



July 2009



Transaction fees for access licences and approvals under the Water Management Act 2000

The Department of Water and Energy charges fees to cover the assessment and processing costs of applications for access licences, water supply works approvals, water use approvals and water dealings lodged under the *Water Management Act 2000*. These fees are determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal.

Fees increase annually according to the consumer price index. The fees applying from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 are listed in the following table. In areas of the state governed by the *Water Act 1912*, the fees differ. For details refer to the information sheet: *Application fees for water licences and water transfers under the Water Act 1912*.

Related fees and charges

Charges for water management services also apply to all water access licences (but not approvals). These charges include those for extracting bulk water and services in managing the water and are separate to the fees charged to cover the assessment and processing costs of applications for access licences and approvals.

The Department of Lands maintains the Water Access Licence Register and charges fees to cover the cost of Water Access Licence Register transactions and for issuing new water access licence certificates. More information on these fees is available on the Department of Lands website www.lands.nsw.gov.au.

State Water Corporation also charges for water delivery services for water taken from regulated rivers. See www.statewater.com.au for details.

What is included in the transaction fees?

All transactions for new access licences; new, amended or renewed approvals for water supply works and use; and water trades or dealings (other than assignments of annual water allocation previously known as temporary transfers) require a minimum administration fee to cover the basic handling of the application. This includes a work approval for a domestic and stock bore issued under basic landholder rights.

Pumps to take water for basic landholder rights from rivers or lakes do not require an approval; however, some dams for basic landholder rights do require a work approval as well as all water bores.

Depending on the type of transaction, additional charges may apply to cover the costs of assessment and advertising.

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. Advertising is not required for applications for work approvals for bores used solely for basic landholder rights. Requirements for advertising are described in the Water Management (General) Regulation 2004.

Most transactions require some form of assessment 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 assessment is generally straightforward. 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 and referral to a hydrogeologist).



2009/10 transaction fees for access licences and approvals

| Type of application | 09/10 Administration labour | 09/10 Advertising costs | 09/10 Basic Assessment | 09/10 Special Assessment \$ per unit entitlement > 20 unit Entitlements | 09/10 Special Assessment \$/L/s for pumps > 50 L/s capacity | 09/10 Special Assessment \$/Ha > 10 Hectares | 09/10 Special Assessment Dams (\$) | 09/10 Special Assessment Approval Extensions (\$) |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---|---|--|------------------------------------|---|
| New WATER ACCESS LICENCES | | | | | | | | |
| Zero share | \$116.68 | | | | | | | |
| Specific purpose | \$116.68 | | \$370.69 | | | | | |
| New or amended WORKS approval | | | | | | | | |
| Basic rights (bores only) | \$116.68 | | | | | | | |
| Water supply works (No dam, pump ≤ 50 litres/sec) | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | | | | |
| Water supply works (No dam, pump ≥ 50 litres/sec) | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | \$2.90 | | | |
| New dam(s) (including in-river dams for basic rights) | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | | \$8.83 | | |
| New dam(s) plus new pump(s) ≥ 50 litres/sec | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | | | \$452.12 | |
| New or amended USE approval | | | | | | | | |
| New area for irrigation (ha) ≤ 10 ha | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | | | | |
| New area for irrigation (ha) ≥ 10 ha | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | | \$8.83 | | |
| New or amended COMBINED approval | | | | | | | | |
| Works and use | \$116.68 | \$530.76 | \$370.69 | | \$2.90 | \$8.83 | \$452.12 | |
| Approval EXTENSIONS | | | | | | | | |
| Routine extension | \$116.68 | | | | | | | |
| Extension where assessment is required by regulations | \$116.68 | | \$370.69 | | | | | \$452.12 |
| WATER DEALINGS | | | | | | | | |
| Water allocation assignment (temporary transfers): \$50 + \$0.50/ML transferred, up to \$150 | | | | | | | | |
| All other dealings – regulated rivers | \$116.68 | | | | | | | |
| All other dealings – unregulated rivers and groundwater | \$116.68 | | \$370.69 | \$17.06 | | | | |

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.

Contact information

Contact the licensing officer at your local Department office.
Contact details and more information on licensing is available at www.dwe.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 353 104.

Note: This information does not constitute legal advice. Users are advised to seek professional advice and refer to the relevant legislation, as necessary, before taking action in relation to any matters covered by this information sheet.

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