

## Review of RAB-based irrigation prices 2027-29 Emerald workshop – summary of issues raised

*This note records issues identified and views expressed by stakeholders present at the QCA's initial workshop for this review. The QCA is yet to form any opinion on these issues and views. As appropriate, issues will be addressed in the QCA's draft report.*

**Schemes:** Nogoal-Mackenzie

**Date of workshop:** 17 March 2026

Topic	Issues raised
Customer engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some stakeholders felt that previous survey results on the RAB approach did not reflect the actual level of support for the RAB approach.</li> </ul>
Asset planning and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some stakeholders considered that the annuity approach provided greater control over project management of renewals, and this level of control may be reduced under the RAB approach.</li> </ul>
Benefits and risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some stakeholders wanted clarity on whether the RAB approach would be beneficial for them and how risks would be managed under the RAB approach.</li> </ul>
Intergenerational equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some stakeholders raised concerns about intergenerational equity, noting they have been pre-funding the annuity for many years.</li> </ul>
Initial RAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some stakeholders suggested that the initial RAB should be set to zero.</li> </ul>
Rate of return	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some stakeholders expressed concern that there may be greater risk of gold-plating under the RAB approach.</li> </ul>