

Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority EA0000884

This environmental authority is issued by the administering authority under Chapter 5 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994.

Environmental authority number: EA0000884

Environmental authority takes effect on 07 August 2018

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
Judith Evans	1671 Innisfail Japoon Rd GERMANTOWN QLD 4871 Australia

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity/activities	Location(s)
Prescribed ERA, ERA 63 - Sewage Treatment, 1: Operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of, (a-i) 21 to 100EP if treated effluent is discharged from the works to an infiltration trench or through an irrigation scheme	LOT 9/SP246571
Prescribed ERA, ERA 63 - Sewage Treatment, 1: Operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of, (b-i) more than 100 but not more than 1500EP if treated effluent is discharged from the works to an infiltration trench or through an irrigation scheme	LOT 10/SP156984

Additional information for applicants

Environmentally relevant activities

The description of any environmentally relevant activity (ERA) for which an environmental authority (EA) is issued is a restatement of the ERA as defined by legislation at the time the EA is issued. Where there is any inconsistency between that description of an ERA and the conditions stated by an EA as to the scale, intensity or manner of carrying out an ERA, the conditions prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

An EA authorises the carrying out of an ERA and does not authorise any environmental harm unless a condition stated by the EA specifically authorises environmental harm.

A person carrying out an ERA must also be a registered suitable operator under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act).

Contaminated land

It is a requirement of the EP Act that an owner or occupier of contaminated land give written notice to the administering authority if they become aware of the following:

- the happening of an event involving a hazardous contaminant on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a change in the condition of the contaminated land (notice must be given within 24 hours); or
- a notifiable activity (as defined in Schedule 3) having been carried out, or is being carried out, on the contaminated land (notice must be given within 20 business days);

that is causing, or is reasonably likely to cause, serious or material environmental harm.

For further information, including the form for giving written notice, refer to the Queensland Government website www.qld.gov.au, using the search term 'duty to notify'.

Take effect

Please note that, in accordance with section 200 of the EP Act, an EA has effect:

- a) if the authority is for a prescribed ERA and it states that it takes effect on the day nominated by the holder of the authority in a written notice given to the administering authority-on the nominated day; or
- b) if the authority states a day or an event for it to take effect-on the stated day or when the stated event happens; or
- c) otherwise-on the day the authority is issued.

However, if the EA is authorising an activity that requires an additional authorisation (a relevant tenure for a resource activity, a development permit under the Planning Act 2016 or an SDA Approval under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971), this EA will not take effect until the additional authorisation has taken effect.

If this EA takes effect when the additional authorisation takes effect, you must provide the administering authority written notice within 5 business days of receiving notification of the related additional authorisation taking effect.

If you have incorrectly claimed that an additional authorisation is not required, carrying out the ERA without the additional authorisation is not legal and could result in your prosecution for providing false or misleading information or operating without a valid environmental authority.

Christine Mooney
Department of Environment and Science
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Enquiries:
Heritage, Utilities and Government Assessment
Department of Environment and Science
Phone: 1300 130 372
Email: palm@des.qld.gov.au

Date issued: 07 August 2018

Obligations under the Environmental Protection Act 1994

In addition to the requirements found in the conditions of this environmental authority, the holder must also meet their obligations under the EP Act, and the regulations made under the EP Act. For example, the holder must comply with the following provisions of the Act:

- general environmental duty (section 319)
- duty to notify environmental harm (section 320-320G)
- offence of causing serious or material environmental harm (sections 437-439)
- offence of causing environmental nuisance (section 440)
- offence of depositing prescribed water contaminants in waters and related matters (section 440ZG)
- offence to place contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443)

Legislative Requirements and Conditions of Environmental Authority

Other permits required

This permit only provides an approval under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. In order to lawfully operate you may also require permits / approvals from your local government authority, other business units within the department and other State Government agencies prior to commencing any activity at the site. For example, this may include permits / approvals with your local Council (for planning approval), the Department of Transport and Main Roads (to access state controlled roads), the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (to clear vegetation), and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (to clear marine plants or to obtain a quarry material allocation).

