1. In April 2011, the Premier and Minister for Reconstruction announced proposed amendments to the *South East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009* to address community concerns about the responsibility for setting water and sewerage prices in South East Queensland (SEQ). The proposal included the imposition of a price cap on customers’ water and wastewater bills and enabling SEQ councils to choose to opt out of their Distributor-retailer and re-establish council owned and operated water business.
2. The *Fairer Water Prices for South East Queensland Amendment Act 2011* implemented the CPI cap on distribution and retail water and wastewater (sewerage) prices for households and small businesses for two years from 1 July 2011.
3. The participating councils of Allconnex Water (Gold Coast City Council, Redland City Council and Logan City Council) decided to withdraw their water business from Allconnex Water and re-establish their water businesses within specific council operations.
4. The South East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011:
5. enables the withdrawal of councils from Allconnex Water and the re-establishment of council specific water businesses by:
	1. providing for the re-transfer of water and wastewater functions and related assets and liabilities;
	2. providing for the establishment of a Workforce Framework to support and protect staff affected by the re-transfer;
6. requires the Gold Coast City Council to pay the costs of the withdrawing councils to disaggregate from Allconnex Water and re-establish council specific water businesses;
7. requires the new water businesses to continue to comply with key planning and customer protection provisions such as the Energy and Water Ombudsman Queensland; and
8. enables the continuing Distributor-retailers (Unitywater and Queensland Urban Utilities) to have Councillor representation on their Boards.
9. Cabinet endorsed the introduction of the South East Queensland (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 into the Legislative Assembly.
10. *Attachments*
* [South East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011](Attachments/Att%201%20SEQ%20Water%20Distribution%20Bill%202011.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/Att%202%20SEQ%20Water%20distribution%20Bill%202011%20Explanatory%20Note.pdf)