



Application fees for water access licences and approvals

under the *Water Management Act 2000*

July 2015

The NSW Office of Water charges fees to cover the assessment and processing costs of applications for access licences, water supply work approvals, water use approvals and access licence dealings lodged under the *Water Management Act 2000*.

These fees are determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

While these fees usually increase annually, based on changes in the consumer price index, the fees applying from 1 July 2013 are in effect for three years, until 30 June 2016.

The fees applying from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 are listed in the table on page 2 of this factsheet. Fees are exempt from GST.

There are different fees for applications for *Water Act 1912* licences. For information on these fees, go to www.water.nsw.gov.au under Water licensing > About licences > Water Act 1912.

What is included in application fees?

A minimum administration fee is required to cover the basic handling of applications for new access licences; new, amended or renewed water supply works and use approvals; and water trades or dealings (other than assignments of annual water allocation, previously known as temporary transfers).

Depending on the type of transaction, additional fees may apply to cover the costs of advertising and assessment, as follows:

- Advertising is required for certain classes of applications for new work or use approvals and for applications for amended work or use approvals where the approval relates to additional uses, works, activities or land (refer to table).

Advertising is not required for applications for access licences, access licence dealings or work approvals for bores used solely for basic landholder rights.

- Assessment is required against criteria established in legislation to determine whether an application should be granted and, if so, what conditions will be imposed.

A basic assessment is designed to cover small or standard applications where impacts are considered to be minimal.

The criteria for special assessments is applied for transactions which have the potential to cause greater impacts and therefore require a more intensive, specialised assessment (e.g. a field assessment or referral to a hydrogeologist).

Other fees and charges

Other fees or charges include:

- Charges applied to all water licences and approvals by the Office of Water for water management services, such as water resource management and metering. These charges are also set by IPART. Find out more at www.water.nsw.gov.au under Water management > Fees and charges.
- Fees applied by Land and Property Information (a division of the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation) to cover the cost of Water Access Licence Register transactions and for issuing new water access licence certificates. Find out more at www.lpi.nsw.gov.au
- Charges applied by Water NSW for water delivery services for water taken from regulated rivers. Find out more at www.statewater.com.au

Fees for controlled activity approvals are not set by IPART and are available at www.water.nsw.gov.au under Water licensing > Approvals.

More information

- Go to www.water.nsw.gov.au > Water Licensing > Applications and fees
- Email water.enquiries@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Call our Advisory Services team on 1800 353 104.

2013-16 application fees for water access licences and approvals

Type of application	Administration labour	Advertising cost	Basic Assessment	Special Assessment \$unit entitlement >20 units to max 120 units	Special Assessment \$ per L/s >50L/s to max 315 L/s	Special Assessment \$/ha >10ha to max 210ha	Special Assessment Dams (\$)
New WATER ACCESS LICENCES							
Zero Share	\$268.70						
Specific Purpose*	\$575.04			\$27.81			
New Licences	\$575.04			\$27.81			
New or amended WORK approvals							
Basic rights (bores only)	\$241.83						
Water Supply Works (pump ≤ 50L/s)	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67	Where no special assessment required			
Water Supply Works (pump > 50L/s)	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67		\$11.81		
New dam(s) (including inriver dams for basic rights)	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67				\$695.27
New dam(s) plus new pump(s)	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67		\$11.81		\$695.27
New or amended USE approvals							
New area for irrigation ≤10ha	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67	Where no special assessment required			
New area for irrigation > 10ha	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67			\$24.34	
New or amended COMBINED approvals							
Works and Use	\$268.70	\$404.93	\$612.67		\$11.81	\$24.34	
Approval EXTENSIONS							
Lodged prior to expiry	\$161.22						
Lodged after expiry	\$268.70						
WATER DEALINGS							
Regulated river dealings*	\$391.23						
Unregulated river and groundwater dealings*	\$758.84			\$27.81			
Water allocation assignment (temporary trades) unregulated and groundwater	\$242.12						

* Since 1 July 2004, no fees apply to applications by Aboriginal people for specific purpose access licences and dealings relating to subcategories of Aboriginal cultural and Aboriginal community development and for work approvals nominated by those licence subcategories.

Notes to table

1. Water supply works may include water bores and pumps. Fees for pumps shown in the table apply to both groundwater and surface water sources. Pump capacity may be measured by the capacity of the pump or diameter of the extraction pipe.
2. 'New area for irrigation' means any area proposed to be used for irrigation which is not currently listed on a water approval.
3. 'New pump' means any pump (or pumps) proposed which is not currently listed on a water approval or is replacing an existing pump which is listed on a water approval.

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (July 2015). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

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