

Queensland

# Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

Act No. 24 of 2023

An Act to amend the South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009, the Water Act 2000, the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes

[Assented to 20 September 2023]



Queensland

### Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

		Pa	age
Part 1	Prelimina	ry	
1	Short title		7
2	Commence	ement	7
Part 2		ent of South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and structuring) Act 2009	
3	Act amend	led	7
4	Amendme	nt of s 50 (Publication of directions)	7
5	Amendment of s 53CQ (Content of public notice and access requirements)       8		8
6	Amendment of s 95 (Public notice about availability of draft code) 9		
7	Amendment of s 99 (Review) 9		
8	Amendme	nt of s 99BB (Public notice about availability of draft code)	9
9	Insertion o	f new ch 6, pt 14	10
	Part 14	Transitional provisions for Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023	
	154	Definition for part	10
	155	Continued application of former s 95 to notices published before commencement	10
	156	Continued application of former s 99BB to notices publish before commencement	ed 11
10	Amendme	nt of schedule (Dictionary)	11
Part 3	Amendme	ent of Water Act 2000	
Division 1	Preliminary		
11	Act amend	led	12
Division 2	Amendments commencing on assent		
12	Amendment of s 112 (Public notice of application for water licence) 12		
13	Amendment of s 113 (Criteria for deciding application for water licence)		
			13

14	Amendment of s 120 (What are dealings with water licences) 13		
15	Amendment of s 121 (Who may apply for dealing with water licence) 14		
16	Amendmer	nt of s 127 (Application for a seasonal water assignment)	14
17	Replacement of s 130 (When dealing must be assessed as if it were anew water licence)15		
		When application for dealing must be assessed as application for new water licence	15
18	Amendmer	nt of s 131 (Recording other dealings)	17
19	Amendmer	nt of s 604 (Term)	17
20	Replaceme	ent of s 606 (Removal of director)	17
	606	Suspension and removal of director	17
21	Amendmer	nt of s 695 (Water authority may request its dissolution)	18
22	Amendmer	nt of s 695A (Closed water activity agreement)	19
23		nt of s 696 (Procedure before authority is dissolved to convert institutional structures)	vert 19
24	Amendmer under wate	nt of s 808A (Taking water in excess of volume or rate allower entitlement)	wed 20
25	Amendmer	nt of s 816 (Unauthorised water bore drilling activities)	20
26		nt of s 817 (Contravening requirements for mining and drilling)	20
27	Amendmer	nt of s 1009 (Public inspection and purchase of document	ts)
			20
28	Replaceme	ent of s 1009A (Publishing under this Act)	21
	1009A	Publishing under this Act	21
29	Replaceme	ent of ch 9, hdg (Transitional provisions and repeals)	22
30	Amendmer	nt of s 1250D (Applying for an associated water licence)	22
31	Amendment of s 1250L (When dealing must be assessed as if it were for		for 23
32	Amendment of s 1293 (Number of directors comprising boards of water		ater 23
33	Insertion of	<sup>:</sup> new ch 9, pt 14	23
		Transitional and validation provisions for Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023	
	Division 1	Transitional provisions	
	1302	Definitions for division	23
		Continued application of former s 112 to particular applications for water licences and dealings with water	
		licences	24

		licences and dealings with water licences	25	
	1305	Application of new s 130 to particular applications for dealings with water licences	25	
	1306	Modified application of s 1250D	26	
	1307	Modified application of s 1250L	26	
	1308	Application of s 1250L to particular applications for dealir with associated water licences	ngs 26	
	1309	Modified application of s 1293	27	
	Division 2	Validation provisions		
	1310	Validation of postponement of expiry of particular water resource plans	27	
34	Amendme	nt of sch 4 (Dictionary)	28	
Division 3	Amendme	ents commencing by proclamation		
35	Amendme providers)	nt of s 99 (Constructing authorities and water service	29	
36	Amendme	nt of s 118 (Conditions of water licence)	29	
37	Amendment of s 179 (Content of a resource operations licence or distribution operations licence)3		30	
38	Amendme	nt of s 210 (Conditions of operations licence)	30	
39	Insertion o	Insertion of new ch 2, pt 3A		
	Part 3A	Measurement requirements for taking water		
	Division 1	Preliminary		
	217A	Purpose of part	30	
	217B	Definitions for part	31	
	217C	Application of measurement requirements	31	
	Division 2	Measurement requirements		
	217D	Regulation may prescribe measurement requirements	32	
	217E	Using measurement devices	32	
	217F	Using measurement plans	34	
	Division 3	Other requirements		
	217G	Faulty measurement devices or measurement systems	35	
	217H	Record keeping requirements	35	
	Division 4	Other matters		
	2171	Standards for measurement requirements	35	
	217J	Other matters prescribed by regulation	36	
40	Amendme	nt of s 384 (Modifying report before approval)	37	
41	Insertion o	f new s 385A	37	

	385A	Statutory condition of approved underground water impa report	ict 37
42		nt of s 392 (Direction to propose amendment and consult	on 38
43	Amendme	nt of s 393 (Other amendments)	38
44	Amendme	nt of s 746 (Power to enter land to monitor compliance)	39
45		nt of s 808 (Unauthorised taking, supplying or interfering v	with 39
46	Amendme	nt of s 811 (Tampering with devices)	39
47		nt of s 829 (Persons taken to have committed particular	40
48	Amendme	nt of s 921 (Evidentiary aids)	41
49		nt of ch 8, pt 2A, hdg (Installing, maintaining and reading	42
50		nt of s 973 (Appointment and qualifications of metering s)	42
51	Amendme	nt of s 977 (Power to enter places for stated purposes)	42
52	Amendme	nt of s 1014 (Regulation-making power)	43
53	Insertion o	f new ss 1309A and 1309B	43
	1309A	Application of s 385A	44
	1309B	Existing metering contractors	44
54	Amendme	nt of sch 4 (Dictionary)	44
Part 4	Amendme	ent of Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008	
55	Act amend	led	46
56	Amendme	nt of s 14 (Reports and other publications by regulator)	46
57		nt of s 23A (Reviewing and changing service provider	46
58	Amendme	nt of s 99 (Notice of decision)	47
59	Insertion o	f new s 105	47
	105	Meaning of auditor	47
60	Replacem	ent of ss 108 and 108A	48
	108	Audits of drinking water quality management plans .	48
	108A	Audits of particular performance reports	49
61	Amendme	nt of s 109 (Declarations about reports under this division	) 50
62	Amendme	nt of s 110 (Spot audits of plans)	51
63	Amendme	nt of s 120 (Reviewing customer service standard)	51
64	Amendme	nt of s 142 (Drinking water quality management plan repo	orts)
			52

65	Amendment of s 142A (Performance reports)			
66	Amendment of s 162 (Notice of declaration of service area)			
67	Amendm	Amendment of s 163 (Map of service area)		
68	Replacer	Replacement of s 258 (Reviewing recycled water management plans		
			53	
	258	Reviewing recycled water management plans	53	
69	Amendm	ent of s 259 (Changing plan after review)	54	
70	Replacer	Replacement of ss 260 and 261 54		
	260	Internal audits of recycled water management plans	54	
	261	Regular audits of recycled water management plans	55	
71	Amendm	ent of s 352P (Review by dam owner)	57	
72	Insertion	of new s 578C	57	
	578C	Publishing under this Act	57	
73	Insertion	of new ch 10, pt 13	58	
	Part 13	Transitional provisions for Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023		
	678	Definition for part	58	
	679	Saving of former s 110 in relation to failure to give drink water quality management plan audit report before commencement	ing 58	
	680	References to particular existing reports	59	
	681	Proceedings for particular offences	60	
74		5 1	60	
Part 5	Amendment of sch 3 (Dictionary)       60         Other amendments       60		00	
75		Legislation amended		
Schedule 1			63	
Part 1	Amendments commencing on assent			
i ult i	Water Act 2000         63			
	Water Plan (Border Rivers and Moonie) 2019		64	
	Water Plan (Condamine and Balonne) 2019		65	
	Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008		65	
		nalties Enforcement Regulation 2014	66	
Part 2	Amendments commencing by proclamation			
	Water Ac	t 2000	66	

#### The Parliament of Queensland enacts—

### Part 1 Preliminary

#### 1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Water Legislation Amendment* Act 2023.

#### 2 Commencement

Part 3, division 3 and schedule 1, part 2 commence on a date to be fixed by proclamation.

