

**Mrs. R. Gerrity  
PO Box 18,  
Strahan 7468**

16<sup>th</sup> April, 2012

Office of the Economic Regulator,  
GPO Box 770,  
Hobart 7001

Dear Sir,

**Re: Submission to 2012 Price Determination Investigation**

As it is inevitable that the three water corporations will be amalgamated, this Draft 2012/15 Pricing plan should not be adopted. As the proposed prices for Water and Sewerage for the three Corporations vary considerably, it is duplicating the current problem the corporations have trying to get equitability across their own regions into statewide inequity.

I do not agree with the regulators comments on page 123 that the value of vacant land with no water or sewerage connection has increased because of the potential to access water and sewerage. The value of this land has decreased because the cost of connection is over \$5,000.

I highly object to the proposed water charges for vacant land to charge full rates even if there is no water connected. No other Government agency charges a fee if their service passes a property, such as Aurora, Telstra, NBM. It also appears discriminatory, as a connected property with 'limited' water supply pays 90%.

Page 122 shows Cradle Mountain water charges for vacant land as \$410 and \$420 for the 2012 – 2014 years, yet page A-31 shows water charges for these years as \$383 and \$406. Is this an error ?

As this draft pricing investigation did not require the corporations to show future capital expenditure, to help alleviate statewide ratepayers contributing to new water and sewerage expansions such as the Southern Beaches and Sorell to Tasman Peninsular etc. a 'Construction Rate' clause be inserted into the Water and Sewerage Act as was previously in the Local Government Act.

**ROBYN GERRITY**