

# **Direct Debit Agreement**

This Agreement, together with the Direct Debit Request, sets out the terms of the direct debit arrangement between South East Water Corporation, ABN 89 066 902 547 (**we / us / our**) and you, as our customer, (**you / your**).

#### 1. Capitalised Terms

1.1. In this Agreement, words in the Dictionary will start with a capital letter. For example, in the statement, "We will process the Debit Payment" the term "Debit Payment" is capitalised to indicate that it is defined in the Dictionary. You can find the Dictionary at the bottom of this Agreement.

### 2. Debiting Your Account

- 2.1. By submitting a Direct Debit Request, *you* have authorised *us* to arrange for funds to be debited from *your* Account to pay your South East Water bill. The Direct Debit Request and this Agreement set out the terms of the direct debit arrangement between *us* and *you*.
- 2.2. We will still send a quarterly bill for your reference.
- 2.3. We will only arrange for funds to be debited from your Account as authorised in the Direct Debit Request.
- 2.4. The Debit Payment will be processed on the relevant Debit Day. We will not alter the frequency of debit payments without first consulting you and seeking prior approval.
- 2.5. In the event that a Debit Payment is due on a day which is not a Banking Day, we will process the Debit Payment on the next Banking Day.

## 3. Amendments and changes by Us

- 3.1. <u>We</u> may amend or update this Agreement from time to time by giving *you* at least 30 days' notice to the preferred email or postal address *you* have given *us* in the Direct Debit Request. *You* may cancel *your* Direct Debit Request if you do not agree to the amendments or updates *we* may make from time to time (see below for information about how to cancel *your* Direct Debit Request).
- 3.2. We reserve the right to cease offering direct debit payments at any time by giving *you* at *least* 30 days' prior notice to the preferred email or postal address *you* have given *us* in the Direct Debit Request.
- 3.3. In the event we cease to trade, all payment plans will be cancelled immediately and both *you* and *your* financial institution will be notified.



### 4. How to cancel or change Your Direct Debit Request

#### 4.1. *You* can:

- a) cancel or suspend the Direct Debit Request; or
- b) change, stop, or defer an individual Direct Debit Payment, at any time by giving *us* at least 7 days' notice. To do so, *you* can telephone *us* on 131 851 or log in to my.SouthEastWater.com.au
- 4.2. You may also contact *your* own financial institution which must act promptly on *your instructions* to change or cancel this direct debit arrangement.
- 4.3. If *you* want to cancel or defer a payment, *we* request that *you* contact *us*, as the first point of contact, prior to notifying *your* financial institution.

### 5. Your obligations

- 5.1. It is *your* obligation to provide *us* with accurate Account details. *You* should:
  - a) check that the Account details that *you* have provided to *us* are correct by checking them against a recent Account statement issued by *your* Financial Institution;
  - b) check with *your* Financial Institution if *you* have any questions about how to complete the Direct Debit Request.
- 5.2. Additionally, where the Account *you* want *us* to take the Debit Payments from is a Bank Account, *you* should check with *your* Financial Institution:
  - a) that direct debits are available from the Bank Account you wish to use for the Debit Payments (as direct debits are not available on all bank accounts);
  - b) if you are unsure about your Bank Account type or other information, such as account number or what a 'BSB' number is.
- 5.3. You must advise *us* if the nominated Account is transferred or closed or if *your* details have changed. *You* can do this by following the steps above (see clause 4 above).
- 5.4. It is your responsibility to ensure that:
  - a) sufficient clear funds are available in your Bank Account to allow a Debit Payment to me made in accordance with the Direct Debit Request; or
  - b) there is sufficient credit available on your Credit Card to allow a Debit Payment to me made in accordance with the Direct Debit Request.
- 5.5. If there are insufficient clear funds / insufficient available credit in *your* Account to meet a Debit Payment:
  - a) You may be charged a fee and/or interest by Your Financial Institution;
  - b) We may charge you reasonable costs incurred by us as a result of there being insufficient funds; and



- c) You must arrange for the Debit Payment to be made by another method or arrange for sufficient clear funds / sufficient available credit to be in *your* Account by an agreed time so that *we* can process the Debit Payment.
- 5.6. We reserve the right to cancel any direct debit request in the event of two or more consecutive Debit Payments failing because of a lack of insufficient clear funds.
- 5.7. You should check your Account statement to verify that the amounts debited from your Account are correct.
- 5.8. If the amount remains unpaid, we may list the debt with a credit reporting agency, which could affect *your* credit rating.

