

## **Water pricing mechanism and the defects of water pricing in China**

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**Abstract** Water is an irreplaceable natural resource. The amount of water on the Earth is limited. However, due to population increase and economic development, the water demand for industry, agriculture and domestic consumption is increasing sharply year by year. Moreover, the demand for water quantity and quality is gradually improving. The contradiction between water demand and supply is more and more acute. In the situation of a market economy in China, an effective way for water resources protection is to adjust the water pricing method so as to redistribute water resources more properly. This paper presents some suggestions about water pricing in practice and provides some useful ways to different stakeholders during the process of water pricing.

**Key words** water price; water pricing mechanism

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