015

## INDUSTRY PANEL

GPO Box 158, Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: (02) 6207 6128 Fax: (02) 6207 0267 Email: [industrypanel@act.gov.au](mailto:industrypanel@act.gov.au)

Website: <http://apps.treasury.act.gov.au/industrypanel>

## **Attachment: Communication to interested parties and the Treasurer**

Dear <xxxxxx>

As you will be aware, the Industry Panel (the Panel) is currently reviewing the price direction released by the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission (ICRC) in June 2013 for prices applying to water and sewerage services in the ACT for the regulatory period commencing 1 July 2013. The 2013 price direction made provision for the ICRC to undertake two biennial recalibrations, due to occur in 2015 and 2017.

The ICRC's first recalibration process, which is designed to review the maximum prices that may be charged for regulated water and sewerage services from 1 July 2015, commenced on 29 October 2014. While the ICRC's biennial recalibration work is currently running concurrently with the Panel's review, the process is independent of the Panel's review.

Section 24S of the *Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission Act 1997* (the Act) empowers the Panel to make a declaration to suspend or alter the price direction following an application by a party.

On 23 January 2015, the Panel received an application from Icon Water Limited (Icon Water) under section 24S of the Act to defer or remove the need for the ICRC's first biennial recalibration, pending the release of the Panel's final report.

A copy of Icon Water's application, which sets out its reasons for seeking deferral or the removal of the first biennial recalibration, is attached.

If you wish to make a submission relating to this application, you should do so in writing no later than **5pm on Wednesday 4 February**, and addressed to:

By email (preferred): [industrypanel@act.gov.au](mailto:industrypanel@act.gov.au)

By post: **Industry Panel  
GPO Box 158  
Canberra ACT 2601**

By fax: **(02) 6207 0267**

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