Conditions of environmental authority

ERA threshold	Location
ERA 63(1)(b)(i) — operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of 100 to 1,500 EP if treated effluent is discharged from the works to an infiltration trench or through an irrigation scheme.	Lot 9 Plan SP246571 AND Lot 10 Plan SP156984

Agency Interest: General	
Condition Number	Condition
G1	<p>Activities conducted under this environmental authority must not be conducted contrary to the following limitations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) For Lot 9 Plan SP246571 releases of treated effluent must occur over a minimum area of 1.5 hectares and not be outside of the land application area as shown <i>Appendix 1 – Lot 9 Plan SP246571 Land Application Area</i>;2) For Lot 10 SP156984 releases of treated effluent must occur over a minimum area of 1.2 hectares and not be outside of the land application area as shown <i>Appendix 2 – Lot 10 Plan SP156984 Land Application Area</i>;

	<p>3) Inflows to the sewage treatment plant on Lot 9 Plan SP246571 must not exceed the peak design capacity (total quantity of raw sewage to be treated) of 29,050 litres/day on any day;</p> <p>4) Inflows to the sewage treatment plant on Lot 10 SP156984 must not exceed the peak design capacity (total quantity of raw sewage to be treated) of 22,000 litres/day on any day;</p> <p>5) The vegetation within the land application area as shown in <i>Appendix 1 – Lot 9 Plan SP246571 Land Application Area</i> and <i>Appendix 2 – Lot 10 Plan SP156984 Land Application Area</i> must be predominantly kikuyu pasture; and</p> <p>6) The vegetation within the land application area as shown in <i>Appendix 1 – Lot 9 Plan SP246571 Land Application Area</i> and <i>Appendix 2 – Lot 10 Plan SP156984 Land Application Area</i> must be harvested (e.g. mown) at least 4 times per year and the harvested material removed and disposed of outside the land application area.</p>
G2	All reasonable and practicable measures must be taken to prevent the likelihood of environmental harm being caused.
G3	Any breach of a condition of this environmental authority must be reported to the administering authority as soon as practicable, or at most, within 24 hours of becoming aware of the breach. Records must be kept including full details of the breach and any subsequent actions undertaken.
G4	Other than as permitted by this environmental authority, the release of a contaminant into the environment must not occur.
G5	All information and records required by the conditions of this environmental authority must be kept for a minimum of five years with the exception of environmental monitoring results which must be kept until surrender of this environmental authority. All Information and records required by the conditions of this environmental authority must be provided to the administering authority upon request and in the format requested.

G6	An appropriately qualified person(s) must monitor, record and interpret all parameters that are required to be monitored by this environmental authority and in the manner specified by this environmental authority.
G7	All analyses required under this environmental authority must be carried out by a laboratory that has National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) certification, or an equivalent certification, for such analyses. The only exception to this condition is for in situ monitoring of pH and Electrical Conductivity (EC).
G8	An annual monitoring report must be prepared and submitted to the administering authority by 30 November each year, for the preceding financial year.
G9	You must record the following details for all environmental complaints received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) date and time complaint was received; b) name and contact details of the complainant; c) nature of the complaint; d) investigations undertaken; e) conclusions formed; and f) actions taken.
G10	When required by the administering authority, monitoring must be undertaken in the manner prescribed by the administering authority, to investigate a complaint not considered by the administering authority to be frivolous or vexatious, of environmental nuisance arising from the activity. The monitoring results must be provided to the administering authority upon request.
G11	The activity must be undertaken in accordance with written procedures that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. identify potential risks to the environment from the activity during routine operations, closure and an emergency; 2. establish and maintain control measures that minimise the potential for environmental harm;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. ensure plant, equipment and measures are maintained in a proper and effective condition; 4. ensure plant, equipment and measures are operated in a proper and effective manner; 5. ensure that staff are trained in and aware of their obligations under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>; and 6. ensure that reviews of environmental performance are undertaken at least annually.
G12	The total capacity of wet weather storage must be no less than 300,000L.

Agency interest: Air

Condition Number	Condition
A1	Odours or airborne contaminants must not cause environmental nuisance at a sensitive place or commercial place.

