Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority EA0002856

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

Environmental authority number: EA0002856

Environmental authority takes effect on 30 October 2021.
The anniversary day of this environmental authority is the same day each year as the effective date. The payment of the annual fee will be due each year on this day.

Environmental authority holder

Name	Registered address
TRUSTEES OF EDMUND RICE EDUCATION AUSTRALIA	St Laurences College 82 Stephens Rd SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101 Australia

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
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 230/CC2805, LOT 202/CC2805

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).

Queensland Government

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.

E Clarke	5 August 2021
Signature	Date

Liz Clarke
Department of Environment and Science
Delegate of the administering authority
Environmental Protection Act 1994

Enquiries:
Utilities and Government Organisations Assessment
Department of Environment and Science
GPO Box 2454 BRISBANE QLD 4001
Phone: 1300 130 372
Email: palm@des.qld.gov.au

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)

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, Mines and Energy (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

Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
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 230/CC2805, LOT 202/CC2805

The environmentally relevant activities conducted at the locations as described above must also be conducted in accordance with the site-specific conditions as mentioned in this permit.

Agency interest: General	
Condition number	**Condition**
G1	**Activities** conducted under this environmental authority must be conducted in accordance with the following: (a) inflows must not exceed the peak design capacity of 26kL on any **day**; and (b) the size of irrigated land area must not be less than 1.85 ha.
G2	All reasonable and practicable **measures** must be taken to prevent or minimise environmental harm caused by the **activities**.
G3	Any contravention of a condition of this **environmental authority** must be reported to the **administering authority** as soon as practicable, but no more than within 24 hours of becoming aware of the breach.
G4	For any contravention of a condition of this **environmental authority**, an investigation must be carried out to determine the cause of the contravention and the investigation must include an assessment to determine the environmental impact of the contravention.
G5	**Records** of any contravention of this environmental authority must be made including full details of the contravention and any subsequent actions taken in accordance with condition **G4**.
G6	All **records** required by the conditions of this environmental authority must be kept for a minimum of five years, and all monitoring results and underlying raw data must be kept until surrender of this **environmental authority**.
G7	All **records** required by the conditions of this environmental authority must be provided to the **administering authority:** (a) within the timeframe specified by the **administering authority**; and (b) in the format requested by the **administering authority**.
G8	Other than as permitted by this environmental authority, the **release of a contaminant into the environment** must not occur.
G9	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.

G10	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 dissolved oxygen and pH.
G11	An annual monitoring report must be prepared and submitted to the **administering authority** by 30 November each year, for the preceding financial year.
G12	The annual monitoring report required by condition **G11** must include: (a) the findings of each **receiving environment monitoring program** for the period; and (b) a summary of the previous 12 months monitoring results including graphical representations identifying relevant indicator limits; and (c) an outline of actions taken or proposed to minimise the environmental risk from any deficiency identified by monitoring programs and/or **environmental complaints**; and (d) calculations of the volume and frequency of wet weather storage overflows, where applicable.
G13	Details of all **environmental complaints** received must be recorded including: (a) date and time the complaint was received; and (b) name and contact details of the complainant when provided by the complainant; and (c) nature of the complaint; and (d) investigations undertaken; and (e) conclusions formed; and (f) actions taken.
G14	When required by the **administering authority**, monitoring must be undertaken in the manner and within the timeframe prescribed by the **administering authority,** to investigate any alleged environmental harm caused by the activity.
G15	The results, including an analysis of the results, of monitoring required by condition **G16** must be provided to the **administering authority** (a) within 10 business days after you receive the monitoring results; or (b) another period with written agreement with the **administering authority**
G16	Written procedures must be developed which: (a) identify all potential risks to the environment from the **activity**, including: (i) during routine operations; and (ii) outside routine operations; and (iii) during closure; and (iv) in an emergency; and (b) identify **measures** to prevent or minimise the potential for environmental harm for each of the potential risks identified; and (c) establish an inspection and maintenance program for plant and equipment including calibration and servicing that is in accordance with manufacturer's instructions; and (d) establish a staff training program on obligations under this environmental authority and the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* to be conducted as part of staff inductions and at least annually thereafter; and (e) establish processes to review environmental risks, incidents, performance and complaints.
G17	Written procedures required by condition **G16** must be: (a) implemented; and (b) reviewed at least every two years; and