### Part 2 Amendment of South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009

#### 3 Act amended

This part amends the *South-East Queensland Water* (*Distribution and Retail Restructuring*) Act 2009.

#### 4 Amendment of s 50 (Publication of directions)

(1) Section 50, from 'a copy—'—

omit, insert—

a copy of the direction is given to the Minister and is—

(a) published on the local government's website; or

Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

Part 2 Amendment of South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009

[s 5]

- (b) kept available for inspection by the public—
  - (i) at the public offices of the local government; or
  - (ii) on a notice board maintained by the local government in its local government area.
- (2) Section 50—

insert—

- (2) Also, each participating local government that gives the direction must ensure—
  - (a) if a copy of the direction is published on a website under subsection (1)(a), the copy is not removed from the website while the direction is in effect; or
  - (b) if a copy of the direction is kept available for inspection by the public under subsection (1)(b), the copy remains available for inspection by the public while the direction is in effect.

### 5 Amendment of s 53CQ (Content of public notice and access requirements)

(1) Section 53CQ(1)—

omit, insert—

- (1) This section states, for section 53CP(5), the way in which a distributor-retailer must give public notice of the approval of an inspection program.
- (1A) The distributor-retailer must—
  - (a) publish the notice on the distributor-retailer's website; and
  - (b) ensure the notice is not removed from the website during the program period.
- (2) Section 53CQ(1A) to (4)—

[s 6]

*renumber* as section 53CQ(2) to (5).

# 6 Amendment of s 95 (Public notice about availability of draft code)

(1) Section 95(1)(b)—

omit, insert—

- (b) publish a notice about the draft, and a copy of the draft, on a Queensland Government website; and
- (2) Section 95(4)—

omit, insert—

- (4) If a distributor-retailer is given a copy of the notice under subsection (1)(c), the distributor-retailer must publish a copy of the notice on the distributor-retailer's website.
- (5) A document published on a website under subsection (1)(b) or (4) must not be removed from the website before the end of the final submission day.

#### 7 Amendment of s 99 (Review)

Section 99(4), 'in a newspaper circulating in all of the State'—

omit, insert—

on a Queensland Government website

# 8 Amendment of s 99BB (Public notice about availability of draft code)

(1) Section 99BB(1)(b) and (c)—

omit, insert—

Part 2 Amendment of South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009

[s 9]

- (b) publish a notice about the draft, and a copy of the draft, on each of their websites; and
- (2) Section 99BB(1)(d)—

renumber as section 99BB(1)(c).

(3) Section 99BB(4)—

omit, insert—

(4) A document published on a website under subsection (1)(b) must not be removed from the website before the end of the final submission day.

#### 9 Insertion of new ch 6, pt 14

Part 14

Chapter 6—

insert—

### Transitional provisions for Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

#### **154 Definition for part**

In this part—

*former*, for a provision of this Act, means the provision as in force from time to time before the commencement.

# 155 Continued application of former s 95 to notices published before commencement

- (1) This section applies in relation to a notice published under former section 95(1)(b) if—
  - (a) the notice was published before the commencement; and

[s 10]

- (b) the end of the final submission day, within the meaning of former section 95(2)(c), is after the commencement.
- (2) Former section 95 continues to apply in relation to the notice as if the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* had not been enacted.

# 156 Continued application of former s 99BB to notices published before commencement

- (1) This section applies in relation to a notice published under former section 99BB(1)(c) if—
  - (a) the notice was published before the commencement; and
  - (b) the end of the final submission day, within the meaning of former section 99BB(2)(c), is after the commencement.
- (2) Former section 99BB continues to apply in relation to the notice as if the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* had not been enacted.

#### 10 Amendment of schedule (Dictionary)

Schedule—

insert—

*Queensland Government website* means a website with a URL that contains 'qld.gov.au', other than a website of a local government.

[s 11]

### Part 3 Amendment of Water Act 2000

### Division 1 Preliminary

#### 11 Act amended

This part amends the Water Act 2000.

Note-

See also the amendments in schedule 1, parts 1 and 2.

# Division 2 Amendments commencing on assent

## 12 Amendment of s 112 (Public notice of application for water licence)

Section 112(3) to (7)—

omit, insert—

- (3) The chief executive must publish, on a Queensland Government website, a notice (a *public submissions notice*) that—
  - (a) states the application has been made; and
  - (b) includes the following information—
    - (i) the location of the proposed taking of, or interference with, water;
    - (ii) where copies of the application may be inspected;

Example—

a Queensland Government website

(iii) that written submissions may be made by any entity about the application;

- (iv) a day, that is not earlier than 30 business days after the day the notice is published, by which submissions must be made;
- (v) the person to whom submissions must be made.
- (4) The chief executive may, by written notice, require the applicant to publish a copy of the public submissions notice for the period, and in the way, stated in the written notice.
- (5) Within 10 business days after the applicant publishes the copy of the public submissions notice under subsection (4), the applicant must give the chief executive evidence of the publication.
- (6) The application lapses if the applicant fails, without a reasonable excuse, to comply with—
  - (a) the written notice mentioned in subsection(4); or
  - (b) the requirement under subsection (5).

# 13 Amendment of s 113 (Criteria for deciding application for water licence)

(1) Section 113(e)(v)—

omit.

(2) Section 113—

insert—

(f) the public interest.

# 14 Amendment of s 120 (What are dealings with water licences)

Section 120(h)—

[s 15]

omit, insert—

- (h) seasonal water assignment of—
  - (i) a licence; or
  - (ii) a seasonal water assignment notice for a licence;

# 15 Amendment of s 121 (Who may apply for dealing with water licence)

Section 121(3)(a)—

omit, insert—

(a) for a seasonal water assignment of a seasonal water assignment notice for the water year in which the application is made—the holder of the seasonal water assignment notice;

# 16 Amendment of s 127 (Application for a seasonal water assignment)

(1) Section 127(1)—

omit, insert—

- (1) This section applies to an application for a seasonal water assignment of—
  - (a) a water licence; or
  - (b) a seasonal water assignment notice for a water licence.
- (2) Section 127(2)(b), after 'licences'—

insert—

, or seasonal water assignment notices for water licences,

(3) Section 127—

insert—

[s 17]

(4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the assignor and the proposed assignee may be the same person.

