

**Essential Services Commission  
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To whom it may concern

**Response to the GMMWater Draft Water Plan**

Why should every household pay a subsidy for recreational water, surely it should and must be a user pays policy.

My wife and i are at least 80km from any recreational lake and reject the premise that we should be asked to pay a subsidy for something we will never use, in today's technological world there are ways to enforce payment from users of these recreational facilities like e tags, number plate recognition etc, GMMWater should be looking to these technologies before penalizing non users.

As for the raising of charges for water, if a community is receiving drinking quality water, then it is fair and reasonable to increase costs to cover the maintenance and up keep of infrastructure, however, if your community receives untreated bore water through aging asbestos lined pipes, then the costs imposed on properties must be reduced or at least held at current levels until GMMWater put in place infrastructure to supply customers with clean drinking water quality.

What some areas of GMMWater receive from these untreated bores is worse than in some 3rd world countries, i have tasted better quality water in both Vietnam and Bali through their mains water system.

My wife and i currently spend on average \$30.00 each month to replace the 2 10" water filters we have fitted to clean the water received through our water meter to try and alleviate the cost of replacing hot water systems and tap ware due to the corrosion caused by the regulated untreated water.

GMMWater needs to put in place an agenda showing when it will upgrade the infrastructure for those towns on a regulated water supply before being allowed any further increases in the cost of the water they currently supply.

The plan as put forward is very short on detail for the replacement of aging infrastructure and upgrade plans for those towns on the regulated water supply and this must be addressed before being granted approval to increase charges to these towns.

**Sincerely  
John Herring**