	(c) provided to the **administering authority** upon request and within a timeframe specified by the **administering authority**.
G18	For plant and equipment, all **measures** necessary to comply with the conditions of this **environmental authority** must be: (a) installed, operated and maintained in a proper and effective manner; and (b) in accordance with the written procedures developed in accordance with condition **G16**.
G19	Flammable, combustible and chemical liquids in containers of greater than 15 litres must be stored within a **secondary containment system**.
Agency interest: Air	
Condition number	**Condition**
A1	Odours or airborne contaminants from the activity must not cause **environmental nuisance** to any **sensitive place** or **commercial place**.
Agency interest: Water	
Condition number	**Condition**
WT1	Contaminants must not be **released** to any waters.
Agency interest: Noise	
Condition number	**Condition**
N1	Noise generated by the **activity** must not cause **environmental nuisance** to any **sensitive place** or **commercial place.**
Agency interest: Land	
Condition number	**Condition**
L1	Other than as permitted within this environmental authority, contaminants must not be **released** to land.
L2	Contaminants are only authorised to be released to land within the **effluent disposal areas** as specified in *Appendix 1 - Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations.*
L3	**Releases** to land authorised under the conditions of this environmental authority must be done in accordance with documentation that ensures: (a) contaminants are not **released** to any **waters**; and (b) ponding of contaminants does not occur; and

(c) treated effluent does not run-off into areas beyond authorised **effluent disposal areas**; and
(d) soil structure is not degraded as a result of the **activity**; and
(e) soil sodicity and the build-up of nutrients and heavy metals in the soil and subsoil are minimised; and
(f) spray drift or overspray does not carry beyond **effluent disposal areas**; and
(g) **effluent disposal areas** are to be maintained with Kikuyu Grass or a crop with the same transpiration and nutrient absorption capacity; and
(h) There must be no public access to the **effluent disposal areas**:
    a. During irrigation; and
    b. For four hours after irrigation or until dry; and
(i) sufficient buffer zones are maintained between **effluent disposal areas** and sensitive environmental receptors.

L4 When weather conditions or soil conditions preclude the release of treated sewage effluent and treated wastewater to land, treated effluent and wastewater must not be disposed to land.

L5 The daily quantity of contaminants released to **effluent disposal areas** as specified in *Appendix 1 - Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations*, must be determined by the use of flow meters installed at the outlet of the **STP** to provide accurate assessment of flows from the system.

L6 The only contaminants to be **released** to **land** from the **STP** is treated wastewater released in accordance with *Table 1 – Treated wastewater release limits to effluent disposal areas*.

Table 1 - Treated wastewater release limits to effluent disposal areas

Authorised release Point		Quality Characteristic (units)	Minimum	Average	Maximum
Name	**Location (Coordinate GDA94 – Zone 54)**				
WWST	**-28.03720, 152.52901**	**mm/day**	-	1.4	5
		Total Nitrogen (mg/L as N)	-	-	30
		Total Phosphorus (mg/L as P)	-	-	15
		Total Dissolved Salts (mg/L)	-	-	1,000
		pH (pH units)	6	-	8.5
		E.coli (cfu/mL)	-	<100	150

L7 Treated wastewater **released** to **land** under condition **L6** must be **monitored** in accordance with *Table 2 – Monitoring of treated effluent release to effluent disposal area* and must comply the associated requirements.

Table 2 – Monitoring of treated wastewater release to effluent disposal area

Monitoring Point		Quality Characteristic (units)	Minimum monitoring frequency
Name	**Location (Coordinate GDA94 – Zone 54)**		
		Disposal Rate (mm/**day**)	Daily

	WWST	**-28.03720, 152.52901**	**Total Nitrogen** (mg/L as N)	Monthly
			Total Phosphorus (mg/L as P)	Monthly
			Total Dissolved Salts (mg/L)	Monthly
			pH (pH units)	Monthly
			E.coli	Monthly

Associated requirements

1. **Monitoring** must be in accordance with the most recent edition of the **administering authority**'s *Water Quality Sampling Manual*; and
2. All **monitoring** devices must be effectively calibrated and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications; and
3. **Monitoring** must be undertaken prior to treated effluent being irrigated to the **effluent disposal area**, unless effluent application to **land** 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**); and
4. Irrigation rate must be calculated based on the total irrigation area used in a **day** and the actual volume irrigated; and
5. Indicators for **TN** and **TP** are recommended to be done as grab samples.