### 17 Replacement of s 130 (When dealing must be assessed as if it were a new water licence)

Section 130-

omit, insert—

### 130 When application for dealing must be assessed as application for new water licence

- (1) This section applies to an application for a dealing with a water licence, other than an application made under section 126(2), if the dealing—
  - (a) will, or is likely to, do 1 or more of the following—
    - (i) increase the amount of water that may be taken under the licence;
    - (ii) increase the rate at which water may be taken under the licence;
    - (iii) change the location of taking or interference with water under the licence;
    - (iv) increase or change the interference with water under the licence; or
  - (b) is an amendment to add, remove or change a condition of the licence; or
  - (c) is the renewal or reinstatement of the licence.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), sections 112 to 115 apply to the application for the dealing as if—
  - (a) a reference in sections 112 to 115 to an application for a water licence were a

[s 17]

reference to the application for the dealing; and

- (b) a reference in section 112(3)(b)(i) to the location of the proposed taking of, or interference with, water were a reference to the particulars of the dealing; and
- (c) a reference in section 113 to any water licence granted were a reference to the water licence mentioned in subsection (1); and
- (d) a reference in section 113(c) to section 111 were a reference to section 128; and
- (e) a reference in section 114(8) to a water licence were a reference to an amended water licence, or a new water licence, that gives effect to the dealing; and
- (f) a reference in section 114(9) to the licence were a reference to the amended water licence, or the new water licence, mentioned in paragraph (e).
- (3) However, the chief executive is not required to publish a public submissions notice for the application for the dealing if—
  - (a) subsection (1)(a) does not apply in relation to the dealing; and
  - (b) the chief executive is not satisfied publishing the public submissions notice would be—
    - (i) in the interests of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders and their connection with water resources; or
    - (ii) in the public interest.
- (4) In this section—

*public submissions notice*, for an application for a dealing with a water licence, means a notice

about the application under section 112(3), as applied under subsection (2).

#### 18 Amendment of s 131 (Recording other dealings)

(1) Section 131(5), 'it is given to the applicant'—

omit, insert—

stated in the licence or notice

(2) Section 131(6), 'is given'—

omit, insert—

takes effect

(3) Section 131(7), from 'notice'—

omit, insert—

is approved, the assignor is not authorised to take water that is the subject of the seasonal water assignment.

#### 19 Amendment of s 604 (Term)

Section 604(2), '3 years'—

omit, insert—

4 years

#### 20 Replacement of s 606 (Removal of director)

Section 606—

omit, insert—

#### 606 Suspension and removal of director

- (1) This section applies if a director for a water authority—
  - (a) has engaged in inappropriate or improper conduct—

[s 21]

- (i) in an official capacity; or
- (ii) in a private capacity that reflects seriously and adversely on the office; or
- (b) has become incapable of performing the director's functions; or
- (c) has neglected the director's duties or performed the director's functions incompetently.
- (2) If the water authority is a category 1 water authority—
  - (a) the Minister may, by written notice to the director—
    - (i) suspend the director from office for a period not more than 60 days; and
    - (ii) extend the suspension from time to time by periods not more than 60 days; or
  - (b) the Governor in Council may remove the director from office, whether or not the director is suspended under paragraph (a).
- (3) If the water authority is a category 2 water authority, the Minister may remove the director from office.

## 21 Amendment of s 695 (Water authority may request its dissolution)

Section 695(1)(b)(i)—

omit, insert—

(i) there are 1 or more closed water activity agreements for the authority area; or

[s 22]

#### 22 Amendment of s 695A (Closed water activity agreement)

(1) Section 695A(1)(b), 'subsection (2)'—

omit, insert—

subsection (3)

(2) Section 695A—

insert—

- (1A) For subsection (1)(b), the relevant registered owners of the land in the authority area may enter into 2 or more closed water activity agreements if—
  - (a) each agreement applies to different works, and different parts of the land, in the authority area; and
  - (b) each relevant registered owner is a party to only 1 of the agreements.
- (3) Section 695A(2)(b)(ii), 'registered owner's' omit, insert—

party's

(4) Section 695A(5)(c), 'subsection (1)(b)' omit, insert—

subsection (3)(a)

(5) Section 695A(1A) to (6)—

*renumber* as section 695A(2) to (7).

# 23 Amendment of s 696 (Procedure before authority is dissolved to convert to alternative institutional structures)

Section 696(1), first mention and (3), 'an alternative institutional structure'—

omit, insert—

[s 24]

1 or more alternative institutional structures

#### 24 Amendment of s 808A (Taking water in excess of volume or rate allowed under water entitlement)

Section 808A(1)—

insert—

Examples of a period for a water entitlement—

- a water year for a water licence
- a period set for a water entitlement by a water sharing rule in a water management protocol
- a period announced for a water entitlement by the chief executive under a water management protocol

## 25 Amendment of s 816 (Unauthorised water bore drilling activities)

(1) Section 816(2), definition water bore drilling activity—

omit.

(2) Section 816(2), definition *exempt activity*, after 'result in a water bore'—

insert—

or test hole

## 26 Amendment of s 817 (Contravening requirements for mining and petroleum drilling)

Section 817(1), 'section 816(2)(b) or (d)'—

omit, insert—

section 816(1)(c)

## 27 Amendment of s 1009 (Public inspection and purchase of documents)

(1) Section 1009(1), from 'copy' to 'department—'—

omit, insert—

copy of the following documents available for inspection by the public—

(2) Section 1009(2)—

omit, insert—

- (2) The chief executive may comply with subsection (1) by making a copy of a document mentioned in that subsection available for inspection by the public in any way the chief executive considers appropriate, including, for example, by—
  - (a) publishing the copy on a Queensland Government website; or
  - (b) making the copy available for inspection by the public, at an office of the department, during office hours on business days.

#### 28 Replacement of s 1009A (Publishing under this Act)

Section 1009A—

omit, insert—

#### 1009A Publishing under this Act

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a provision of this Act requires or allows an entity to publish information in a document; and
  - (b) the provision does not require the entity to publish the document in a particular way.
- (2) The entity must—
  - (a) for a document made by an entity under chapter 2A—publish the document on—
    - (i) if the entity is the Minister or the chief executive—a Queensland Government website; or

[s 29]

(ii) otherwise-the entity's website; or

(b) for another document—publish the document in a way that is likely to bring the document to the attention of each person to whom it is to be published.

*Examples of ways likely to bring the document to the attention of each person to whom it is to be published—* 

- any way a document required to be served on the person may be served
- announcing the document over a radio station broadcasting generally throughout the area in which the person resides
- publishing the document in an online newspaper relevant to the area in which the person resides
- publishing the document on a Queensland Government website
- publishing the document by gazette notice
- (3) Subsection (2) does not prevent the entity from also publishing the document in other ways.

# 29 Replacement of ch 9, hdg (Transitional provisions and repeals)

Chapter 9, heading—

omit, insert—

### Chapter 9 Transitional and validation provisions

# 30 Amendment of s 1250D (Applying for an associated water licence)

Section 1250D-

insert—

Note-

See also section 1306.

[s 31]

### 31 Amendment of s 1250L (When dealing must be assessed as if it were for a new associated water licence)

Section 1250L—

insert-

Note-

See also section 1307.

### 32 Amendment of s 1293 (Number of directors comprising boards of water authorities)

Section 1293—

insert—

Note-

See also section 1309.

#### 33 Insertion of new ch 9, pt 14

Chapter 9—

insert—

### Part 14

### Transitional and validation provisions for Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

### Division 1 Transitional provisions

#### 1302 Definitions for division

In this division—

*former*, for a provision of this Act, means the provision as in force from time to time before the commencement of the provision in which the term is used.

