



Delivering for our region and our future



1800 013 357

Upper Ovens WSPA Licence Holders Webinar



Session will include:

- Upper Ovens Resource Management
 - Upper Ovens River WSPA Water Management Plan
 - Annual Licence Renewal Project
- Pricing History
 - Current Tariffs
 - Pricing Comparison
- Question time
- Payment options
- Session wrap up

Upper Ovens Resource Management



- The Water Supply Protection Area (WSPA) covers an area of approximately 1,580 km².
- It is a unique area of environmental significance with demonstrated high connectivity between groundwater and surface water resources.
- The *Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy 2009* acknowledged this and endorsed the development of an conjunctive management plan.
- The first plan of its kind in Victoria.

Upper Ovens River WSPA Water Management Plan



- This is a statutory plan approved by the Minister for Water in 2012.
- Extensive development and engagement process.
- A consultative committee was appointed which required 50% of the members to be land holders in the Upper Ovens.
- Public meetings were held during the development process.
- The Plan was supported by licence holders and the committee including the 5 year renewal period.

Why do we undertake licence renewal?



- Licence renewal is an important part of protecting the environment.
- As part of a renewal assessment any impacts that extraction are having on the environment and water resources is taken into account.
- Ensure that no licence is having a long term impact on surrounding users and the environment.
- The renewal process treats all licence holders equally and holds every licence to account.
- Within the Upper Ovens this is particularly important due to high value environmental features within the catchment which the plan aims to protect.

Annual Licence Renewal Project



- Initiated in 2014, to transition more than 5000 Take and Use Licences and Works (Regulated) Licences.
- Licences reverted from annual licences (which rolled over when fixed charges were raised and paid each year) to a licence which was implemented under the 2014-2016 Annual Licence Renewal Project.
- The 2015 renewals were funded by customer contributions approved as part of *Water Plan 3 (2012-16)*. Affected customers were not invoiced for licence renewals in 2015, following the project.

Renewal Licence Costs



The licence renewal costs cover:

- Administration, processing of application and property inspection.
- Fee for Service activities are cost neutral i.e. the application fee covers the cost of undertaking the transaction, whether it be a licence renewal, new licence application or application to trade water.
- GMW regularly reviews these fees to ensure they cover the cost only.

Question time



Please type your first name into the chat section and I will then request you unmute your microphone to ask a question.

Alternatively you can type your question in the chat section and it will be read out for you.

Pricing History



Diverter Tariff Strategy 2013

- Implementation began 2014-15.
- Previous tariffs were based on licence volume.
- No connection between the components of the tariff at that time and the work GMW undertook.
- It was found that the size of the licence volume was not the main driver of GMW costs, but rather the service point.

Current Tariffs



- Service Fee – per account:
 - Managing and processing accounts, customer queries.
- Service Point Fee – per metered or unmetered service point:
 - Compliance, deeming unmetered sites, inspection, maintaining and replacing broken meters.
- Access Fee - per service point:
 - Streamflow monitoring and implementation of restrictions.
 - Managing water allocations, rationing and water ordering.
 - Investigating and resolving interference or supply issues.
 - Developing water access policies like improving water trading to benefit licence holders.

Current Tariffs



- Resource Management Fee – per ML licence volume:
 - Developing and reviewing resource management plans to ensure the long term sustainability of the water resources you access.
 - Providing seasonal summaries and outlooks that help you plan your future water use.
 - Monitoring, analysing and presenting water resource information to help you make informed decisions about your water use.
 - Protecting your interests on key issues like the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and sustainable water strategies.

Pricing Comparison



Diversions – Typical customer bill				
Groundwater				
	2019/20	2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
Small	\$576	\$478	-\$97	-17%
Medium	\$1,523	\$1,317	-\$205	-13%
Large	\$3,100	\$2,657	-\$443	-14%
Extra Large	\$6,080	\$5,195	-\$885	-15%
Surface Water Unregulated				
	2019/20	2020/21	\$ Change	% Change
Small	\$407	\$345	-\$62	-15%
Medium	\$766	\$687	-\$78	-10%
Large	\$1,206	\$1,072	-\$134	-11%
Extra Large	\$2,835	\$2,499	-\$336	-12%

Payment options



- We have a number of payment options available if you require support.
- For more information phone the GMW Customer Contact Centre Team on 1800 013 357.

Question time



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Thank you for your time today

If you have feedback on the webinar or further questions please email
communications@gmwater.com.au



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