

Mr Peter Boxall  
Chairman  
IPART

*Via electronic mail*

5 December 2012

Dear Mr Boxall,

**Re: NSW Office of Water**

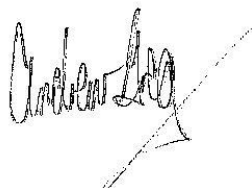
The NSW Irrigators Council is the peak body for Water Access License holders in the State. As such, we have been an important stakeholder in the IPART Determination process for the NSW Office of Water.

We have grown concerned over recent months at the structural change within the Office of Water and, particularly, the apparent redeployment of resources. Much of the resource base of NOW is user-funded and hence we have an interest in ensuring that the resource base remains deployed as per your Determination. Alternately, user charges should be reviewed where the resource base is materially altered.

I refer you to page four of the Sydney Morning Herald of today's date (which can be accessed [here](#)). The story notes that NOW is calling for voluntary redundancies as part of a need for "cost savings".

In light of the public underscoring of our concerns, we believe it would be appropriate for IPART to satisfy itself that the resource base for which charging approval was granted remains in place within NOW. If not, it would clearly be appropriate for IPART to reconsider the charges levied by NOW on its customers.

Sincerely,



Andrew Gregson  
Chief Executive Officer