[s 33]

*introduction day* means the day the Bill for the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* was introduced into the Legislative Assembly.

*new*, for a provision of this Act, means the provision as in force from the commencement of the provision in which the term is used.

transition period means the period-

- (a) starting on the introduction day; and
- (b) ending on the day before the day of the commencement.

#### 1303 Continued application of former s 112 to particular applications for water licences and dealings with water licences

- (1) This section applies in relation to an application for a water licence, or a dealing with a water licence, if—
  - (a) the application was made, but not decided, before the commencement; and
  - (b) for an application for a dealing with a water licence—former section 112 applied to the application under former section 130; and
  - (c) before the commencement, the chief executive gave the applicant a notice under former section 112(3); and
  - (d) immediately before the commencement, the applicant had not complied with the notice.
- (2) Former section 112 continues to apply in relation to the application as if the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* had not been enacted.

#### 1304 Application of new s 113 to particular applications for water licences and dealings with water licences

- (1) This section applies in relation to an application for a water licence if the application was made, but not decided, before the commencement.
- (2) Also, this section applies in relation to an application for a dealing with a water licence if—
  - (a) the application was made, but not decided, before the commencement; and
  - (b) former section 113 applied in relation to the application under former section 130.
- (3) From the commencement, former section 113 does not apply, and new section 113 applies, for deciding the application.
- (4) This section is subject to section 1305.

#### 1305 Application of new s 130 to particular applications for dealings with water licences

- (1) This section applies in relation to an application for a dealing with a water licence if—
  - (a) the proposed dealing is an amendment to add, remove or change a condition of the licence; and
  - (b) the application was made during the transition period.
- (2) The chief executive must not decide the application during the transition period.
- (3) The application is taken to be made on the day of the commencement.
- (4) New section 130 applies in relation to the application.
- (5) If the application was purportedly decided before

[s 33]

the commencement, the purported decision is of no effect.

#### 1306 Modified application of s 1250D

From the commencement, section 1250D, as in force from the commencement, is taken to apply to an application for an associated water licence as if the reference in section 1250D(5) to section 112(1) and (3) were a reference to new section 112(1), (3) and (4).

#### 1307 Modified application of s 1250L

- From the commencement, section 1250L, as in force from the commencement, is taken to also apply to a proposed dealing for an associated water licence that is—
  - (a) an amendment to add, remove or change a condition of the licence; or
  - (b) the renewal or reinstatement of the licence.
- (2) This section does not limit the application of section 1250L to a proposed dealing for an associated water licence mentioned in section 1250L(a) to (d).

#### 1308 Application of s 1250L to particular applications for dealings with associated water licences

- (1) This section applies in relation to an application for a dealing with an associated water licence if—
  - (a) the proposed dealing is an amendment to add, remove or change a condition of the licence; and
  - (b) the application was made during the transition period.

- (2) The chief executive must not decide the application during the transition period.
- (3) The application is taken to be made on the day of the commencement.
- (4) Section 1250L, as in force from the commencement and applied under section 1307, applies in relation to the application.
- (5) If the application was purportedly decided before the commencement, the purported decision is of no effect.

#### 1309 Modified application of s 1293

Section 1293, as in force from the commencement, applies, and is taken to always have applied, as if the reference in that section to former section 598(1) were a reference to section 598(1), or section 598A(2), as in force from time to time before 24 May 2019.

### Division 2 Validation provisions

#### 1310 Validation of postponement of expiry of particular water resource plans

- (1) This section applies in relation to a decision, purportedly made under former section 52B(6), to postpone the expiry of a delayed water resource plan within the meaning of section 1236.
- (2) The decision is, and is taken to always have been, as valid as it would have been if section 1236(2) had not applied despite former section 52A(3).
- (3) Anything done under the postponed water resource plan is, and is taken to always have been, as valid and lawful as it would have been if section 1236(2) had not applied despite former

#### [s 34]

section 52A(3).

- (4) This section applies despite section 1236(2).
- (5) In this section—

*former section* 52A(3) means section 52A(3) as in force from time to time before 6 December 2016.

*former section 52B* means section 52B as in force from time to time before 6 December 2016.

#### 34 Amendment of sch 4 (Dictionary)

(1) Schedule 4, definitions *publish* and *Queensland Government business and industry portal—* 

omit.

(2) Schedule 4—

insert—

*publish*, in relation to a notice or other document to which section 1009A applies, means publish in accordance with that section.

*Queensland Government website* means a website with a URL that contains 'qld.gov.au', other than a website of a local government.

*test hole* means a hole made for the purpose of obtaining information about—

- (a) the water production capacity, water production quality or hydraulic properties of a geological structure or formation; or
- (b) the suitability of a geological structure or formation to be tapped by a water bore.

*water bore drilling activity* means any of the following activities—

(a) drilling, deepening, enlarging or casing a water bore or test hole;

[s 35]

- (b) removing, replacing, altering or repairing the lining or screen of a water bore or test hole;
- (c) removing, replacing, altering or repairing the casing of a water bore (other than a subartesian bore casing less than 1.2m below the surface) or test hole;
- (d) decommissioning a water bore or test hole.
- (3) Schedule 4, definition *seasonal water assignment*, paragraphs
  (a) and (b), 'to another person'—

omit.

# Division 3 Amendments commencing by proclamation

## 35 Amendment of s 99 (Constructing authorities and water service providers)

Section 99(3)(d), 'through a meter'—

omit, insert—

in conjunction with the use of a measurement device

#### 36 Amendment of s 118 (Conditions of water licence)

Section 118(2)(a)—

omit, insert—

(a) calculate or measure water taken under the licence, and record, or transmit or otherwise report, information about the water taken;

#### [s 37]

## 37 Amendment of s 179 (Content of a resource operations licence or distribution operations licence)

(1) Section 179(e)—

insert—

- (iiia) requirements about calculating or measuring water taken under the licence or water allocations managed under the licence; and
- (2) Section 179(e)(iiia) to (viii)—

renumber as section 179(e)(iv) to (ix).

#### 38 Amendment of s 210 (Conditions of operations licence)

Section 210(2)(a)—

omit, insert—

(a) calculate or measure water taken under the water entitlements to which the licence relates, and record, or transmit or otherwise report, information about the water taken;

#### 39 Insertion of new ch 2, pt 3A

Part 3A

Chapter 2—

insert—

### Measurement requirements for taking water

### Division 1 Preliminary

#### 217A Purpose of part

This part provides for-

[s 39]

- (a) a regulation to prescribe requirements about measuring water taken under this Act, including, for example, requirements about—
  - (i) calculating or measuring water taken under an authorisation to take water under this Act; and
  - (ii) recording, or transmitting or otherwise reporting, information about—
    - (A) water taken under an authorisation to take water under this Act; or
    - (B) other matters related to calculating or measuring water taken under an authorisation to take water under this Act; and
- (b) other matters related to the requirements.

#### 217B Definitions for part

In this part—

*duly qualified person* means a person prescribed by regulation to be a duly qualified person for stated measurement requirements.

*faulty*, in relation to a measurement device or measurement system, means faulty or otherwise not operating properly, within the meaning prescribed by regulation.

*relevant authorisation*, in relation to a measurement requirement, means an authorisation declared under section 217C to be subject to the measurement requirement.

#### 217C Application of measurement requirements

(1) A measurement requirement applies to an authorisation, or a class of authorisations, to take

[s 39]

water under this Act if the authorisation, or class of authorisations, is declared by regulation to be subject to the requirement.

