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Productivity Commission
Australian Government
Canberra, ACT.

24 February 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission to National Water Reform 2020

The Greywater and Wastewater Industry Group (GWIG) is a not-for-profit, industry based organisation and represents many of WA's local manufacturers, installers and service technicians of greywater and wastewater treatment systems. Our vision and mission statement are available on our website www.gwig.org.

We believe fit-for-purpose water has a significant but largely unappreciated and unrealised role to play in increasing both the resilience and sustainability of urban water sources.

We would like to make the following points with respect to Section 11 – Urban Water Services specifically in the current National Water Reform 2020 and appreciate the opportunity to do so.

1. That the State Government action the Economic Regulation Authority's (ERA) report[#] of 2017 which recommended changes to the water and wastewater tariffs in WA.
2. That all levels of Government ensure that the carbon-intensity of all water sources (drinking and non-drinking) are considered in the cost-benefit analysis of any proposed water supply schemes.
3. That any State or National wastewater recycling targets be clearly articulated, transparent, resourced and reported on annually.
4. That proposed fit-for-purpose water supply projects not be assessed by the unduly simplistic approach of payback period, rather by a more holistic cost-benefit analysis (or whole-of-life economic analysis). This assertion is backed up by both national and international evidence (Broaddus, 2020; Livingston, 2020) and aligns with the work conducted by Prof David Pannell (2020).

Once again we thank you for this opportunity to make a submission.

Yours sincerely,

Stewart Dallas
Chair, Greywater and Wastewater Industry Group
www.gwig.org

Sources cited:

#<https://www.erawa.com.au/cproot/18490/2/Inquiry%20into%20efficient%20costs%20and%20tariffs%20of%20the%20Water%20Corporation,%20Aqwest%20and%20Busselton%20Water%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>

Broadbent, 2020. *Time for utilities to embrace decentralisation*. Source IWA.
<https://www.thesourcemagazine.org/time-for-utilities-to-embrace-decentralisation/>

Livingston, D. 2020. *Third Pipe Water Recycling - Lessons Learned from Australian Experience*. Water, ISSN 2206-1991 Volume 5 No 3 2020 <https://doi.org/10.21139/wej.2020.017>

Pannell, D. 2020. *Investment Framework For Economics of Water-Sensitive Cities* (INFFEWS).