

# David Koch

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Letter to the Editor

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### Hamilton Wannon Water customers deserve compensation

The crisis that resulted in Wannon Water issuing a boiling notice should not be born by customers without some recompense for what is clearly a failure to ensure the constant supply of safe drinking water.

Hamilton residents have had to bear the brunt of this failure, where they through no fault of their own, were inconvenienced yet again due to Wannon Water's mismanagement.

Wannon Water put the responsibility completely on its customers to ensure they had safe drinking water and should now compensate them for this inconvenience.

Board members must take liability for not having back-up procedures in place in the event of a failure at the Hamilton Water Treatment Plant.

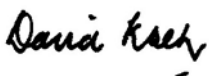
The response of local board member Paul Battista, who should have been supporting water customers in Hamilton, has been abysmal throughout this debacle.

Mr Battista, a failed Labor candidate who likes to play at politics, is putting himself forward in the up-coming council elections. Many are now asking if he will perform any better in representing the community at local government level. His lack of support for local Wannon Water customers is a poor reflection on his capacity to represent the Hamilton community.

The onus is on the chairman and board members to compensate water customers as a result of Wannon Water's mismanagement. Having to boil drinking water in this day and age is something seen more in third-world countries and not what Victorians expect in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Wannon Water customers in Hamilton have been very responsive to earlier demands to reduce water consumption so it is only fair that they should be entitled to a discount of at least 10 per cent on their next water bills.

Yours sincerely



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