- (2) The following authorisations may be declared under subsection (1) to be subject to a measurement requirement—
  - (a) an authorisation that is subject to a limit (however applied to the authorisation) on the volume of water that may be taken under the authorisation;
  - (b) another authorisation to which the measurement requirement is to apply to calculate or measure water taken under the authorisation.

### Division 2 Measurement requirements

# 217D Regulation may prescribe measurement requirements

A regulation may prescribe measurement requirements under section 217E or 217F that apply to relevant authorisations.

Note—

See section 808(3) for an offence for the holder of a relevant authorisation taking water while contravening measurement requirements to which the authorisation is subject.

#### 217E Using measurement devices

A measurement requirement may require the holder of a relevant authorisation to do any of the following things—

- (a) to attach 1 or more measurement devices to works through which water is taken under the authorisation, either directly or in another stated way, including, for example, by attachment to another device;
- (b) to maintain each measurement device mentioned in paragraph (a) in accordance with stated requirements or standards made under section 217I;
- (c) to ensure each measurement device mentioned in paragraph (a)—
  - (i) is certified by a duly qualified person as complying with standards made under section 217I; and
  - (ii) is not faulty;
- (d) to ensure water taken under the authorisation is taken only—
  - (i) through works to which the measurement devices mentioned in paragraph (a) are attached; or
  - (ii) for any period during which any of the measurement devices mentioned in paragraph (a) are faulty—in accordance with stated alternative requirements;
- (e) to give the chief executive information—
  - (i) stated in the regulation or standards made under section 217I about water taken under the authorisation during stated periods; and
  - (ii) at the stated times and in the stated way.

#### 217F Using measurement plans

A measurement requirement may require the holder of a relevant authorisation to do any of the following things—

- (a) to have a measurement plan for the authorisation;
- (b) to ensure—
  - (i) the measurement plan mentioned in paragraph (a) is certified by a duly qualified person as complying with standards made under section 217I; and
  - (ii) the measurement system outlined in the measurement plan mentioned in paragraph (a) is not faulty;
- (c) to ensure water taken under the authorisation is taken only in a way that allows the water to be calculated or measured in accordance with—
  - (i) the measurement plan mentioned in paragraph (a); or
  - (ii) for any period during which the measurement system outlined in the measurement plan mentioned in paragraph (a) is faulty—stated alternative requirements;
- (d) to give the chief executive information—
  - (i) stated in the regulation or standards made under section 217I about water taken under the authorisation during stated periods; and
  - (ii) at the stated times and in the stated way.

### Division 3 Other requirements

[s 39]

#### 217G Faulty measurement devices or measurement systems

A regulation may prescribe matters about a faulty measurement device or measurement system, including, for example, requirements applying to the holder of a relevant authorisation about—

- (a) ensuring the fault in the device or system is identified and rectified; and
- (b) notifying the chief executive about the fault in the device or system.

Note-

The regulation may create offences against the regulation—see section 1014(2)(b).

#### 217H Record keeping requirements

A regulation may prescribe requirements about—

- (a) the records that a holder of a relevant authorisation must keep in relation to the measurement requirements; and
- (b) giving copies of the records to the chief executive.

Note—

The regulation may create offences against the regulation—see section 1014(2)(b).

### Division 4 Other matters

#### 217I Standards for measurement requirements

- (1) The chief executive may make standards, for the measurement requirements, about—
  - (a) the design, construction, installation and maintenance of measurement devices; and

[s 39]

- (b) the preparation of measurement plans; and
- (c) the operation of measurement systems included in measurement plans; and
- (d) processes for the certification of measurement devices or measurement plans as complying with standards under this section, including, for example, the validation of measurement devices; and
- (e) the information about water taken under a relevant authorisation that must be given to the chief executive under the measurement requirements; and
- (f) any other matter about measurement devices or measurement plans necessary for the effective operation of the measurement requirements.
- (2) The standards made under subsection (1)—
  - (a) must be published on a Queensland Government website; and
  - (b) take effect from the day stated in the standards, which must not be earlier than the day the standards are published.
- (3) The chief executive must ensure that a copy of the standards made under subsection (1) as in force from time to time is available for inspection on a Queensland Government website.

#### 217J Other matters prescribed by regulation

A regulation may provide for the following matters for the measurement requirements—

- (a) the appointment of persons as duly qualified persons;
- (b) the suspension and cancellation of the appointment of duly qualified persons;

(c) persons who are duly qualified persons other than because of an appointment under the regulation;

*Example for paragraph (c)*—

A regulation may state that a particular class of persons are duly qualified persons for the measurement requirements.

- (d) the functions of duly qualified persons under this Act and requirements for the performance of the functions;
- (e) the functions of the chief executive to ensure the effective operation of the measurement requirements, including, for example, functions about—
  - (i) notifying holders of relevant authorisations of their obligations under the measurement requirements; and
  - (ii) monitoring compliance with the measurement requirements.

#### 40 Amendment of s 384 (Modifying report before approval)

Section 384(2)(c)(ii) and (3), after 'a submission'—

insert-

to the chief executive

#### 41 Insertion of new s 385A

After section 385—

insert—

# 385A Statutory condition of approved underground water impact report

(1) This section applies if the chief executive—

[s 42]

- (a) approves an underground water impact report under section 385(1)(a) that includes the program mentioned in section 376(1)(e); and
- (b) does not impose a condition on the approval stating the period within which the responsible entity for the report must give the chief executive the information mentioned in section 376(1)(e)(ii).
- (2) It is a condition of the approval that the responsible entity must give the chief executive the information mentioned in section 376(1)(e)(ii)—
  - (a) within 20 business days after each anniversary of the day the report took effect; or
  - (b) if, within the period mentioned in paragraph(a), the chief executive agrees in writing to a longer period—within the longer period.
- (3) This section does not limit the chief executive's power to impose conditions under section 385(1)(a).

# 42 Amendment of s 392 (Direction to propose amendment and consult on proposal)

Section 392(2), after 'entity to'—

insert—

, within a stated reasonable period

#### 43 Amendment of s 393 (Other amendments)

Section 393(6), after 'a notice about the amendment'—

insert—

that complies with subsection (7), and

# 44 Amendment of s 746 (Power to enter land to monitor compliance)

Section 746(1)(a) and (b)—

omit, insert—

- (a) inspect, read or obtain information from a device, equipment or other thing used for recording the taking of, interfering with, or use of the water, including, for example—
  - (i) a measurement device; and
  - (ii) a device, equipment or other thing that is a component of a measurement system;
- (b) check the operation of, or repair or replace, a device, equipment or other thing mentioned in paragraph (a);

# 45 Amendment of s 808 (Unauthorised taking, supplying or interfering with water)

Section 808(3), from 'a metered entitlement' to 'attached.'—

omit, insert—

an authorisation to take water under this Act to which measurement requirements apply commits an offence if—

- (a) the holder takes water under the authorisation; and
- (b) at the time of the taking, the holder is contravening the measurement requirements.

#### 46 Amendment of s 811 (Tampering with devices)

(1) Section 811(1)(a), 'measure the volume of'—

omit, insert—

#### [s 47]

calculate or measure

(2) Section 811(1)(b), 'and transmit' *omit, insert*—

, or transmit or otherwise report,

(3) Section 811(3), definition *tamper*, paragraph (b), after 'works'—

insert—

#### or another thing

(4) Section 811(3), definition *tamper*, paragraph (b)(i)—

omit, insert—

- (i) calculate, measure, read, record, transmit or otherwise report information; or
- (5) Section 811(3), definition *tamper insert*—
  - (c) tamper with a seal, mark, access code or other thing attached or applied to the device by an authorised officer, a measurement contractor or another person performing functions under this Act.

