

Media Release

The Hon Richard Wynne MP
Minister for Planning
Minister for Housing
Acting Minister for Water



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WATER PRICES TO FALL ACROSS VICTORIA

Victorians woke to good news today with water prices dropping in most areas across the state, with Melbourne household bills falling \$33 for the year on average.

Acting Water Minister Richard Wynne welcomed the news from the Essential Services Commission which follows the Commission's price decision last week for Melbourne Water, with the drop in bills to start from today.

The Commission found that as well as reducing bills, Victorian water corporations had also responded to the needs of customers who were experiencing difficulty paying their bills due to the impacts of COVID.

In Melbourne, annual household bills for Yarra Valley Water customers will fall by \$36 on average, and by \$17 for customers of South East Water. Customers of the newly formed Greater Western Water (previously City West Water area) will see a \$47 drop on average.

The biggest regional winners include Central Highlands Water and Goulburn Valley Water customers with annual average savings of more than \$20, while Coliban Water, Gippsland Water, GWMWater and Wannon Water customers will see average bills fall by more than \$10.

The Andrews Labor Government has made it clear to water corporations that customer affordability is a key priority both with lower bills and flexible payments and support for those in difficulty.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Water Richard Wynne

"This fall in water prices is terrific news for Victorians, particularly those who are struggling."

"The Opposition yesterday claimed water prices were going up – demonstrating yet again that they have no idea how the sector works or what's happening in it."

"Claiming Melbourne will have higher water bills because the Commonwealth funded Connections project ended, further demonstrates their complete lack of understanding in this sector."