

Notice

Water Act 2000

Decision to approve with conditions an underground water impact report

This statutory notice is issued by the Chief Executive administering the Water Act in accordance with section 385 of the Water Act 2000, to advise you of the decision to approve with conditions an underground water impact report (UWIR).

Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment
61 Mary Street, Brisbane
Queensland 4000

Your reference: Surat CMA UWIR
Our reference: 101/0018784-002

Attention: Mr Sanjeev Pandey,

Dear Mr Pandey,

Re: Approval of the Surat cumulative management area underground water impact report ('Surat UWIR')

The delegate of the chief executive has decided to approve, with conditions, the underground water impact report for the Surat cumulative management area. Please find attached:

- the conditions for approval (Attachment A); and
- a statement of reasons for the conditions (Attachment B).

The UWIR takes effect on **19 September 2016**.

If you require more information, please contact Janet Menzies on the telephone number listed below.

Signature

6 September 2016

Date

Jackie Mckeay
Delegate of the Chief Executive
Water Act 2000

Enquiries:
Janet Menzies
Ph: (07) 3330 5930
Fax: (07) 3330 5634
Email: janet.menzies@ehp.qld.gov.au

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Attachment A- Conditions for the Surat UWIR

Annual review

- (1) The **responsible entity** must submit to the **chief executive** a summary of the annual review required under s376(e)(ii) of the *Water Act 2000*, within 20 business days after 31 May, or another date agreed to in writing by the chief executive. The annual review must provide:
 - (a) an analysis and a statement of whether there has been a material change in the information or predictions used to determine the immediately affected area; and
 - (b) the extent to which the water monitoring strategy and spring impact management strategy have been implemented.

Monitoring

- (2) All monitoring required of the responsible tenure holder under the **UWIR** must be undertaken by a **suitably qualified person**.
- (3) The responsible tenure holder under the UWIR must ensure that all laboratory analyses and tests of monitoring undertaken under the UWIR must be carried out by a laboratory that has **NATA accreditation** for such analyses and tests.
- (4) Notwithstanding condition (3), where there are no laboratories that have NATA accreditation for a specific analyte or substance, then duplicate samples must be sent to at least two separate laboratories for independent testing or evaluation.
- (5) The methods of groundwater sampling required by the UWIR must comply with the latest edition of the Queensland Monitoring and Sampling Manual, AS/NZS 5667:11 1998 Water Sampling Guidelines – Part 11 Guidance on sampling groundwater, and the Australian Government's Groundwater Sampling and Analysis – A Field Guide (2009:27 GeoCat #6890.1) as relevant as may change from time to time.

Spring impact management strategy

- (6) The responsible tenure holder under the UWIR must submit, for approval to the chief executive, the plan to further investigate mitigation sites as required under 9.6.2 of the UWIR by 19 December 2016.
- (7) Once the plan required by (6) is approved by the chief executive, the responsible tenure holder must implement the plan.

DEFINITIONS

Chief executive means the Director-General of the department responsible for administering Chapter 3 of the *Water Act 2000* or the persons delegated the powers of the chief executive as stated in the *Water Act* (EHP-Chief Executive) Delegation (No. 1) 2016 or subsequent versions.

NATA accreditation means accreditation by the National Association of Testing Authorities Australia.

Responsible entity means the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment in accordance with s368 of the *Water Act 2000*.

Responsible tenure holder means the petroleum tenure holder(s) identified in section 10 of the UWIR in accordance with s369 of the *Water Act 2000*.

Suitably qualified person means a person who has professional qualifications, training, skills or experience relevant to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis to performance relative to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.

UWIR means the underground water impact report prepared by the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment for the Surat cumulative management area dated 2016.

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Attachment B - statement of reasons for conditions for the Surat UWIR

Section 385 of the *Water Act 2000* (Water Act) states that the chief executive may decide to approve, approve with conditions, or require that an underground water impact report (UWIR) be modified and resubmitted.

As a delegate of the chief executive by instrument of appointment dated 14 January 2016 with powers under s. 385 of the Water Act, I have carried out an assessment of the UWIR, and consider that it satisfies the requirements of the Water Act, subject to compliance with the outlined conditions.

