

Checklist

Suitably Qualified Person – Quick Guide

The purpose of this information sheet is to assist an independent suitably qualified person (SQP) in fulfilling their obligations under condition 9 of the General Beneficial Use Approval—irrigation of associated water (including coal seam gas water) (the approval).

This quick guide should be read in conjunction with the requirements of the approval. Where varying the standard water quality conditions (listed in condition 3 of the approval), a report must be provided to the administering authority which is certified by an independent suitably qualified person.

This quick guide provides a checklist of considerations to ensure that the suitably qualified person has appropriately considered the report before providing certification to the administering authority

Water quality

1. For any parameter/s which do not meet the water quality criteria in condition 3, the report:
 - a. ☐ states the likely level or range of exceedance
 - b. ☐ states the reason for exceedance
 - c. ☐ includes a physical copy of water results.
2. ☐ The report notes where the water samples were collected from (e.g. end of pipe, in-line, or before treatment).

Proposed irrigation method/s

3. In the context of the requirements of condition 8, the report considers and discusses:
 - a. ☐ the proposed irrigation methods
 - b. ☐ whether any run off from irrigation water is collected—if not, whether the water leaves the property
 - c. ☐ the irrigation frequency
 - d. ☐ the volume of water applied per irrigation event.
4. ☐ The report states whether the associated water is to be mixed or diluted prior to application to the crop—if so, the report includes water quality results for this water and discusses how mixing or diluting the water will impact on meeting the requirements of condition 8.

Agriculture

5. The report considers and discusses the history of irrigation on the proposed land including (where relevant):
 - a. ☐ the number of years of dry land cropping
 - b. ☐ the number of years of irrigation prior to commencing use of associated water
 - c. ☐ the number of years of previous irrigation with associated water
 - d. ☐ the crop type/s to be irrigated and whether they are consistent with crops suitable for the local area
 - e. ☐ the electrical conductivity threshold for the crops proposed to be irrigated (dS/m)
 - f. ☐ the average annual rainfall.
6. ☐ If possible, the report notes if there is a history of crop damage (i.e. prior to the proposed use of associated water).
7. ☐ If there is a history of crop damage, the report includes detailed information regarding diagnosis, symptoms and prognosis for soil structure and stability, including whether the proposed use of water will further contribute to crop damage.
8. ☐ The report clearly demonstrates that the requirements of condition 8 will be met with respect to ensuring yields, productive capacity and produce quality are maintained or improved.

Soil structure

- 9. ☐ The report states the soil type being irrigated, including results from a soil test.
- 10. ☐ The report states whether there is any existing soil damage.
- 11. ☐ If there is existing soil damage, detailed information is provided regarding diagnosis, symptoms and prognosis for soil structure and stability.
- 12. ☐ The report clearly demonstrates that the requirements of condition 8 will be met with respect to maintaining or improving the soil structure, stability and productive capacity.

Monitoring

- 13. ☐ The report outlines water quality monitoring requirements—where varying the frequency of water monitoring which is required for the standard water quality conditions, the variance should be clearly explained and justified.
- 14. ☐ The report outlines the necessary monitoring required to ensure that the requirements in condition 8b are met over the life of the project.