Example of another person for paragraph (c)—

a duly qualified person

# 47 Amendment of s 829 (Persons taken to have committed particular offences)

Section 829(1)(b), from 'works'—

omit, insert—

works to which a measurement device is attached, or to which a measurement system relates, in accordance with measurement requirements to which the water entitlement is subject.

[s 48]

#### 48 Amendment of s 921 (Evidentiary aids)

(1) Section 921(1)—

insert—

- (h) on a stated day, the chief executive received stated information about water taken, under a stated authorisation to take water under this Act to which the measurement requirements apply, that—
  - (i) was transmitted or otherwise reported by a device, equipment or other thing in accordance with the measurement requirements; or
  - (ii) was calculated or measured in accordance with a measurement plan for the authorisation.
- (2) Section 921(3)—

omit, insert—

- (3) A certificate purporting to be signed by an authorised officer stating any of the following is evidence of the matters stated—
  - (a) a stated device, equipment or other thing recorded or produced stated information about water taken, interfered with or used during a stated period;
  - a stated measurement system used in (b) accordance with the measurement requirements produced stated information about water taken. under а stated authorisation to take water under this Act to which the measurement requirements apply, during a stated period.

[s 49]

# 49 Amendment of ch 8, pt 2A, hdg (Installing, maintaining and reading meters)

Chapter 8, part 2A, heading, 'meters'—

omit, insert—

#### measurement devices

# 50 Amendment of s 973 (Appointment and qualifications of metering contractors)

Section 973, 'metering'—

omit, insert—

measurement

# 51 Amendment of s 977 (Power to enter places for stated purposes)

(1) Section 977(1), 'metering'—

omit, insert—

measurement

(2) Section 977(1)(a) and (c), 'a meter'—

omit, insert—

a measurement device

(3) Section 977(1)(c), 'the meter' omit, insert—

the device

(4) Section 977(1)(d), 'the meter' omit, insert—

a measurement device installed under paragraph (c)

(5) Section 977(1)(e) and (f), 'meters' omit, insertmeasurement devices installed under paragraph (c)

(6) Section 977(1)(g), 'a meter' omit, insert—

a measurement device installed under paragraph (c)

(7) Section 977(2) to (5), 'metering' omit, insert—

measurement

#### 52 Amendment of s 1014 (Regulation-making power)

(1) Section 1014(2)(a), from 'example'—

omit, insert—

example, for the following-

- (i) the taking and supplying of water under this Act;
- (ii) drainage and resources management services;
- (iii) measurement devices or services provided for the measurement requirements; and
- (2) Section 1014(2)(c) *omit.*
- (3) Section 1014(2)(d) to (j)—*renumber* as section 1014(2)(c) to (i).

#### 53 Insertion of new ss 1309A and 1309B

After section 1309, as inserted by this Act insert[s 54]

#### 1309A Application of s 385A

Section 385A applies from the commencement in relation to an approved underground water impact report, whether the report was approved before, or is approved after, the commencement.

#### 1309B Existing metering contractors

An appointment of a person as a metering contractor under former section 973 in effect immediately before the commencement continues as an appointment of a measurement contractor under section 973.

#### 54 Amendment of sch 4 (Dictionary)

(1) Schedule 4, definitions approved meter, meter, metered entitlement and metering contractor—

omit.

(2) Schedule 4—

insert—

duly qualified person see section 217B.

*faulty*, in relation to a measurement device or measurement system, for chapter 2, part 3A, see section 217B.

*measurement contractor* means a person appointed as a measurement contractor under section 973.

measurement device—

- (a) means a meter or other device used in connection with calculating or measuring water taken, or interfered with, under this Act; and
- (b) includes equipment related to the meter or device for calculating or measuring, or

recording, or transmitting or otherwise reporting, information about—

- (i) the taking of, or interfering with, water; or
- (ii) the quality of water.

Example of a measurement device—

a telemetry device

*measurement requirements* means measurement requirements under chapter 2, part 3A, division 2.

measurement system means a system-

- (a) used in connection with calculating or measuring water taken under an authorisation to take water under this Act; and
- (b) comprising 2 or more components that may include—
  - (i) a measurement device; and
  - (ii) information, measures or methodologies for identifying and calculating or measuring water taken.

*relevant authorisation*, in relation to a measurement requirement, see section 217B.

(3) Schedule 4, definition *monitoring equipment*, paragraph (b), 'meter'—

omit, insert—

measurement device

[s 55]

### Part 4 Amendment of Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008

#### 55 Act amended

This part amends the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability)* Act 2008.

Note-

See also the amendments in schedule 1.

# 56 Amendment of s 14 (Reports and other publications by regulator)

Section 14(2)(b), 'newspaper,'---

omit.

# 57 Amendment of s 23A (Reviewing and changing service provider registration details)

(1) Section 23A(2)—

omit, insert—

- (2) Within 10 business days after the review is completed, the service provider must give the regulator notice of the review that—
  - (a) is in the approved form; and
  - (b) states whether the service provider's registration details have changed; and
  - (c) if the service provider's registration details have changed—includes particulars of the change.
- (2) Section 23A(3), 'On receiving the notice, the regulator must'—

omit, insert—

If the service provider's registration details have

[s 58]

changed, the regulator must, on receiving the notice

#### 58 Amendment of s 99 (Notice of decision)

Section 99(2)(c)—

insert—

Note—

See also section 108 in relation to auditing the drinking water quality management plan.

#### 59 Insertion of new s 105

Before section 106-

insert—

#### 105 Meaning of auditor

- (1) This section applies in relation to—
  - (a) an audit of a service provider's drinking water quality management plan; or
  - (b) an audit of data in a service provider's performance report.
- (2) A person is an *auditor* for the audit if the person—
  - (a) is not the provider or an employee of the provider; and
  - (b) if the provider is a prescribed related entity of a relevant infrastructure owner—is not the owner or an employee of the owner; and
  - (c) is not employed in the operation of the provider's infrastructure.
- (3) Also, the person must—
  - (a) for an audit mentioned in subsection (1)(a)—

- (i) be certified under the Drinking Water-Quality Management System Auditor Certification Scheme to audit drinking water quality management plans; or
- (ii) have another qualification the regulator is satisfied is at least equivalent to the certification mentioned in subparagraph (i); or
- (b) for an audit mentioned in subsection (1)(b)—be suitably qualified.

#### 60 Replacement of ss 108 and 108A

Sections 108 and 108A-

omit, insert—

# 108 Audits of drinking water quality management plans

- (1) This section applies if, under section 99, the regulator requires audits of a service provider's drinking water quality management plan.
- (2) The service provider must, unless the provider has a reasonable excuse—
  - (a) have the drinking water quality management plan audited, by an auditor, in accordance with the notice given by the regulator under section 99; and
  - (b) within 30 business days after each audit mentioned in paragraph (a) is completed, give the regulator a report about the audit that complies with subsection (3) (a *drinking water quality management plan audit report*).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

(3) The drinking water quality management plan

[s 60]

audit report must-

- (a) be prepared by the auditor in accordance with any guidelines about preparing the report made by the regulator; and
- (b) verify whether the monitoring and performance data given to the regulator under the drinking water quality management plan is accurate; and
- (c) assess-
  - (i) the provider's compliance with the plan and its conditions; and
  - (ii) the plan's relevance to the provider's drinking water service.

