

With the commencement of the Water Act 2007 (Commonwealth), the Australian Government took on new responsibilities relating to the regulation of rural water pricing in the Murray-Darling Basin.

This includes new Water Charge Rules developed by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). The ACCC released Water Charge (Planning and Management Information) Rules 2010 which came into effect 30 June 2011.

In compliance with these rules, we have identified one charge that is applicable under these rules, our Rural Transfer Administration Fee

The table below describes the *Information Requirement* from the ACCC in regards to the Rural Transfer Administration Fee and the *Relevant Information* column is what Coliban Water is doing to meet the requirement.

Information requirement	Relevant information
The name or a description of the regulated charge	'Rural Transfer Administration Fee' This is levied when a customer applies to transfer an entitlement or allocation (temporary or permanently, including as a result of the sale, sub-division or amalgamation of a property).
The amount of the regulated charge (whether expressed as a dollar amount or as fee units) or details of rates, fixed and variable components and all other details necessary	\$65 per transfer application.
The legislative, contractual or other authority for the regulated charge	Coliban Region Water Corporation (Coliban Water) charges the fee through delegated ministerial powers by Minister for Water dated 2 May 2003. These powers were delegated under Section 306 of the <i>Water Act 1989 (Vic.)</i> . The value of this charge is determined in accordance with the pricing principles outlined in the Coliban Water Determination 1 July 2008 – 30 June 2013. This Determination was made by the Essential Services Commission (Victoria) under Section 33 of the <i>Essential Services Commission Act 2004</i> pursuant to clause 8 of the <i>Water Industry Regulatory Order</i> .
A description of the process applied in determining the regulated charge including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the cost allocation principles; and whether the regulated charge has been the subject of 	The amount charged does not reflect full cost recovery, and recovers only part of the costs associated with the application to transfer a rural entitlement, including the assessment of the application to comply with conditions of trade. In addition to the internal corporate costs, the charge will partly recover for the remaining two years of this regulatory period

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consultation, a review or audit and, if it has, a description of the process and a summary of the outcome	<p>the pass-through costs associated with transitioning to the Victorian Water Register.</p> <p>The conditions of trade are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that the transfer is made to another property within the Coliban Rural System area; - that the property on which the customer intends to use the water must be readily able to be supplied from a Coliban Rural System channel or pipeline; and - that the receiving channel must have adequate surplus capacity.
The class of persons by whom the regulated charge is payable	<p>All holders of water entitlements in Coliban Water's irrigation district are liable for the charge if a transfer application is lodged.</p> <p>The charge is paid by the purchaser unless private prior arrangements have been made between the purchaser and seller.</p>
The person to whom or the agency to which the regulated charge is payable	<p>The charge is payable to Coliban Water.</p>
When the regulated charge is payable and, if payable by instalments, the number of instalments and intervals at which they are payable	<p>The charge is payable in full when the transfer is lodged.</p>
If applicable, the water resource, catchment or district, and the water resource plan or other plan, to which the regulated charge relates	<p>Coliban Water's irrigation district.</p>
If applicable, the class of water access right, water delivery right or irrigation right to which the regulated charge relates	<p>The charge relates to the administration of bundled entitlements of rural water licences in Section 51 of the Water Act (Vic) through delegated ministerial powers.</p> <p>This administration occurs when there is an application for a transfer of an entitlement that is temporary or permanent, including as a result of the sale, sub-division or amalgamation of a property.</p> <p>A bundled entitlement means that the traditional elements of the entitlement have not been separated. These elements are the water share, delivery share or extraction share on waterways, and water-use licence or water-use registration for non-irrigators.</p>

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<p>A description of the water planning and water management activity or activities to which the regulated charge relates including, in relation to each activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the financial year or other period during which the activity is being, or is to be, carried out • the actual or estimated operating, capital and corporate service costs of the activity in respect of the financial year or other period • whether the costs of the activity have been the subject of consultation or a review or audit • the relationship between the costs of the activity and the calculation of the regulated charge 	<p>The charge recovers part of the corporate service costs for processing applications for water licence transfers.</p> <p>Compliance with Victorian Water Register requirements has resulted in additional costs to the rural component of the business, and this charge attempts to recover part of these costs.</p> <p>In accordance with the 2008 Determination, Coliban Water is not permitted to charge more than the actual cost (including third party, internal costs and a contribution to overheads)</p> <p>A more thorough analysis of the level of cost recovery will be taken when Coliban Water submits its next Water Plan to the Essential Services Commission for the next regulatory period.</p>
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