L8	The enclosed effluent storage volume must not be less than 130kL.
L9	Releases of treated effluent and treated wastewater to land must be uniformly dispersed to **effluent disposal areas** by means of low surface spray irrigation.
L10	All **biomass** removed from vegetation growing on the **effluent disposal area** is to be transported and disposed of in an area other than on the effluent disposal area.
L11	A land **receiving environment monitoring program (REMP)** must be: (a) designed by an **appropriately qualified person(s)** to monitor the effects of the **activities** on **land**; and (b) undertaken annually by an **appropriately qualified person(s)**.
L12	The **REMP** required by condition **L11** must include taking of soil and sub-soil samples at a soil depth range of 0-30 cm and 30-60 cm from: (a) at least one reference site; and (b) representative soil samping locations within the **effluent disposal areas**, as defined in *Appendix 1 - Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations.*
L13	A **REMP** monitoring report must be prepared by an **appropriately qualified person(s)** and submitted to the administering authority with the annual monitoring report as required under condition **G11.**
L14	The **REMP** monitoring report required by condition **L13** must include: (a) a summary of the previous 12 months monitoring data obtained in accordance with all of the land REMP monitoring requirements of this environmental authority; and (b) an evaluation of the data from any monitoring programs, including graphical representations showing relevant limits, **triggers** and trends against all historical data; and

	(c) a description of all actions taken, and proposed to be taken, to minimise the environmental risk from any deficiency identified by any relevant monitoring and management program(s).
L15	The **REMP** monitoring report required by condition **L13** must include recommendations of appropriate action(s) to mitigate any adverse impacts caused, or likely to be caused, by the **activity**.
L16	The actions recommended under condition **L14** in the **REMP** monitoring report must be undertaken as soon as practicable within 14 **days**, or another period by written agreement with the **administering authority**.
L17	A **Vegetation Monitoring Program (VMP)** must be: (a) designed by an **appropriately qualified person(s)** to monitor the effects of the **activity** on the vegetation; and (b) undertaken monthly by an **appropriately qualified person(s)**.
L18	The **VMP** must: (a) include visual monitoring of vegetation within the **effluent disposal area(s)**; and (b) include photographs of **effluent disposal area(s)**; and (c) estimate the total percentage of vegetation cover in a **viable state** for transpiration and nutrient uptake over the **effluent disposal area(s)**; and (d) a comparison of results with previous survey data, including (photo) graphical representations showing relevant limits, and trends against all historical data.
L19	If the results from the **VMP** indicate that the percentage of vegetation cover in a **viable state** for transpiration and nutrient uptake within the effluent disposal areas is below 85%: (a) Within 14 days of receiving the results of the **VMP**, recommendations must be prepared by an **appropriately qualified person(s)** to restore at least 85% of the vegetation cover to a viable state in the effluent disposal areas; and (b) Mitigation measures must be implemented within 28 days of receiving the recommendations required under **L19 (a),** or another timeframe by written agreement with the **administering authority**.
L20	A report summarising the results of the **VMP** must be prepared by an **appropriately qualified person(s)** and submitted to the **administering authority** with the annual monitoring report as required under **G11.**
Agency interest: Waste	
Condition number	**Condition**
W1	All waste generated by the **activity** must be lawfully reused or recycled, and/or lawfully removed to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste.

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 activity(s) to which the environmental authority relates. An activity may be undertaken on the whole or a part of a site

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

Appropriately qualified person(s) means a person or persons who has professional qualifications, training, skills and experience relevant to the environmental authority (EA) requirements and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis in relation to the EA requirements using the relevant protocols, standards, methods and/or literature.

