

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Water Supply and Sewerage Services Act

PRICING ORDER

I, SYDNEY JAMES STIRLING, the Treasurer –

- (a) in pursuance of section 60(1) of the *Water Supply and Sewerage Services Act* and with reference to section 43 of the *Interpretation Act*, revoke the pricing order signed on 23 December 2001 that took effect on 1 January 2002; and
- (b) in pursuance of section 60(1)(a) and (1)(b) of the *Water Supply and Sewerage Services Act*, issue the pricing order specified in the Schedule, with effect on and from 1 January 2003.

Dated 12th December 2002.



SYD STIRLING

SCHEDULE

ORDER

1. Definitions

In this Order –

"CPI" means the percentage specified in clause 2 as the annual percentage increase in the Territory in consumer prices for goods and services for the purposes of this Order;

"Government customers" means –

- (a) agencies, instrumentalities or corporations of the Territory or the Commonwealth whose primary functions do not involve providing services or facilities to the public that

are services or facilities that compete with services provided by the private sector; and

(b) councils within the meaning of the *Local Government Act*;

"multiple residential customers" means customers owning or occupying residential properties that are units within the definition of "units" in section 4(1) of the *Unit Titles Act*;

"non-residential customers" means customers owning or occupying properties that are not residential properties;

"portable meter customers" means customers supplied through a portable meter issued under section 73 of the Act;

"regulated services" means water supply services, sewerage services and related services supplied to customers by the Power and Water Corporation under a licence;

"related services" means –

(a) services ancillary to the provision of water supply services and sewerage services, if the Power and Water Corporation has an effective monopoly in the provision of the ancillary services; and

(b) services ancillary to the ownership or operation of the infrastructure associated with the provision of water supply services or sewerage supply services,

but does not include the acceptance of compliant trade waste that is discharged into a sewer owned and operated by the Power and Water Corporation and to which the pricing order signed on 23 January 2002 applies;

"residential properties" includes –

(a) land on which is situated a building or structure used or intended to be used primarily for residential purposes; and

(b) vacant land zoned for residential purposes,

but does not include land used or intended to be used for commercial purposes, including but not limited to land used or intended to be used for –

- (c) a guest house, hostel, motel, hotel or caravan park;
- (d) a farming or mining enterprise;
- (e) a residence attached to a shop or professional suite;
- (f) premises at which an occupation, business or profession is carried on by a person who resides at the premises;

"single residential dwelling customers" means customers owning or occupying a residential property who are not multiple residential customers.

2. Consumer Price Index

For the purposes of this Order, the annual percentage increase in the Territory in consumer prices for goods and services is 2.5%.

3. Application of Order

(1) This Order only applies in relation to prices for regulated services supplied by the Power and Water Corporation.

(2) A price to which this Order applies is to comply with a restriction on pricing specified in directions or notifications issued in accordance with sections 28, 29 and 30 of the *Government Owned Corporations Act*.

4. Water supply prices

(1) Prices for water supply services are to distinguish between the following customer groups:

- (a) portable meter customers;
- (b) government customers;
- (c) all other customers,

in accordance with Tables 1 and 2.

(2) Prices for water supply services to the customer groups referred to in subclause (1) may only consist of –

- (a) for all customers except portable meter customers – a fixed daily price component based on the nominal diameter of the meter in relation to the customer or the service pipe by which the service is to be supplied to the customer (whether or not water is supplied

through the meter or service pipe) that does not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with Table 1; and

- (b) for all customers – a water volumetric component expressed in kilolitres (kL) (including a part of a kilolitre) of water supplied during a meter reading period to a property or properties that does not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with Table 2.

5. Sewerage services prices

(1) Prices for sewerage services are to distinguish between the following customer groups:

- (a) single residential dwelling customers;
- (b) multiple residential customers;
- (c) non-residential customers,

in accordance with Table 3.

(2) Prices for sewerage services to each customer group may only consist of a fixed annual price that –

- (a) for single residential dwelling customers – does not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with Table 3;
- (b) for multiple residential customers – relates to the number of residential units and does not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with Table 3; and
- (c) for non-residential customers – relates to the number of sanitary fittings on the land and does not exceed the amount calculated in accordance with Table 3.

6. Prices for related services

A price for a related service may be no more than a fair and reasonable amount taking into consideration the costs of providing the service in an efficient manner.

7. Prices to be published

(1) A price to which this Order relates may only be imposed after 2 weeks after the public has been given notice of the price by the Power and Water Corporation.

(2) Notice for the purposes of subclause (1) may be given before the date on which this Order takes effect, but cannot take effect until the date on which this Order takes effect or 2 weeks after the notice is given, whichever occurs later.

8. Role of the Utilities Commission

The Utilities Commission is to –

- (a) monitor compliance with this Order;
- (b) enforce this Order under section 23 of the *Utilities Commission Act* in the same way as if it were a determination under that Act; and
- (c) investigate any complaints made to the Utilities Commission by customers that prices to which this Order applies do not comply with this Order.

TABLES

Water supply prices

Table 1 – Fixed daily price component (\$/day), for all customer groups except those with a portable meter

Diameter nominal (DN) of meter or service pipe	Previous maximum price (P_{f1})	Price from 1 Jan 2003
Up to 25mm	0.2756	$P_{f1} \times (1+CPI)$
26-40mm	0.7056	$P_{f1} \times (1+CPI)$
41-50mm	1.1000	$P_{f1} \times (1+CPI)$
51-100mm	4.4100	$P_{f1} \times (1+CPI)$
101-150mm	9.9200	$P_{f1} \times (1+CPI)$
151-200mm	17.6400	$P_{f1} \times (1+CPI)$

More than 200mm	$\frac{\text{area of connected cross-section (in square mm)}}{490.87} \times 0.2756$	$P_{f1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
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Table 2 - Water volumetric component (\$/kL), by customer group

Customer group	Previous maximum price (P_{v1})	Price from 1 Jan 2003
Portable meter customers	0.84	$P_{v1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
Government customers	0.70	$P_{v1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
Other customers	0.66	$P_{v1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$

Sewerage services prices

Table 3 - Fixed annual price (\$/pa), by customer group

Customer group	Previous maximum price (P_{s1})	Price from 1 Jan 2003
Single residential dwelling customers	314.20	$P_{s1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
Multiple residential customers	314.20 x number of units	$P_{s1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
Non-residential customers		
More than 2 sanitary fittings but less than 25	314.20 plus 213.90 for each fitting more than 2	$P_{s1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
More than 24 sanitary fittings but less than 50	5,020.00 plus 200.65 for each fitting more than 24	$P_{s1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$
More than 49 sanitary fittings but less than 100	10,036.25 plus 186.30 for each fitting more than 49	$P_{s1} \times (1+\text{CPI})$

More than 99 sanitary fittings but less than 150	19,351.25 plus 173.10 for each fitting more than 99	$P_{s1} \times (1+CPI)$
More than 149 sanitary fittings	28,006.25 plus 167.60 for each fitting more than 149	$P_{s1} \times (1+CPI)$
