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independent competition and regulatory commission

Media Release

COMMISSION PUBLISHES WATER SALES FORECASTING PAPER

Today, the Commission published a technical paper on water sales forecasting as part of the ongoing 2015 biennial review process to determine the maximum prices for regulated water and sewerage services provided by Icon Water from 1 July 2015.

The technical paper assesses recent trends in water sales and climate conditions, reviews a range of existing water forecasting models and presents a new model developed by the Commission for the 2015 review. The paper concludes with the Commission's initial position on the water sales forecast volumes it intends to apply to set water prices from 1 July 2015.

Senior Commission Malcolm Gray said that, "Given that the forecast of water sales has traditionally been one of the most contentious areas in a water and sewerage services review, the Commission wishes to give stakeholders an early opportunity to respond to its current thinking."

"The Commission looks forward to hearing from stakeholders on this important issue." Senior Commissioner Gray added.

The technical paper is available on the Commission's website listed below. Printed copies will be provided on request. Submissions are due by **23 February 2015**. Details on how to make submissions are provided in the 'How to make a submission' section in the paper.

If the Commission's price direction is still in effect, we will release a draft report that sets out proposed maximum prices for 2015–16 by 1 April 2015. At that time submissions from the public will be sought on all relevant aspects of the biennial review.

20 January 2015

ENDS

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