

Dear Mr. Bounds,

Re: TasWater's Prices

I refer to TasWater's Draft Price and Service Plan 2015-18 of August 2014, Section 6.2, page 51. Here TasWater says how conscious it is "of the impact and affordability of prices on customers."

I thought the following table of how they have impacted on me might be of interest.

	2008-09	2014-15	Increase
Water & Sewerage in Rates	\$729.33	\$953.17	30.69%
Rates without Water & Sewerage	\$718.22	\$1020.76	42.12%
Combined Water, Sewerage & Rates	\$1447.55	\$1973.93	36.36%
Pensioner Concessions on Water, Sewerage & Rates	\$387.45	\$179.00+ <u>\$311.76</u> <u>\$490.76</u>	26.66%

On the same page, it says "water and sewerage charges could, on average, make up 2.5 per cent of household disposable income in Tasmania by 2017/18." In the calendar year 2014, the water and sewerage charges I actually paid after receiving the pensioner concession, had already accounted for 3.03% of my disposable income for that year.

As I am single with no dependents, and own my own house, I consider myself very fortunate. If I am finding TasWater's bills heavy going, what must they be like for a disadvantaged person with a family?

Yours sincerely,

Jill CARINGTON-SMITH