Agency interest: Land

Condition Number	Condition														
L1	<p>The only contaminants to be released to land application area 1 as described as Lot 9 Plan SP246571 is treated effluent in accordance with <i>Table 1 – Treated effluent release limits to irrigation are and the associated requirements</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1 – Treated effluent release limits to land application area 1</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Release point</th><th>Quality Characteristic (units)</th><th>Limit</th><th>Limit type</th><th>Minimum sampling frequency</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Land Application Area 1</td><td>Irrigation Rate (mm/day)</td><td>1.9</td><td>Maximum</td><td>Daily</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Nitrogen (mg/L)</td><td>50</td><td>Maximum</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Release point	Quality Characteristic (units)	Limit	Limit type	Minimum sampling frequency	Land Application Area 1	Irrigation Rate (mm/day)	1.9	Maximum	Daily	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	50	Maximum	
Release point	Quality Characteristic (units)	Limit	Limit type	Minimum sampling frequency											
Land Application Area 1	Irrigation Rate (mm/day)	1.9	Maximum	Daily											
	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	50	Maximum												

Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	15	Maximum	Monthly
pH (pH units)	6-8.5	Range	
E.coli (CFU/100ml)	<100	Maximum	
Electrical Conductivity (μcm)	1600	Maximum	

Associated requirements

1. Monitoring must be in accordance with the administering authority's Water Quality Sampling Manual and all monitoring devices must be effectively calibrated and maintained.
2. Monitoring must be undertaken when treated sewage effluent is being irrigated, unless irrigation has ceased for longer than the relevant parameters specified minimum frequency (e.g. if TSS was only required to be monitored once a week, then a TSS sample would not be required after the first week following cessation of the release).

Release point	Quality Characteristic (units)	Limit	Limit type	Minimum sampling frequency
Land Application Area 2	Irrigation Rate (mm/day)	2.0	Maximum	Daily
	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	50	Maximum	Monthly
	Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	15	Maximum	
	pH (pH units)	6-8.5	Range	
	E.coli (CFU/100ml)	<100	Maximum	
	Electrical Conductivity (μcm)	1600	Maximum	

L2	<p>The only contaminants to be released to land application area 2 as described as Lot 10 Plan SP156984 is treated effluent in accordance with <i>Table 2 – Treated effluent release limits to irrigation are and the associated requirements</i>.</p> <p>Table 2 – Treated effluent release limits to land application area 2</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Release point</th><th>Quality Characteristic (units)</th><th>Limit</th><th>Limit type</th><th>Minimum sampling frequency</th></tr> <tr> <td rowspan="6">Land Application Area 2</td><td>Irrigation Rate (mm/day)</td><td>2.0</td><td>Maximum</td><td>Daily</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Nitrogen (mg/L)</td><td>50</td><td>Maximum</td><td rowspan="5">Monthly</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Phosphorus (mg/L)</td><td>15</td><td>Maximum</td></tr> <tr> <td>pH (pH units)</td><td>6-8.5</td><td>Range</td></tr> <tr> <td>E.coli (CFU/100ml)</td><td><100</td><td>Maximum</td></tr> <tr> <td>Electrical Conductivity (μcm)</td><td>1600</td><td>Maximum</td></tr> </table>					Release point	Quality Characteristic (units)	Limit	Limit type	Minimum sampling frequency	Land Application Area 2	Irrigation Rate (mm/day)	2.0	Maximum	Daily	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	50	Maximum	Monthly	Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	15	Maximum	pH (pH units)	6-8.5	Range	E.coli (CFU/100ml)	<100	Maximum	Electrical Conductivity (μcm)	1600	Maximum
Release point	Quality Characteristic (units)	Limit	Limit type	Minimum sampling frequency																											
Land Application Area 2	Irrigation Rate (mm/day)	2.0	Maximum	Daily																											
	Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	50	Maximum	Monthly																											
	Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	15	Maximum																												
	pH (pH units)	6-8.5	Range																												
	E.coli (CFU/100ml)	<100	Maximum																												
	Electrical Conductivity (μcm)	1600	Maximum																												

	<p>Associated requirements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring must be in accordance with the administering authority's Water Quality Sampling Manual and all monitoring devices must be effectively calibrated and maintained. 2. Monitoring must be undertaken when treated sewage effluent is being irrigated, unless irrigation has ceased for longer than the relevant parameters specified minimum frequency (e.g. if TSS was only required to be monitored once a week, then a TSS sample would not be required after the first week following cessation of the release).
L3	<p>Treated effluent released to land must be done in accordance with documentation that ensures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) drainage to groundwater and subsurface flows of contaminants to surface waters are prevented; b) surface pondage and run-off of effluent is prevented; c) degradation of soil structure is minimised; d) soil sodicity and the build-up of nutrients and heavy metals in the soil and subsoil are minimised; e) spray drift or overspray does not carry beyond effluent disposal areas; f) effluent disposal areas are maintained with an appropriate crop in a viable state for transpiration and nutrient uptake; and g) sufficient buffer zones are maintained between irrigation sites and sensitive environmental receptors.
L4	<p>When weather conditions or soil conditions preclude the release of treated sewage effluent to land, effluent must not be irrigated to land.</p>
L5	<p>Storage of chemicals and fuels in bulk or in containers of greater than 15 litres must be within a secondary containment system.</p>

