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independent competition and regulatory commission

Media Release

COMMISSION STARTS PROCESS OF SETTING ACTEW'S REGULATED WATER AND SEWERAGE SERVICE PRICES FOR 2015–16

The ACT Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission today announced that it has started the process of determining the maximum prices that ACTEW can charge for its regulated water and sewerage services from 1 July 2015.

The *Price Direction: Water and Sewerage Services 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2019* (the price direction), which is currently in force, provides for two 'biennial recalibrations' of ACTEW's prices.

'On 29 October 2014 the Commission asked ACTEW to provide updated information on its expected capital and operating expenditure and demand for its services for the period commencing 1 July 2015,' Senior Commissioner Malcolm Gray said. 'This is the first step in the 2015 biennial recalibration process that will culminate in the Commission setting maximum water and sewerage service prices for 2015-16.'

ACTEW is required to provide the updated information to the Commission by the end of November 2014. The Commission is then obliged to publish the information on its website, subject to confidentiality requirements, by 7 December 2014.

'The price direction requires the Commission to publicly release a draft report that sets out proposed maximum prices for 2015–16 by 1 April 2015,' Senior Commissioner Gray said.

The Commission's price direction is currently being reviewed by an Industry Panel. Assuming the Industry Panel does not suspend the current price direction following an application for suspension, whether the 2015 biennial recalibration proceeds to completion will be determined by the timing and content of the final report of the Industry Panel.

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To contact the Commission, please visit www.icrc.act.gov.au.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Deirdre Burgess

Tel: 02 6205 0799

Email: icrc@act.gov.au