

Water Plan (Mary Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2021

Subordinate Legislation 2021 No. 49

The Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) administers the Queensland Government's regulatory review requirements, which aim to ensure regulation is necessary, well-designed and fit-for-purpose. Agencies may assess certain regulatory proposals as suitable for exclusion from further regulatory impact analysis. The following provides justification for an agency-assessed exclusion.

Regulation(s) proposed to be introduced or amended

The objective of the Water Plan (Mary Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2021 is to postpone the expiry of the Water Plan (Mary Basin) 2006 (the Plan).

The formal commencement of the replacement of the Plan will commence in April 2021. The current expiry of the Plan is 1 September 2021. To provide the department with sufficient time to undertake technical assessments and adequate consultation postponement of the plan to May 2024 will ensure continuation of the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements under the Water Act 2000 and the needs of the environment while this work is completed.

There are no expected adverse impacts of the postponement of expiry of the Plan on water users or the environment. The subordinate legislation is compatible with the human rights protected by the Human Rights Act 2019.

Rationale for how the regulatory proposal meets the criteria for self-assessable exclusion

Exclusion Category (I) Regulatory proposals that have already undergone an extensive impact assessment process.

The Queensland Productivity Commission advised on 19 December 2016 that it was satisfied that where the process to make or amend water plans is followed as per the provisions in the Water Act 2000, the plans will have undergone an extensive impact assessment process. The Commission considers that under the Guidelines, the Department will not be required to seek advice from the Commission for a water plan, or amending a water plan, approved under section 48 (1) of the Act.