Approved place means a place included in the "Location(s)" column of the *Environmentally relevant activity and location details* table on page 1 of this environmental authority EA0002856.

Average means the sum of all monitoring results for a quality characteristic, divided by the number of monitoring results, taken over a period of not less than 1 year. Averages must be determined on a moving/rolling basis, using monitoring results from the last 365 days.

Best practice environmental management as defined under section 21 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

Biomass means organic material.

BOD_5 means the 5-day biochemical oxygen demand determined using standard tests (e.g. those used by NATA laboratories). This test is not inhibited for nitrification, otherwise would be referred to as "carbonaceous" BOD.

Boundary means within 1m of the cadastral boundary of the **approved place**.

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 of a calendar day.

Environmental complaints means an expression of dissatisfaction, concern or report, whether written or verbal, about the **activity** and/or its impact on the environment

Environmental nuisance as defined under Chapter 1 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.*

Environmental value as defined under Chapter 1 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.*

Effluent disposal area means the areas identified as 'Proposed irrigation area (1.852 ha)' in *Appendix 1 – Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations*.

Groundwater means water that occurs naturally in, or is introduced artificially into, an aquifer.

Groundwater monitoring program (GWMP) means a monitoring program designed to monitor and assess the potential impacts of controlled and/or uncontrolled releases of contaminants to groundwater and interconnected surface waters from the **activity**.

Land means land excluding waters and the atmosphere.

Measures has the broadest interpretation and includes plant, equipment, physical objects, monitoring, procedures, actions, directions and competency.

Median means the middle value, where half the data are smaller and half the data are larger. If the number of samples is even, the median is the arithmetic average of the two middle values.

NATA means National Association of Testing Authorities.

Monitor, monitored and monitoring means monitoring the impact of an **activity** on the receiving environment and includes analysing, assessing, examining, inspecting, measuring, modelling or reporting any of the following matters—

(a) the quantity, quality, characteristics, timing and variability of the release of any contaminant; and
(b) the effectiveness of any control measure; and
(c) the characteristics of, and impact on, the receiving environment; and
(d) the effectiveness of remedial or rehabilitation measures (if applicable to the relevant monitoring requirement).

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.

Prescribed water contaminants means contaminants listed within Schedule 10 of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2019.

Receiving environment monitoring program (REMP) means a monitoring program designed to monitor and assess the potential impacts of controlled and/or uncontrolled releases of contaminants to the environment from the **activity**.

Records include breach notifications, written procedures, analysis results, monitoring reports and monitoring programs required under a condition of this authority.

Release of a contaminant into the environment or **release** means to:

(a) deposit, discharge, emit or disturb the contaminant; or
(b) cause or allow the contaminant to be deposited, discharged, emitted or disturbed; or
(c) fail to prevent the contaminant from being deposited, discharged emitted or disturbed; or
(d) allow the contaminant to escape; or
(e) fail to prevent the contaminant from escaping.

Sensitive place includes any of the following places:

(a) a dwelling, residential allotment, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential premises; or
(b) a motel, hotel or hostel; or
(c) a kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution; or
(d) a medical centre or hospital; or
(e) a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, the *Marine Parks Act 2004* or a World Heritage Area; or
(f) a public park or garden; or
(g) for noise, a place defined as a sensitive receptor for the purposes of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2019; or
(h) the area within the curtilage of any of the above places.

STP (sewage treatment plant) means the sewage treatment plant as identified in *Appendix 1 – Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations* for the treatment of ERA 63 waste only.

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**.**

WWST (wastewater storage tank) means the wastewater storage tank as identified in Appendix 1 – *Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations* for the storage of ERA 63 waste only and sampling location.

