

## Water price review 2023

### Submission received via email

Date submitted: 20 April 2023

Water business: Gippsland Water

Submission written by: Patrick Ansell

Postcode: 3840

In December 2022, we began accepting submissions on our 2023 water price review draft decisions via Engage Victoria ([www.engage.vic.gov.au](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au)). On this website, people were given the option to send us general feedback or respond to questions we provided.

I understand that your Body is receiving and reviewing submissions into Gippsland Water.

As a resident in Morwell Victoria who lives in a unit in a block of 8, I urge the ESC to review and impose caps on what Gippsland Water can charge unit owners.

Under the current arrangement, and i assume the ESC is fine with this, Gippsland Water charges unit owners the same rates as they charge a standalone home yet we receive no extra benefit nor do unit owners cost Gippsland Water additional monies treating our waste etc. Like a standalone home, in my unit complex, we share the same sewerage line etc yet each unit owner is paying as if we each have our own individual sewerage line etc. In effect, Gippsland Water is gauging the owners 8 times more than a standalone home.

If we arent receiving any extra benefit or if it costs no more to service and maintain our sewerage, how can the ESC and Gippsland Water justify charging individual unit owners the same as a standalone home. In total we have 8 people living in this complex compared to the average 4 people in a house yet it is falsely assumed that we create more waste to treat than 8 houses.

At most, Gippsland Water would be justified charging us half of what a standalone house pays given we produce twice as much waste to treat compared to a house but 8 times more is offensive and unjustified. As i said, we share the one line, we dont have 8 individual lines so where is the extra cost maintaining our property - there isnt.

I have no illusions that as public servants, you will give in to Gippsland Water's on going gauging but i urge you to apply commonsense and think of the customer for once and not protect these utility companies.

It would be nice to get a response to my submission and a final determination.

Patrick Ansell

