



HUNTER WATER CORPORATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

IPART DETERMINATION OF HUNTER WATER PRICES

Hunter Water managing director Kevin Young today said IPART's determination of water prices for the next four years means Hunter Water can now move forward with its record investment in water and wastewater infrastructure to cater for population growth and to further improve services for customers.

Mr Young said that while there had been some minor adjustments, the outcome for Hunter Water and its customers over four years was almost the same as IPART's draft determination.

"Nobody likes price increases but this is an independent decision from an independent body – the IPART," Mr Young said.

"This determination will allow Hunter Water to undertake the biggest ever capital spend on water infrastructure in the history of the Hunter – a billion dollar investment over four years supporting more than 1800 jobs," he said.

"Water prices will remain lower than what people pay in Sydney and the Central Coast."

"Hunter Water's capital works program is much more than a dam, hundreds of millions of dollars will be spent on new and upgraded recycling plants, water pipes, pumps, mains and sewerage treatment plants."

"The proposed Tillegra Dam will add just \$32 a year or 60 cents a week to existing typical customers' bills by the end of 2012/13."

"Water prices in the Hunter are not rising by as much as they are in other parts of Australia because Hunter Water is efficient and because Tillegra Dam is a cost effective solution to ensuring water security for the Hunter region."

"Being able to deliver services for less cost than our counterparts is a credit to the talented and dedicated staff at Hunter Water."

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	TOTAL
Average residential bill (200,000 litres/year)	\$718	\$817	\$857	\$897	\$939	
\$ increase per year		\$99	\$40	\$40	\$42	\$221
\$ Cumulative (relative to today 09/10)		+\$99	+\$139	+\$179	+\$221	221/718= 31%

NB. Typical Hunter household water bills will rise by \$99 or 13% this year. They will progressively rise by \$220 or 31% over the next four years.

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