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## Media release

### New Allconnex Water charges extend government CPI cap to every customer

Allconnex Water charges will increase by 3.6% for all customers, not just residents and small businesses in 2011/12, with the water retailer extending the State Government CPI cap to all customer bills.

Allconnex Water General Manager, Andrew Foley, said however that increases in State Government bulk water charges would result in an overall price increase in household bills of between 6.6% and 7.3% in 2011/12 depending on the council area.

"Allconnex Water has gone significantly further than the State Government requirement to cap price rises at CPI for the next two years for households and small businesses," Mr Foley said.

"We have extended the CPI cap on price rises to every Allconnex customer, not just residential customers and small businesses, ensuring consistency in price increases."

The price cap does not apply to the State Government's bulk water charge. This charge will increase by 16% for Gold Coast customers, almost 15% for Logan customers and 29% for Redland customers.

The new pricing will mean the Allconnex Water component of the average household water bill across Gold Coast, Logan and Redland will increase approximately \$37.18 a year, or 10 cents a day.

Bulk water charges make up about 60% of the water and wastewater price increases for Gold Coast, Logan and Redland residential customers, based on an average household bill.

In April 2011, the Queensland Government announced that the distribution and retail (Allconnex Water) component of annual water and wastewater charges for residential and small business customers was to be capped at CPI in 2011/12 and 2012/13.

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Allconnex Water CEO Kim Wood said Allconnex was investing more than \$1 billion over the next five years across Gold Coast, Logan and Redland to improve and expand water and wastewater networks.

“We have already identified more than \$200 million in capital savings by working across three council boundaries and harnessing cost savings due to more appropriate solutions, and economies of scale,” he said.

***Changes to 2011/12 prices for Allconnex Water residential customers are (for the average household using 200,000 litres per year)***

**Gold Coast:** Six-monthly account issued

Allconnex’s water and wastewater charges: \$18.85 increase/six monthly account or \$9.42 increase based on quarterly charges

State Government’s bulk water charges: \$27.00 increase/six monthly account or \$13.50 increase based on quarter charges

Overall increase: \$45.85 increase/six monthly account or \$22.92 increase based on quarterly charges

**Logan:** Quarterly account issued

Allconnex’s water and wastewater charges: \$8.66 increase/quarterly account

State Government’s bulk water charges: \$13.50 increase/quarterly account

Overall increase: \$22.16 increase/ quarterly account

**Redland:** Quarterly account issued

Allconnex’s water and wastewater charges: \$9.80 increase/quarterly account

State Government’s bulk water charges: \$13.50 increase/quarterly account

Overall increase: \$23.30 increase/quarterly account

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