L6	A receiving environment monitoring program must be designed and implemented by appropriately qualified persons to monitor the effects of the activity on soil quality within the land application area at least biennially.
L7	<p>The receiving environment monitoring program required by condition L6, must include at least the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. soil and sub-soil analysis, including assessment of the soils from representative locations, including type, structure, pH, phosphorus adsorption level and capacity, nutrient status, salinity and sodicity, and cation exchange capacity of the land application area; 2. determination of the quantity and quality of contaminants applied to the soils in the land application area; 3. periodic re-assessment including modelling of the water, nutrient and salt balances and irrigation rate and return period to ensure sustainable use of the land application area; and 4. reporting of monitoring results and an assessment of the impact of the releases on the land application area.

Agency interest: Water

Condition number	Condition
WA1	Stormwater contaminated by the activity must be managed to minimise or prevent any adverse effect on the environmental values of the receiving environment
WA2	A receiving environment monitoring program must be designed and implemented by appropriately qualified persons to monitor the effects of the activity on groundwater.
WA3	<p>The receiving environment monitoring program required by condition WA2, must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be able to determine the impacts of the licensed activity on the groundwater quality in the underlying aquifer;

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Include, but not be limited to, a sufficient number of bores (minimum of three) installed at locations and depths which yield representative groundwater samples from at least the upper-most aquifer so as to:<ol style="list-style-type: none">i. establish the quality of groundwater that has not been affected by seepage or drainage of contaminants to groundwater from the activity; andii. detect any seepage of contaminants to groundwater from the licensed place;3. Include monitoring of background groundwater quality, hydraulically up-gradient of any release of contaminants to groundwater;4. Include monitoring of downstream groundwater quality, hydraulically down gradient of all storage ponds, sewage treatment plant and irrigation areas;5. Include, but not be limited to, six monthly monitoring of the quality of groundwater to detect any possible release(s) of contaminants; and6. consider the potential use of groundwater in the vicinity.
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Agency interest: Waste

Condition number	Condition
W1	All waste generated in carrying out the activity must be reused, recycled or lawfully disposed of offsite.

Definitions

Key terms and/or phrases used in this document are defined in this section. Where a term is not defined, the definition in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, its regulations or environmental protection policies must be used. If a word remains undefined it has its ordinary meaning. Activity means the environmentally relevant activities, whether resource activities or prescribed activities, to which the environmental authority relates.

Administering authority means the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection or its successor or predecessors.

Appropriately qualified person(s) means a person or persons 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.

Commercial place means a place used as a workplace, an office or for business or commercial purposes and includes a place within the curtilage of such a place reasonably used by persons at that place.

Day means any 24 hour period. Environmental nuisance as defined under Chapter 1 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. Measures has the broadest interpretation and includes plant, equipment, physical objects, bunding, containment systems, monitoring, procedures, actions, directions and competency. NATA means National Association of Testing Authorities. Noxious means harmful or injurious to health or physical well-being. Offensive means causing offence or displeasure; is unreasonably disagreeable to the sense; disgusting, nauseous or repulsive.

Release of a contaminant into the environment means to:

- deposit, discharge, emit or disturb the contaminant
- cause or allow the contaminant to be deposited, discharged, emitted or disturbed
- fail to prevent the contaminant from being deposited, discharged emitted or disturbed
- allow the contaminant to escape
- fail to prevent the contaminant from escaping.

Sensitive place includes the following and includes a place within the curtilage of such a place reasonably used by persons at that place:

- dwelling, residential allotment, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential premises; or
- a motel, hotel or hostel; or
- a kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution; or
- a medical centre or hospital; or
- a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, the *Marine Parks Act 2004* or a World Heritage Area; or
- a public thoroughfare, park or gardens; or
- for noise, a place defined as a sensitive receptor for the purposes of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008.