### 6. Disputes

- 6.1. If you believe that there has been an error in debiting or charging your Account, you should notify us directly by telephoning us on 131 851. Alternatively, you can contact your Financial Institution. However, we request that you contact us, as the first point of contact, prior to contacting your financial institution.
- 6.2. We will investigate *your* claim that *your* Account has been incorrectly debited or charged and, in the event that an error has been made by *us*, we will issue a refund equal to the disputed amount. This refund will be paid in directly to *your* Account. Where relevant, we will credit your next bill with an amount equal to any interest and charges incurred by *you* as a result of *our* error.
- 6.3. If, as a result of *our* investigation, *we* conclude that *your* Account has not been incorrectly debited or charged, *we* will respond to *your* query, in writing, and provide *you* with *Our* reasons and any evidence for this finding.
- 6.4. We will, on request from *your* financial institution, provide information in connection with a claim made on it relating to an alleged incorrect or wrongful debit.

## 7. Confidentiality

- 7.1. We will keep *your* personal details confidential. We will make reasonable efforts to keep any such information that we have about *you* secure and to ensure that it is used only by *our* direct debit officers for *your* Debit Payments, or in accordance with this Agreement, or as required by law.
- 7.2. We will handle all personal information we receive from you in accordance with our privacy charter. Visit southeastwater.com.au/privacy
- 7.3. The terms of the customer charter, or any other express agreement between *you* and *us*, apply to the services *we* provide to *you*, except to the extent that those terms are inconsistent with this Agreement



### 8. Contacting each other

- 8.1. If *you* wish to notify *us* in writing about anything relating to this Agreement, *you* should write to *us* at <a href="mailto:support@sew.com.au">support@sew.com.au</a> or by post PO Box 2268., Seaford, Victoria, 3198, and mark your correspondence to the attention of the Direct Debit Team.
- 8.2. We will notify *you* by sending a notice to the preferred address or email *you* have given *us* in the Direct Debit Request.
- 8.3. Any notice will be deemed to have been received on the third Banking Day after sending.

## 9. Dictionary

#### In this Agreement:

Account	means either <i>your</i> Bank Account or <i>your</i> Credit Card
Agreement	means this Direct Debit Agreement between you and us.
Banking Day	means a day other than a Saturday or a Sunday or a public holiday listed throughout Australia.
Bank Account	means the account held at <i>your</i> Financial Institution from which <i>we</i> are authorised to arrange for funds to be debited.
Credit Card	means the Visa or Mastercard nominated by <i>you</i> from which we are authorised to arrange for funds to be charged.
Debit Day	means the day that payment by <i>you</i> to <i>us</i> is due, being either:
	<ul> <li>a) the due date shown on <i>your</i> bill; or</li> <li>b) if <i>you</i> have entered in to a payment plan to pay <i>your</i> bill by instalments, the dates agreed between <i>you</i> and <i>us</i>; or</li> <li>c) the Initial Debit Date</li> </ul>
Debit Payment	means a particular transaction where a debit is made.
Direct Debit Request	means the written, verbal or online request between <i>us</i> and <i>you</i> to debit funds from <i>your</i> Account.
Financial Institution	means the financial institution at which <i>you</i> hold the Account You have authorised <i>us</i> to debit.
Initial Debit Date	means the date that is 14 days after <i>you</i> set up a Direct Debit Request with <i>us</i> and applies:

#### **OFFICIAL**



- 1. only in respect of the first Debit Payment payable by you in connection with this Direct Debit Request; andonly where, at the time you submitted the Direct Debit
- Request, you had an amount due on your bill.