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Mr Marcus Crudden Executive Director Price Monitoring and Regulation water@esc.vic.gov.au

Dear Marcus

GOULBURN MURRAY WATER - PRICE REVIEW 2024 - GUIDANCE PAPER

On behalf of the Lower Murray Water Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC), I would like to thank you for taking the time to work with the Executives from Goulburn Murray Water (GMW) and Lower Murray Water (LMW) in regard to the proposed increase to Bulk Water Charges brought about by GMW's planned move to system pricing.

The SAC first heard of the proposal earlier this year, with no consultation having taken place with the local irrigation community, the end users. The increase would have imposed an increase of 18% which we the SAC believe is unwarranted and unsustainable.

We request that an expectation be included in the guidance paper that prior to any future increases, or changes to the pricing structure being approved, that the appropriate consultation be undertaken with irrigators within the LMW service area to ensure a fair and transparent process has been followed.

Yours sincerely

Frank Dimasi
CHAIR, STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sent via email