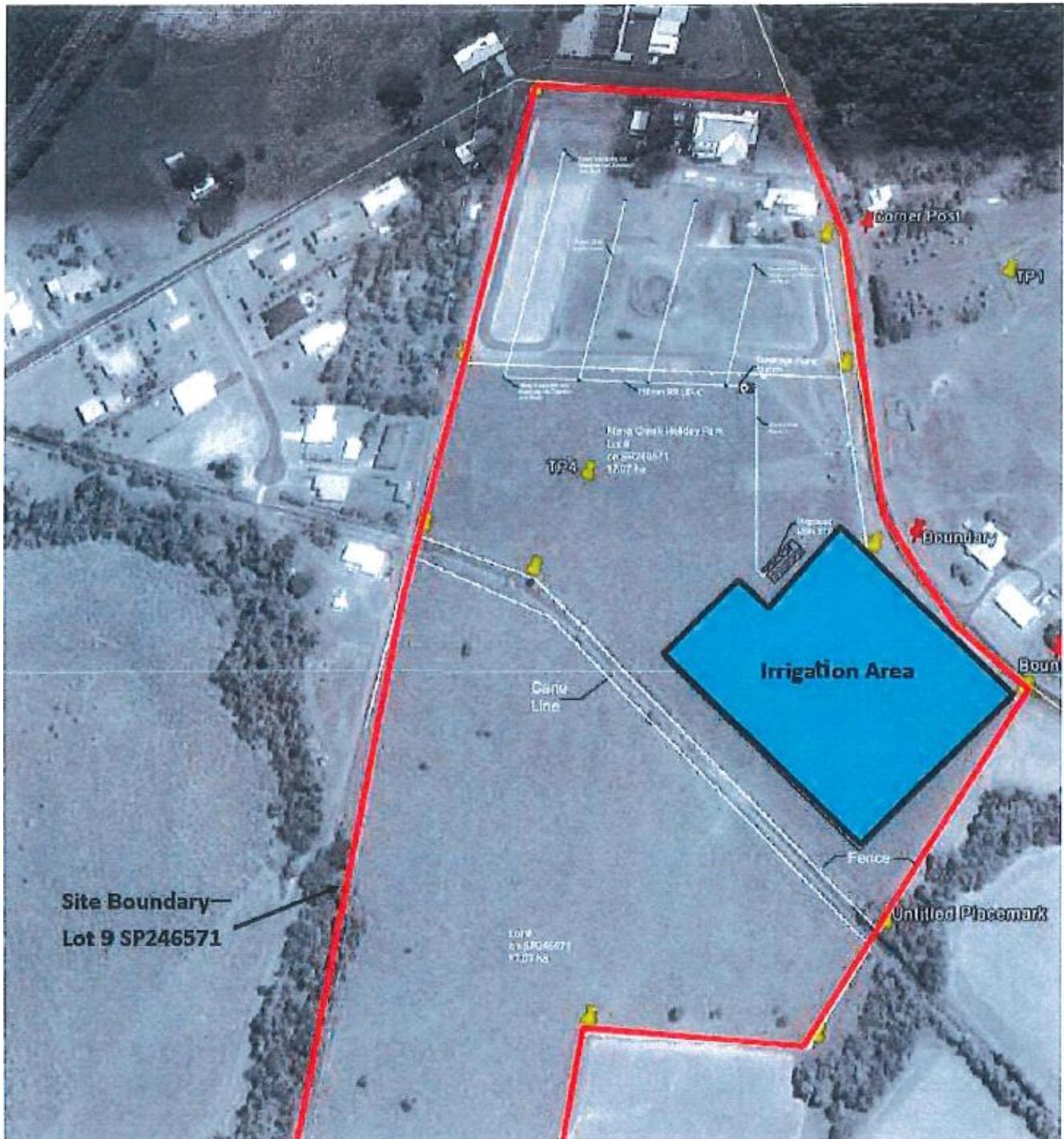
Total Nitrogen (TN) means the sum of Organic Nitrogen, Ammonia Nitrogen, Nitrite plus Nitrate Nitrogen, expressed as mg/L as Nitrogen. This includes both the inorganic and organic fraction of nitrogen.

Total Phosphorus (TP) means the sum of the reactive phosphorus, acid-hydrolysable phosphorus and organic phosphorus, as mg/L of Phosphorus. This includes both the inorganic and organic fraction of phosphorus.

Waters includes river, stream, lake, lagoon, pond, swamp, wetland, unconfined surface water, unconfined water, natural or artificial watercourse, bed and bank of any waters, dams, non-tidal or tidal waters (including the sea), stormwater channel, stormwater drain, roadside gutter, stormwater run-off, and groundwater and any part thereof.