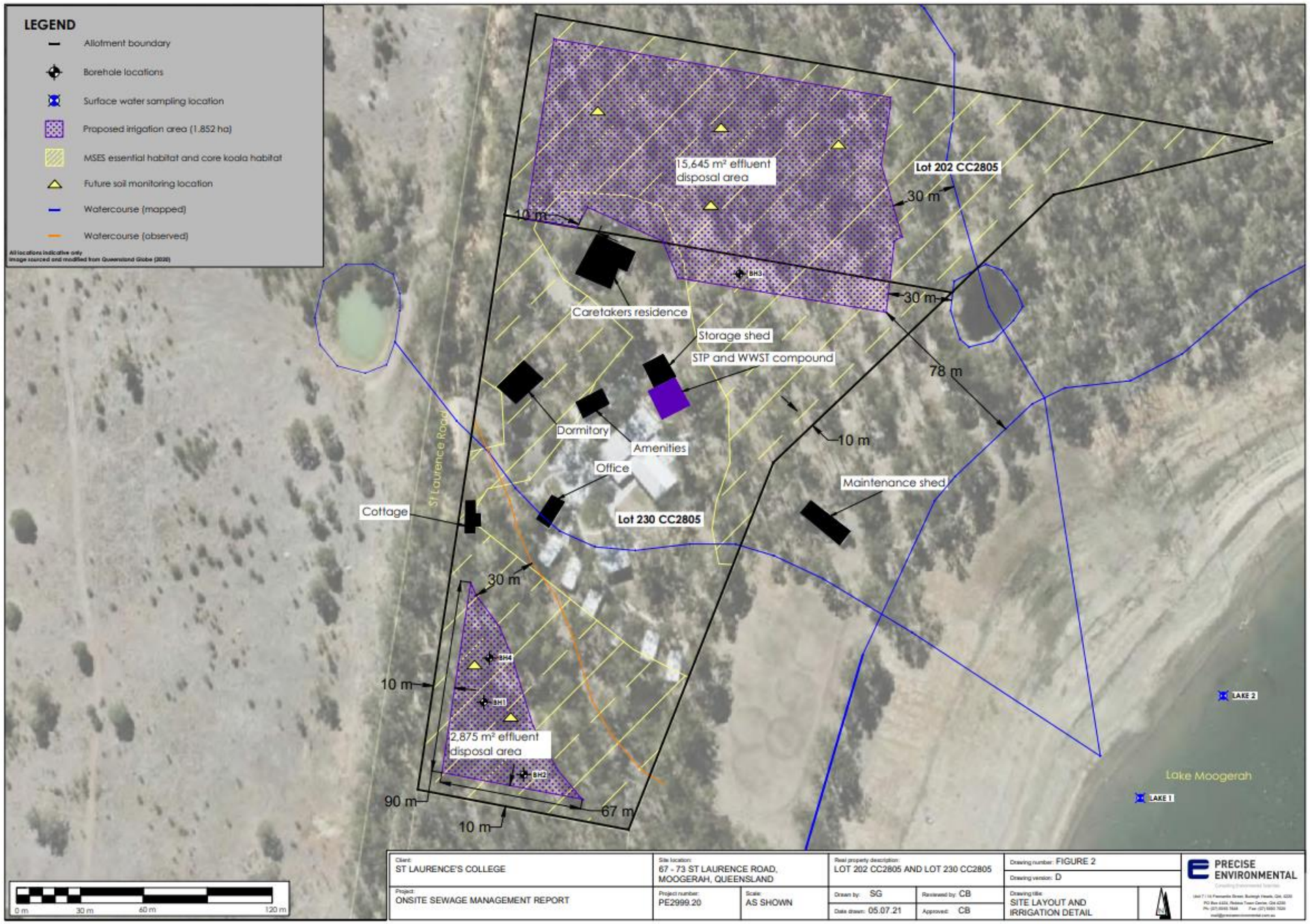
Waters includes river, stream, lake, lagoon, pond, swamp, wetland, unconfined surface water, unconfined water, natural or artificial watercourse, bed and bank of any waters, dams, non-tidal or tidal waters (including the sea), stormwater channel, stormwater drain, roadside gutter, stormwater run-off,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

Vegetation Monitoring Program (VMP) means a monitoring program designed to monitor and assess the state of vegetation for transpiration and nutrient uptake in the effluent disposal area.

Viable state or **viability** means able to live and grow.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Authorised Effluent Disposal Areas and Sampling Locations.



END OF ENIVRONMENTAL AUTHORITY