



Position description

Position title	Senior Pricing and Economic Modeller
Group / Branch	Strategy & Stakeholder / Planning & Regulation
Reports to (Title)	Senior Manager, Pricing & Regulation
Competency level	Individual Contributor

Job Purpose

The role of the Senior Pricing and Economic Modeller is to support the development of the price submission to the Essential Services Commission (ESC), including the expenditure forecasts and financial modelling. The price submission must align with guidance provided by the ESC, and reflect engagement undertaken with our key stakeholders, customers and community.

The role will require the provision of expert advice to facilitate the needs and preferences of our key stakeholders, customers and community which is balanced with the achievement of economic and financial sustainability objectives of the business.

The role provides support to South East Water on economic and regulatory financial modelling matters. This role is expected to collaborate extensively across all parts of South East Water.

Key Accountabilities

The Senior Pricing and Economic Modeller will be responsible for the following

Price submission

- Support the preparation of South East Water's pricing submission proposals, including economic and regulatory financial models that meet the requirements of the Essential Services Commission's (ESC) PREMO water pricing framework and South East Water's corporate strategy
- Lead financial modelling for the price submission, including expenditure inputs, parameters for the rate of return, depreciation schedules, and modelling quality assurance
- Support pricing submission demand forecasting models including water, sewage, and growth and population forecasts
- Support the development and justification of capital and operating expenditure for the price submission
- Review tariff structures and consider alternative tariff options to better meet customer expectations under a digital metering environment
- Lead New Customer Contribution (NCC) modelling and ensure compliance with the ESC's revised NCC framework
- Supporting the engagement workstream in terms of willingness to pay research
- Lead business case development for major projects including cost-benefit analysis (CBA) and net present value (NPV) modelling.



Regulatory accounting, pricing and compliance

- Support the submission of the regulatory accounts and associated documentation to the ESC each year
- Support processes to demonstrate that proposed prices or charges are compliant with our obligations under the Water Act, Water Industry Act, Water Industry Standard, regulatory determination or any other relevant requirement.

Strategic evaluation, annual business planning and broader business support

- Support South East Water in strategically evaluating and assessing the impacts of actual or proposed changes to Melbourne Water's pricing on our customers
- Support South East Water in reviewing financial or economic business cases upon request including capacity building for economic analysis processes and techniques
- Working closely with the regulation team to embed South East Water's regulatory context and price submission commitments in key business processes: annual operating plan, demand forecasting, annual water outlook, desalinated water order advice
- Lead continuous improvement of South East Water's financial revenue and revenue requirement processes through the development of forecasts methodologies that focus on long term water supply and demand balance, growth and population projections
- Be flexible to support the rest of the team and business where required on economic matters.

Knowledge, Skills & Experience

Tertiary qualified in economics, finance/accounting, law or other relevant discipline

Experience and knowledge

- 5-7 years experience in a regulation role in a regulated sector and demonstrated understanding of the role of economic regulation and regulatory finance
- Understanding of the relationship between South East Water and the Essential Services Commission and various Government agencies
- Experience and familiarity with financial, regulatory and economic models including regulatory building block models, base-step-trend expenditure models, pricing and tariff models, cost allocation models, water balance and growth and population projections forecasting models including the use of time series and econometric techniques, CBA models and NPV models
- Experience in preparation of high quality financial, regulatory and business case models.

Skills and capabilities

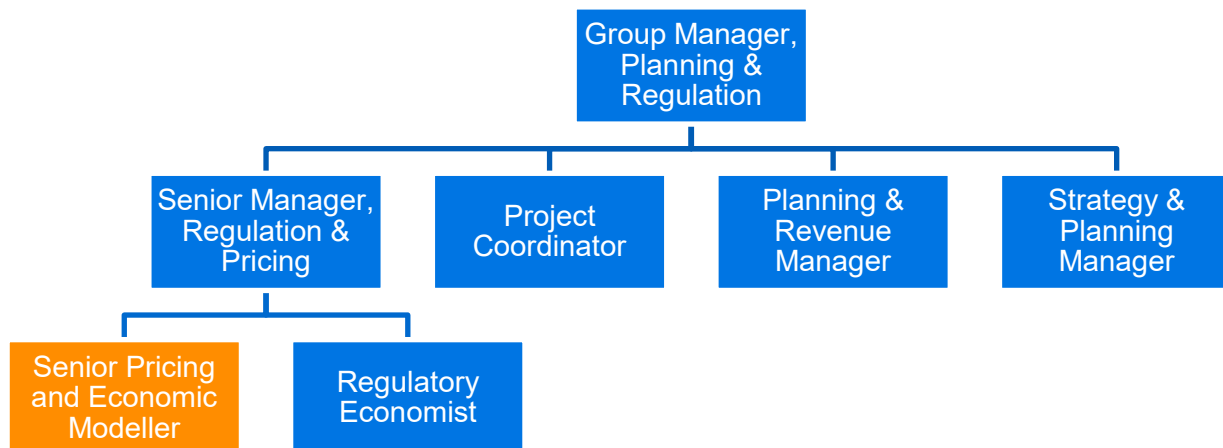
- High level economic skills: regulatory economic research, collecting data, determining appropriate economic frameworks to solve business problems, price modelling and demand forecasting capabilities
- Highly developed written, verbal, and digital communication skills: adept at preparation of regulatory submissions and technical economic reports with a demonstrated ability to effectively convey complex financial and pricing issues into simple language, graphs/tables and PowerPoint presentations
- Excellent interpersonal skills: demonstrated ability to collaborate, influence and negotiate with key stakeholders and staff



- Advanced Excel skills: the ability to model pricing forecasts and manage staff to undertake price modelling and demand forecasting for price submissions.
- Highly skilled in analysis and critical thinking: ability to interpret and question data from various groups across the business
- Strong organisational skills: ability to manage multiple tasks and projects
- High levels of agility to deliver results: ability to work in a multi-disciplinary team which functions under pressure and in a deadline driven environment.

Dimensions

Organisational Chart



Number of people managed:

Nil

Size of budget managed:

Nil

Value of Assets managed:

Nil

Ensuring a sustainable, resilient organisation:

Authorities outlined in [Instrument of Delegations](#): none

Compliance management responsibilities outlined in the [compliance and obligations register](#):
yes - operational responsibilities

Security for Critical Infrastructure identified role: **No**



South East Water operates a 24/7 service environment. Whilst this role does not involve after-hours rostered duty, all employees may be required to provide out of hours support from time to time as required.