#### **108A Audits of particular performance reports**

- This section applies if the regulator reasonably believes that a service provider's performance report for a particular financial year (the *relevant financial year*) does not comply with section 142A(3).
- (2) The regulator may, by written notice, require the service provider to have the data in the performance report audited.
- (3) If the service provider is given a notice under subsection (2), the provider must, unless the provider has a reasonable excuse—
  - (a) have the data in performance report audited by an auditor; and
  - (b) give the regulator a report about the audit that complies with subsection (4) (a *performance audit report*) on or before the later of the following days—
    - (i) 1 October immediately after the relevant financial year ends;

(ii)	the	day	that	is	30	days	after	the
	prov	vider	receiv	ves t	the n	otice.		

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (4) The performance audit report must—
  - (a) be prepared by the auditor in accordance with any guidelines about preparing the report made by the regulator; and
  - (b) for each KPI the performance report is about—include the data for the KPI submitted in the performance report under section 142A(3)(d); and
  - (c) verify whether the data audited for the relevant financial year is accurate.
- (5) Without limiting subsection (3), the service provider is taken to comply with that subsection if—
  - (a) an audit process under another Act would, if complied with by the provider, require the provider to give the regulator a document containing the verification mentioned in subsection (4)(c); and
  - (b) the provider complies with the audit process.

# 61 Amendment of s 109 (Declarations about reports under this division)

(1) Section 109(1), after 'auditor'—

insert—

who prepared the report

(2) Section 109—

insert—

(5) If, under section 108A(5), the service provider is taken to comply with section 108A(3), this

[s 62]

#### section applies as if-

- (a) a reference to an audit were a reference to the audit process mentioned in section 108A(5)(a); and
- (b) a reference to a report were a reference to the document mentioned in section 108A(5)(a); and
- (c) a reference to the auditor were a reference to the person who prepared the document mentioned in section 108A(5)(a).

#### 62 Amendment of s 110 (Spot audits of plans)

(1) Section 110(1)(b)—

omit, insert—

- (b) a service provider does not give the regulator a drinking water quality management plan audit report under section 108(2)(b).
- (2) Section 110(2), 'regular' *omit*.
- (3) Section 110(3)—

omit, insert—

(3) The spot audit report for a drinking water quality management plan must be prepared by an auditor.

# 63 Amendment of s 120 (Reviewing customer service standard)

Section 120-

insert—

(3) For subsection (2), section 115 applies as if the 6-month period mentioned in section 115(4) were 6 months after the completion of the review.

[s 64]

## 64 Amendment of s 142 (Drinking water quality management plan reports)

(1) Section 142, heading—

omit, insert—

#### 142 Drinking water service annual reports

(2) Section 142(2)(a), '(a drinking water quality management plan report)'—

omit, insert—

#### (a drinking water service annual report)

(3) Section 142(3)(d), 'prepared for'—

omit, insert—

given to the regulator during

(4) Section 142(3)—

insert—

(h) if the provider has reviewed a customer service standard during the financial year—the outcome of the review and how the provider has addressed matters raised in the review.

#### 65 Amendment of s 142A (Performance reports)

(1) Section 142A(2)—

insert—

Note—

See also section 108A in relation to auditing the performance report.

(2) Section 142A(3)(c), 'prepared for'—

omit, insert—

given to the regulator during

[s 66]

# 66 Amendment of s 162 (Notice of declaration of service area)

(1) Section 162(a), after 'amendment' insert—

on the local government's website

(2) Section 162(c) omit.

#### 67 Amendment of s 163 (Map of service area)

Section 163(2)(a) and (b)—

omit, insert—

- (a) update the map at least annually; and
- (b) if the service provider is not the local government—give the local government a copy of the map.

# 68 Replacement of s 258 (Reviewing recycled water management plans)

Section 258—

omit, insert—

#### 258 Reviewing recycled water management plans

- (1) The relevant entity for a recycled water scheme must, at each required interval, conduct a review of the approved recycled water management plan for the scheme to assess whether the plan is consistent with—
  - (a) the operation of the scheme; and
  - (b) the water quality criteria for recycled water relevant to the scheme; and
  - (c) best practice industry standards for the production and supply of recycled water.

[s 69]

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) If the recycled water scheme is a multiple-entity recycled water scheme, the relevant entity complies with subsection (1) if a declared entity for the scheme conducts the review in accordance with subsection (1).
- (3) In this section—

*required interval* means an interval, at which regular reviews of the approved recycled water management plan must be conducted, stated in the notice about the plan under section 206(2)(b).

#### 69 Amendment of s 259 (Changing plan after review)

Section 259, 'reflect'-

omit, insert—

be consistent with

#### 70 Replacement of ss 260 and 261

Sections 260 and 261-

omit, insert—

#### 260 Internal audits of recycled water management plans

- (1) The relevant entity for a recycled water scheme must—
  - (a) at each required interval, have a suitably qualified person conduct an audit (an *internal audit*) of the approved recycled water management plan for the scheme to assess compliance with the plan and its conditions; and
  - (b) within 30 business days after each internal audit is completed, give the regulator a

report about the audit that complies with subsection (2) (an *internal audit report*).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The internal audit report must—
  - (a) be prepared by the suitably qualified person in accordance with any guidelines about preparing the report made by the regulator; and
  - (b) state whether there has been noncompliance with the approved recycled water management plan; and
  - (c) if there has been noncompliance with the plan—state the actions taken, or planned to be taken, in relation to the noncompliance.
- (3) If the recycled water scheme is a multiple-entity recycled water scheme, the relevant entity complies with subsection (1)(a) if a declared entity for the scheme has a suitably qualified person conduct the internal audit in accordance with subsection (1)(a).
- (4) In this section—

*required interval* means an interval, at which internal audits of the approved recycled water management plan must be conducted, stated in the notice about the plan under section 206(2)(c).

# 261 Regular audits of recycled water management plans

- (1) The relevant entity for a recycled water scheme must—
  - (a) at each required interval, have an independent suitably qualified person conduct an audit (a *regular audit*) of the approved recycled water management plan

for the scheme to assess compliance with the plan and its conditions; and

(b) within 30 business days after each regular audit is completed, give the regulator a report about the audit that complies with subsection (2) (a *regular audit report*).

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) The regular audit report must—
  - (a) be prepared by the independent suitably qualified person in accordance with any guidelines about preparing the report made by the regulator; and
  - (b) state whether there has been noncompliance with the approved recycled water management plan; and
  - (c) if there has been noncompliance with the plan—state the actions taken, or planned to be taken, in relation to the noncompliance.
- (3) If the recycled water scheme is a multiple-entity recycled water scheme, the relevant entity complies with subsection (1)(a) if a declared entity for the scheme has an independent suitably qualified person conduct the regular audit in accordance with subsection (1)(a).
- (4) In this section—

*independent suitably qualified person* means a suitably qualified person who is not an employee of—

- (a) if the recycled water scheme is a single-entity recycled water scheme—the recycled water provider for the scheme; or
- (b) if the recycled water scheme is a multiple-entity recycled water scheme—the scheme manager, or a declared entity, for the scheme.

[s 71]

*required interval* means an interval, at which regular audits of the approved recycled water management plan must be conducted, stated in the notice about the plan under section 206(2)(d).