You means the holder of the environmental authority.

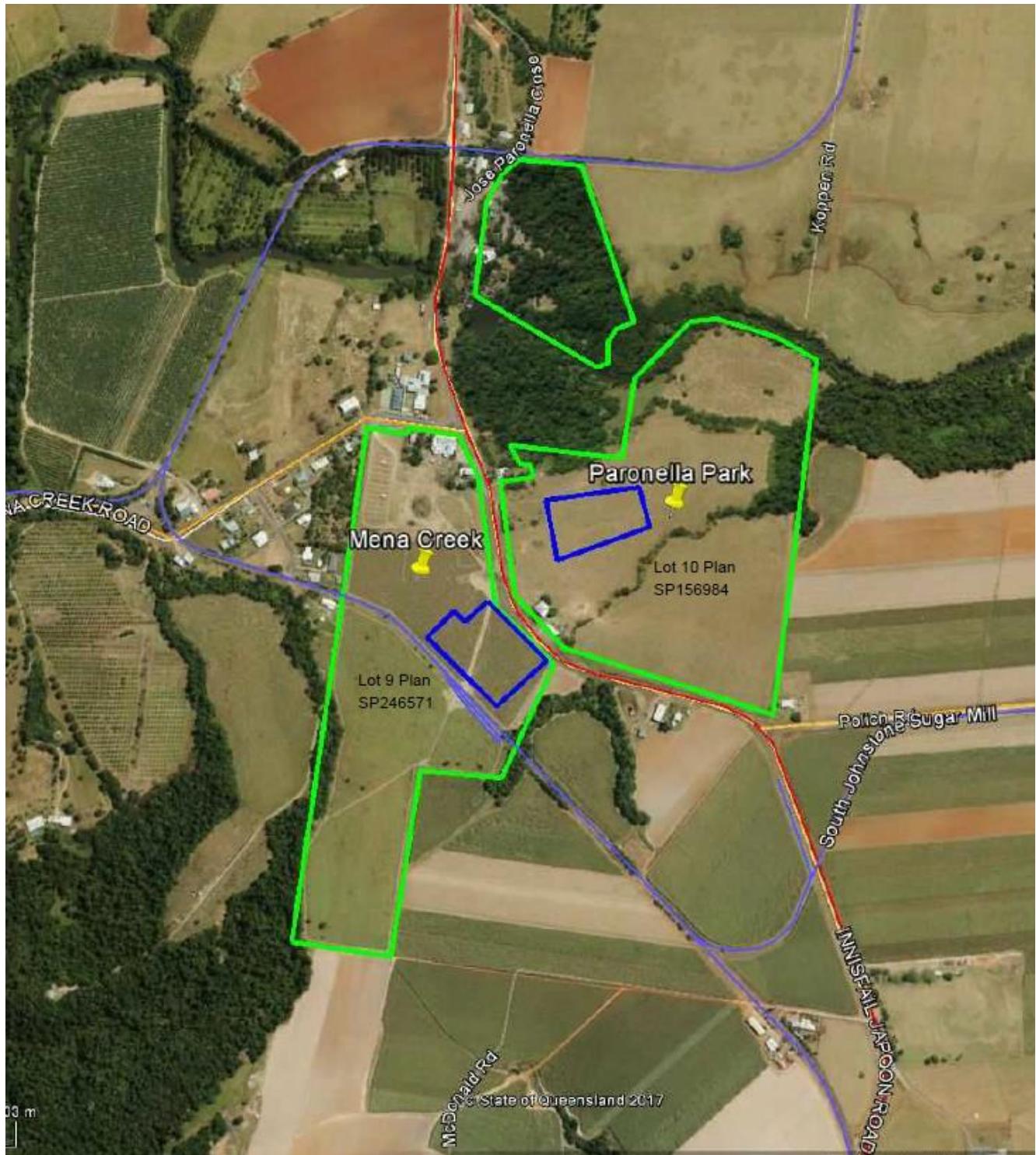
Appendix 1 – Lot 9 Plan SP246571 Land Application Area 1



Appendix 2 – Lot 10 Plan SP156984 Land Application Area 2



Appendix 3 – Lot 9 Plan SP246571 and Lot 10 Plan SP156984 Land Application Areas



END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

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