## Office of the CEO



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Your Ref --

Date

15 September 2017

Mr Charles Millsteed Chief Executive Officer Queensland Competition Authority GPO Box 2257 BRISBANE QLD 4001 c/- www.qca.org.au/Submissions

Dear Mr Millsteed

## **REVIEW OF SEQWATER BULK WATER PRICES 2018-21**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding QCA's investigation into SEQWater's bulk water prices for the period 2018-21.

The Moreton Bay Regional Council has a long-held consistent position that all water authorities should have the same price for bulk water.

As you are aware, Unitywater, the water and sewerage retailer/distributor covering the Moreton Bay Local Government Area, also covers the Sunshine Coast and Noosa Local Government Areas. Despite being serviced by the one bulk water authority, customers in the different Local Government Areas pay different prices - due to the differing bulk water prices. Given the fundamental "universal access" principles behind the establishment of water authorities, this inequity in bulk water prices is unjustifiable. It is also the source of continuing aggravation for our ratepayers when they compare their water bills to those of our neighbours within the same retailer/distributor authority.

Accordingly, Council's position is that this should not continue into the next bulk water pricing regulatory period.

We wish you well in your investigation. Should you require any further information in regards to this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Keith Pattinson, Manager - Financial and Project Services at keith.pattinson@moretonbay.gld.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Anne Moffat

Director Executive & Property Services