

## NOTICE

### INQUIRY ON COUNTRY WATER AND WASTEWATER PRICING

#### PUBLIC FORUMS

The Economic Regulation Authority is holding a number of public forums for its inquiry into country water and wastewater prices in Western Australia.

The forums are to discuss issues raised in the draft report published by the Authority on 31 January 2006 and to provide a further opportunity for stakeholders to make their views known to the Authority. Copies of the draft report and submissions are available on the Authority's website ([www.era.wa.gov.au](http://www.era.wa.gov.au)) or by calling 9213 1900.

The Authority is particularly interested in receiving feedback on the following issues:

- What factors should the Authority consider in recommending a threshold below which the charge per kL of water is discounted? In most country towns households currently pay a discounted price for the first 450 kL/year of water, while in others the first 650 kL/year is discounted.
- Should the charge for using more than an average amount of water reflect the costs of providing it?
- To what extent and for what reasons should business water and sewerage customers receive services at a discounted price?
- Should household sewerage charges be based on property values even though it doesn't cost any more to take and treat sewerage from a higher-valued property than a lower-valued property?
- Should business sewerage charges be the same regardless of where a business is located in the State, even though costs differ substantially between locations?

The details of the forums are:

Town/City	Date	Time	Venue
Mandurah	Wednesday 15 February 2006	3:00 – 5:00 pm	Tuckey Room, 83 Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah
Kalgoorlie	Friday 24 February 2006	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Broadwater Hotel, 21 Davidson Street, Kalgoorlie
Geraldton	Monday 27 February 2006	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Conversations Restaurant, 65 Bayly Street, Geraldton
Albany	Tuesday 7 March 2006	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Esplanade Hotel, Corner Adelaide Cres & Flinders Parade, Albany
Northam	Wednesday 8 March 2006	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Memorial Hall, Fitzgerald Street, Northam
Port Hedland	Friday 10 March 2006	2:00 – 4:00 pm	All Seasons Hotel, Corner Lukis and McGregor Street, Port Hedland

The Authority welcomes all interested parties to attend the forums and express their views on water and wastewater prices in country towns. It would be appreciated if those wishing to attend the forums would advise the Authority by phone (9213 1900) or email ([forum@era.wa.gov.au](mailto:forum@era.wa.gov.au)).

LYNDON ROWE

**CHAIRMAN**