



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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Dr Ron Ben-David
Chairperson
Essential Services Commission
Level 2, 35 Spring St
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Dr Ben-David

I am writing to inform you of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's (ACCC) final decision to approve the Essential Service Commission (ESC) Victoria's application to be accredited to make price approvals or determinations of rural water infrastructure operators in Victoria regulated under Part 6 and Part 7 of the Water Charge (Infrastructure) Rules (WCIR). The terms and conditions of the approval are set out in the ACCC's decision which is attached.

Unless revoked by the ACCC under Rule 67 of the WCIR, the period of accreditation is 10 years.

To ensure that both the ESC and ACCC have clear operational arrangements between the regulators under accreditation, the ACCC is proposing that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be developed between the two agencies. ACCC staff had preliminary discussions about the proposed MOU with ESC staff last year and will progress this matter with ESC staff in the coming months.

If your staff have any questions about any aspect of the decision they can contact Darren Kearney on (03) 9290 1966 or darren.kearney@accc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Michael Schaper
Acting Chairman