

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT — COST RECOVERY

333. Hon Tjorn Sibma to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to part (3) of question without notice (add number), answered on 13 October 2021, and I ask, will the Minister please table the following:

- (a) documents by EY at the ‘first stage’ to review cost recovery approaches in other jurisdictions;
- (b) documents by Lisa Byrne Consulting at the ‘second stage’ to develop pricing and demand management models; and
- (c) documents by EY at the ‘third stage’ to validate the pricing and demand management models?

Hon Stephen Dawson replied:

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) engaged EY and Lisa Byrne Consulting to inform the development of the proposed cost recovery model. DWER has advised that documents by EY and Lisa Byrne Consulting consists of reports including drafts, working documents, and spreadsheets. These documents were used to inform the ongoing early development of the cost recovery model and deliberations of government and therefore are not appropriate for release.

Prior to undertaking consultation on a draft cost recovery model, DWER engaged EY to undertake a pricing and demand validation exercise and provide a final report. EY found that the methodology and assumptions applied by DWER in their pricing and demand management models are logical and reasonable. [See tabled paper no [978](#).]

DWER undertook consultation on the draft cost recovery model from 20 September to 22 October 2021. The consultation included the release of a discussion paper, draft regulations and detailed briefings to seven peak organisations. DWER received a total of 29 submissions. The State Government is now considering the outcome of that consultation and proposed revised cost recovery model.