

Dear Mr. Bounds,

Re: TasWater's Equivalent Tenement Methodology

This method of estimating fixed prices for sewerage is unfair. As it stands, a dwelling with three toilets and six occupants, a house with one bathroom used by a family of five, a small unit with a single occupant, and a "granny flat" only used for returning children and grandchildren over the Christmas holidays, all incur 1 ET and pay the same fixed sewerage charge. The dwellings with more numerous occupants will obviously produce more sewerage and place more strain on the system than the single occupancy dwellings, and a "granny flat" with only occasional use will produce less ~~still~~—yet all will be paying the same fixed price. This is patently unjust, and there is a simple solution.

Almost all water used in a house goes either directly or indirectly into sewerage. The only water that does not do so is that used in the garden. Water meters now record the quantity of water going in to each house and this gives a very fair indication of the quantity of sewerage that will come out of it.

I therefore suggest either a single sewerage charge based on the quantity of water used, or two-part sewerage pricing - a smaller fixed charge plus a variable sewerage charge based on water usage. Either would be fairer than the present system, not only for private dwellings, but also retirement homes, and for hotels and caravan parks in the winter when they do not have full occupancy.

Please do ask TasWater to give this idea some consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Carington-Smith