#### 71 Amendment of s 352P (Review by dam owner)

(1) Section 352P, '1 October'—

omit, insert—

the review day

(2) Section 352P—

insert—

- (2) For subsection (1), the review day is—
  - (a) if, before 1 October in a year, the chief executive gives the owner written notice stating a day, not earlier than 30 business days after the notice is given, for compliance with subsection (1) in the year—the day stated in the notice; or
  - (b) otherwise—1 October.
- (3) However, a notice may not be given under subsection (2)(a) later than 30 business days before 1 October in the year.

#### 72 Insertion of new s 578C

After section 578B—

insert—

#### 578C Publishing under this Act

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a provision of this Act requires or allows an entity to publish information in a notice or other document; and

(b)	the provision does not require the entity to
	publish the document in a particular way.

- (2) The entity must publish the document—
  - (a) if the document is a notice and the entity is the Minister or the chief executive—on a Queensland Government website; or
  - (b) if the document is a notice and the entity is not the Minister or the chief executive—on the entity's website; or
  - (c) if the document is not a notice—on the internet, free of charge.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not prevent the entity from also publishing the document in other ways.

#### 73 Insertion of new ch 10, pt 13

Chapter 10-

insert—

#### Part 13

### Transitional provisions for Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

#### 678 Definition for part

In this part—

*former*, for a provision of this Act, means the provision as in force from time to time before the commencement.

# 679 Saving of former s 110 in relation to failure to give drinking water quality management plan audit report before commencement

(1) This section applies if, before the commencement, a service provider failed to give

[s 73]

the regulator a drinking water quality management plan audit report under former section 108(1)(c).

(2) Former section 110(1)(b) continues to apply in relation to a spot audit report about the plan as if the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* had not been enacted.

#### 680 References to particular existing reports

From the commencement—

- (a) a reference, in section 142(3)(d), 575(1)(c) or 575A(1)(b), to a drinking water quality management plan audit report is taken to include a reference to a drinking water quality management plan audit report prepared under former section 108(1)(b); and
- (b) a reference, in section 142A(3)(c), 575(1)(d) or 575A(1)(c), to a performance audit report is taken to include a reference to a performance audit report prepared under former section 108A(1)(b); and
- (c) a reference, in section 575(1)(f), 578A(1)(d) or 578B(a), to a drinking water service annual report is taken to include a reference to a drinking water quality management plan report prepared under former section 142(2)(a); and
- (d) a reference, in section 273(2)(c), to an internal audit report is taken to include a reference to an internal audit report prepared under former section 260; and
- (e) a reference, in section 273(2)(c) or 576, to a regular audit report is taken to include a reference to a regular audit report prepared under former section 261.

[s 74]

#### 681 Proceedings for particular offences

- (1) This section applies in relation to a relevant former offence if the acts or omissions constituting the offence occurred—
  - (a) entirely before the commencement; or
  - (b) both before and after the commencement.
- (2) Without limiting the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*, section 20, a proceeding for the offence may be continued or started, and the person charged with the offence may be convicted of and punished for the offence, as if the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* had not been enacted.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies despite the Criminal Code, section 11.
- (4) In this section—

*relevant former offence* means an offence against any of the following provisions—

- (a) former section 108(1);
- (b) former section 108A(1);
- (c) former section 260(1);
- (d) former section 260(2);
- (e) former section 261(1);
- (f) former section 261(2).

#### 74 Amendment of sch 3 (Dictionary)

(1) Schedule 3, definitions *auditor*, *department's website*, *drinking water quality management plan report*, *publish* and *regular audit*—

omit.

(2) Schedule 3—

insert—

[s 74]

#### auditor—

- (a) for chapter 2, part 4, division 2—see section 105; or
- (b) for an audit under chapter 3—means the person who, under the chapter, has prepared, or is to prepare, an audit report for the audit.

*drinking water service annual report* see section 142(2)(a).

*internal audit* see section 260(1)(a).

*publish*, in relation to a notice or other document to which section 578C applies, means publish in accordance with that section.

*Queensland Government website* means a website with a URL that contains 'qld.gov.au', other than a website of a local government.

*regular audit* see section 261(1)(a).

(3) Schedule 3, definition *drinking water quality management plan audit report*, 'section 108(1)(b)'—

omit, insert—

section 108(2)(b)

(4) Schedule 3, definition *performance audit report*, 'section 108A(1)(b)'—

omit, insert—

section 108A(3)(b)

(5) Schedule 3, definition *suitably qualified*, after 'audit under' *insert*—

chapter 2, part 4, division 2 or

[s 75]

### Part 5 Other amendments

#### 75 Legislation amended

Schedule 1 amends the legislation it mentions.

### Schedule 1 Other amendments

section 75

# Part 1 Amendments commencing on assent

#### Water Act 2000

1 Sections 5AA(2)(b), 146(6), 345(5)(b), 360R, 365(4)(b), 386(4), 391(2), 393(9), 395(3), 413(3) and 609(5), 'the department's website'—

omit, insert—

a Queensland Government website

2 Section 373(2), 'section 372(2)'—

omit, insert—

section 372(3)

#### 3 Section 377(1)(a), 'section 376(a)(ii)'—

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(a)(ii)

#### 4 Sections 377(1)(b) and 387(a), 'section 376(b)(iv)'—

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(b)(iv)

5	Section 377(1)(c), 'section 376(d)'—
---	--------------------------------------

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(d)

6 Section 377(1)(d), 'section 376(e)'—

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(e)

7 Section 377(1)(e), 'section 376(h)'—

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(h)

## 8 Sections 377(2)(a), 378(3)(b) and 387(b), 'section 376(b)(v)'—

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(b)(v)

#### 9 Section 380(1), 'section 376(h)'—

omit, insert—

section 376(1)(h)

#### Water Plan (Border Rivers and Moonie) 2019

#### 1 Section 47(1), from 'if,' to 'licence.'—

omit, insert—

if the application is an application mentioned in section 130(1)(a) of the Act.

### Water Plan (Condamine and Balonne) 2019

1 Section 45(1), from 'if,' to 'licence.'—

omit, insert—

if the application is an application mentioned in section 130(1)(a) of the Act.

### Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008

# 1 Sections 12(4), 12A(5)(a) and 352M(3), 'the department's website'—

omit, insert—

a Queensland Government website

#### 2 Sections 141(1) and (2)(a), 142C(2), 578A(1)(d) and 578B(a), 'drinking water quality management plan report'—

omit, insert—

drinking water service annual report

## 3 Section 575(1)(f), 'drinking water quality management plan reports'—

omit, insert—

drinking water service annual reports

#### **State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2014**

1 Schedule 1, entry for *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, entries for sections 260(2) and 261(2)—

omit.

# Part 2 Amendments commencing by proclamation

#### Water Act 2000

1 Section 974, heading, 'Metering'—

omit, insert—

#### Measurement

2 Sections 974(1) and (2), 975, 976 and 978, 'metering' omit, insert—

measurement

3 Section 979(1), 'If the metering'—

omit, insert—

If a measurement

4 Section 979(1), 'metering contractor must'—

omit, insert—

measurement contractor must

#### 5 Section 979(2) to (4), 'metering'—

omit, insert—

measurement

#### 6 Section 980(1), 'from the metering'—

omit, insert—

from a measurement

#### 7 Section 980(1), 'by the metering'—

omit, insert—

by the measurement

© State of Queensland 2023