The table below is my statement of reasons for the outlined conditions. In deciding whether to impose these conditions, my considerations included but were not limited to:

- the submitted UWIR;
- the requirements of section 376-383 of the Water Act;
- the purpose of Chapter 3 of the Water Act, which focuses on ‘the management of the impacts on underground water caused by the exercise of underground water rights by petroleum tenure holders.’

Condition	Statement of reasons
<p>(1) The responsible entity must submit to the chief executive a summary of the annual review required under s376(e)(ii) of the <i>Water Act 2000</i>, within 20 business days after 31 May, or another date agreed to in writing by the chief executive. The annual review must provide:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">a. an analysis and a statement of whether there has been a material change in the information or predictions used to determine the immediately affected area; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">b. the extent to which the water monitoring strategy and spring impact management strategy have been implemented.</p>	<p>This condition is necessary in order to clearly state the day by which the annual review summary required under s376(e) of the Water Act must be submitted to the chief executive as this is not stated in the Water Act.</p> <p>As the final UWIR was submitted to the chief executive on the 31 May 2016, it was considered appropriate that the annual review summary is required 20 business days after the 31 May each year.</p>
<p>(2) All monitoring required of the responsible entity under the UWIR must be undertaken by a suitably qualified person.</p>	<p>This requirement ensures that monitoring is conducted by a suitably qualified person who has the necessary skills and training to carry out that monitoring.</p>
<p>(3) The responsible tenure holder under the UWIR must ensure that all laboratory analyses and tests of monitoring undertaken under the UWIR must be carried out by a laboratory that has NATA accreditation for such analyses and tests.</p>	<p>This requirement is necessary to ensure that laboratory analyses and tests are carried out with appropriate rigor.</p>
<p>(4) Notwithstanding condition (3), where there are no laboratories that have NATA accreditation</p>	<p>This requirement is considered necessary to provide a process for laboratory analysis where</p>

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Condition	Statement of reasons
for a specific analyte or substance, then duplicate samples must be sent to at least two separate laboratories for independent testing or evaluation.	NATA accreditation does not exist for a specific analyte or substance, and ensures assessments continue to be carried out with appropriate rigor.
(5) The methods of groundwater sampling required by the UWIR must comply with the latest edition of the <i>Queensland Monitoring and Sampling Manual</i> , AS/NZS 5667:11 1998 <i>Water Sampling Guidelines – Part 11 Guidance on sampling groundwater</i> , and the Australian Government's <i>Groundwater Sampling and Analysis – A Field Guide</i> (2009:27 GeoCat #6890.1) as relevant as may change from time to time.	This condition is necessary to ensure that monitoring is conducted to recognised sampling methodologies and protocols. It is appropriate to ensure that accepted and recognised methodologies are followed when taking samples so that results are accurate and that they can be meaningfully interpreted.
(6) The responsible tenure holder under the UWIR must submit, for approval to the chief executive, the plan to further investigate mitigation sites as required under 9.6.2 of the UWIR by 19 December 2016.	<p>Section 9.6.2 of the UWIR states a requirement for the responsible tenure holder to further investigate the Springrock Creek and Yebna group spring mitigation sites and prepare a plan for addressing the investigation requirements within three months of the approval of the UWIR.</p> <p>This condition is necessary in order to ensure that this plan is submitted to the chief executive for approval by 19 December 2016 to ensure that the plan is developed to an appropriate standard, including clearly stated actions and that compliance with the condition can be easily and objectively assessed.</p> <p>This condition is necessary in order to ensure impacts on springs are properly understood and managed in relation to the spring impact management strategy. In particular, it is acknowledged that further information is an integral part of the adaptive management framework. This requirement will ensure that quantitative performance indicators are established, against which the success of the spring impact management strategy can be measured.</p>
(7) Once the plan required by (6) is approved by the chief executive, the responsible tenure holder must implement the plan.	This condition is necessary to ensure that once the plan required under condition (6) is approved by the chief executive, the responsible tenure holder must implement that plan. This will ensure that compliance with the obligations under the Spring Impact Management Strategy can be easily and objectively assessed.