

2 December 2025

Tasmanian Economic Regulator
Via email office@economicregulator.tas.gov.au

To whom it may concern

Support for TasWater's proposed Price and Service Plan 5

I'm writing on behalf of City of Clarence to express support for TasWater's Price and Services Plan 5, paving the way for critical and timely investment in Tasmania's water and sewerage infrastructure.

Council commends TasWater for its bold plan to address Tasmania's ageing infrastructure, particularly its sewer network, which we know is in urgent need of renewal. With 91 per cent of sewage treatment plants currently unable to meet the Environmental Protection Authority's compliance requirements, the need for action is clear.

The proposed statewide investment of \$655 million to upgrade these facilities represents a major step forward in protecting Tasmania's environment, reducing emissions, and increasing the capacity for recycled water use.

Council is particularly eager to see the high number of sewer main breaks and chokes, which far exceed national benchmarks, significantly reduced.

In 2023–24, TasWater recorded an average of 64 breaks and chokes per 100km of pipe – more than three times the Australian median of 18. The planned increase in sewer main renewal spending to \$30.1 million in PSP5, more than double the previous period, is a welcome and necessary measure.

We support TasWater's goal to reduce this figure to 20 breaks and chokes per 100km by 2030. Of special relevance to Clarence is the Cambridge Sewage Treatment Plant Capacity Improvements project. This initiative will address pressing capacity constraints that currently threaten development in one of our key growth corridors. Additionally, it offers environmental benefits by enabling more recycled water to be introduced into the Clarence Recycled Water Scheme, thereby reducing discharge to Pittwater.



While we acknowledge the progress being made, we also note that Tasmania's water network continues to experience significant losses through leakage – more than any other water utility in the country. Continued focus and investment in this area will be essential.

Finally, the broader economic impact of PSP5 cannot be overstated. The proposed \$1.7 billion capital spend will stimulate economic activity and create thousands of jobs across the state. With approximately 80 per cent of TasWater's contracts awarded to Tasmanian companies last year, this investment will provide a substantial boost to local businesses and communities.

City of Clarence fully supports TasWater's PSP5 plan and urges all stakeholders to recognise the importance of this investment in securing Tasmania's environmental, economic and developmental future.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Brendan Blomeley
MAYOR

