Christopher & Mary Lafferty

The Chair,
Melbourne Water Price Review
Essential Services Commission
Level 37 / 2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

RE: Melbourne Water Price Review 2016.

Dear Sir,

We refer to Melbourne Water's 2016 Pricing Submission Dated 30th October 2015 and in particular to the proposed introduction from the 1st July 2016 of: **A new tariff is proposed for the Patterson Lakes Marina to complement an existing contract. The tariff will recover the renewal and maintenance cost of a tidal gate that services the Marina. The method for calculating the tariff is consistent with the principles used to develop the Patterson Lakes jetty tariffs"** as briefly noted by Melbourne Water on Page 80 of their Submission.

We submit as one of the directly affected residential property owners, given that on the basis of the various Agreements in place this proposed "New Tariff", could result in a potential new and additional annual cost to ourselves of in excess of $1226.49 whilst our neighbours directly opposite on the other side of our street who also benefit from the protection of this Tidal Flood Gate would incur no additional charge over and beyond the Melbourne Metropolitan Waterways and Drainage Charge.

We hereby seek the Commissions consideration towards declining the proposed "New Tariff" on the grounds that:

- *it is discriminatory and would impose an additional inequitable impost on ourselves and the other affected residential owners for no other reason other that we are simply located adjacent to the marina, as opposed to being located on any other part of the Tidal Waterways, where the other 3,500 properties who also benefit from these Integrated Tidal Flood Control Gates will not incur any additional charge over and beyond the general waterways and drainage charge which we are also already paying.*
- *it is in total contradiction to Melbourne Water's previous acceptance of the conclusions and recommendations of the 2013 Patterson Lakes Independent Review, wherein it was formally and publically agreed that in view of the wider community benefit provided by the Tidal Flood Control Gates that these renewal, operational and maintenance costs would be funded through the Melbourne Metropolitan Waterways and Drainage Charge,*
- *it fails to comply with Melbourne Water's goals and objectives of " Melbourne Water's overarching goal is to provide our customers with the best possible services at a fair price".*

Yours Sincerely

Mary Lafferty

Christopher & Mary Lafferty