ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1994

Queensland Government
Environmental Protection Agency
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

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# Licence No. CR0098 (without development approval)

**Section 93** *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

*This licence to carry out an environmental relevant activity is issued in accordance with section 93 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994.*

**Under the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* this licence is issued to:**

Q Rail (Bluff) Infrastructure Services Group
c/- Railway Station
Clermont Street
EMERALD Qld 4720

**in respect of carrying out the environmental relevant activity:**

**15(b) Sewage treatment** - Operating a standard sewage treatment works having a peak design capacity to treat sewage of 100 or more equivalent persons but less than 1 500 equivalent persons

**at the following place(s):**

Lot 14 SP132329 County of Humbondt, Parish of Lucie.

**located at:**

Bluff Railway Station, Capricorn Highway, Bluff.

This licence is subject to the conditions set out in the attached schedules.

The anniversary date of this licence is **5 June.**

This amended licence takes effect from **18 July 2004**.

Signed

16 July 2004
Date

**Cliff Jones**
**Senior Principal Environmental Officer**
Delegate of Administering Authority
*Environmental Protection Act 1994*

Note: This licence document is not proof of the current status of the licence. The current status of the licence may be ascertained by contacting the Environmental Protection Agency.

## Schedule of conditions

The aforementioned description of the ERA for which this authority is issued is simply a restatement of the activity as prescribed in the legislation at the time of issuing this authority. Where there is any conflict between the above description of the ERA for which this authority is issued and the conditions as specified in this authority as to the scale, intensity or manner of carrying out of the ERA, then such conditions prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

This authority incorporates the following schedules of conditions relevant to various issues:

- Schedule A Activity
- Schedule B Air
- Schedule C Water
- Schedule D Noise and vibration
- Schedule E Waste
- Schedule F Land
- Schedule G Community
- Schedule H Definitions
- Schedule I Maps / Plans

## Schedule A - Activity

**Prevent and /or minimise likelihood of environmental harm**

(A1-1) In carrying out the environmentally relevant activities, you must take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent and / or to minimise the likelihood of environmental harm being caused. Any environmentally relevant activity, that, if carried out incompetently, or negligently, may cause environmental harm, in a manner that could have been prevented, shall be carried out in a proper manner in accordance with the conditions of this authority.

NOTE: This authority authorises the environmentally relevant activity. It does not authorise environmental harm unless a condition contained within this authority explicitly authorises that harm. Where there is no condition or the authority is silent on a matter, the lack of a condition or silence shall not be construed as authorising harm.

**Maintenance of measures, plant and equipment**

(A2-1) The holder must:

install all measures, plant and equipment necessary to ensure compliance with the conditions of this environmental authority; and

maintain such measures, plant and equipment in a proper and efficient condition; and

operate such measures, plant and equipment in a proper and efficient manner.

**Site based management plan**

(A3-1) From commencement of the activity, a Site Based Management Plan (SBMP) must be implemented. The SBMP must identify all sources of environmental harm, including but not limited to the actual and potential release of all contaminants, the potential impact of these sources and what actions will be taken to prevent the likelihood of environmental harm being caused. The SBMP must also provide for the review and 'continual improvement' in the overall environmental performance of all Environmentally Relevant Activities that are carried out.

The site based management plan must address the following matters:

- Environmental commitments - a commitment by senior management to achieve environmental goals.
- Identification of environmental issues and potential impacts.
- Control measures for routine operations to minimise likelihood of environmental harm.
- Contingency plans and emergency procedures for non-routine situations.
- Organisational structure and responsibility.
- Effective communication.
- Monitoring of the contaminant releases.
- Conducting environmental impact assessments.
- Staff training.
- Record keeping.
- Periodic review of environmental performance and continual improvement.

**Records**

(A5-1) Record, compile and keep all monitoring results required by this document and present this information to the administering authority when requested, in a specified format.

**Annual monitoring report (Sewage treatment)**

(A8-1) An annual monitoring report must be provided to the administering authority with the annual return. This report shall include but not be limited to:

- a summary of the previous twelve (12) months' monitoring results obtained under any monitoring programs required under this authority and, in graphical form showing relevant limits, a comparison of the previous twelve (12) month's monitoring results to both this authority limits and to relevant prior results;
- an evaluation/explanation of the data from any monitoring programs; and
- a summary of any record of quantities of releases required to be kept under this authority; and
- a summary of the record of equipment failures or events recorded for any site under this authority; and
- an outline of actions taken or proposed to minimise the environmental risk from any deficiency identified by the monitoring or recording programs; and
- the number of domestic tenements newly connected to the sewage treatment works during the previous twelve (12) months; and
- the progressive total number of connections; and
- a summary of any trade waste agreements entered into or amended during the year, including the nature of the industry.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE A

## Schedule B - Air

**Nuisance**

(B1-2) The release of noxious or offensive odours or any other noxious or offensive airborne contaminants resulting from the activity must not cause a nuisance at any odour sensitive place.

**Dust nuisance**

(B2-1) The release of dust and/or particulate matter resulting from the activity must not cause an environmental nuisance at any dust sensitive place.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE B

## Schedule C - Water

**Release to waters**

(C3-1) Contaminants must not be released from the site to any waters or the bed and banks of any waters.

**Stormwater management**

(C5-1) There must be no release of stormwater runoff that has been in contact with any contaminants at the site to any waters, roadside gutter or stormwater drain.

**Contaminant and sewage pump station**

(C6-1) Contaminant pumping stations must be fitted with stand-by pumps and pump-failure alarms as well as high-level alarms to warn of imminent pump station overflow. All alarms must be able to operate without mains power.

**Pond conditions**

(C7-1) All ponds used for the storage or treatment of contaminants, sewage or wastes at or on the authorised place must be constructed, installed and maintained:

- so as to minimise the likelihood of any release of effluent through the bed or banks of the pond to any waters (including ground water);
- so that a freeboard of not less than 0.5 metres is maintained at all times, except in emergencies; and
- so as to ensure the stability of the ponds' construction.

(C7-2) Suitable banks and/or diversion drains must be installed and maintained to exclude stormwater runoff from entering any ponds or other structures used for the storage or treatment of contaminants or wastes.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE C

## Schedule D - Noise and vibration

**Noise nuisance**

(D1-1) Noise from activities must not cause an environmental nuisance at any noise-affected premises.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE D

## Schedule E - Waste

### Waste handling

(E5-1) All regulated waste removed from the site must be removed by a person who holds a current authority to transport such waste under the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE E

## Schedule F - Land

### Land disposal

(F2-1) The only contaminants permitted to be released to land are treated effluents and stormwater to the area known as "the irrigation paddock" and the Queensland Railway Institute golf course located on Lot 1 SP136854 in compliance with the limits levels stated in Table 1 of the Land Schedule and the conditions of this authority.

**Schedule F - Table 1 (Release limits - 'Land')**

| Quality Characteristics | Release Limits | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Minimum | 50th Percentile | 80th Percentile | Maximum |
| 5-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand | | | | 20 mg/L |
| Suspended Solids | | | | 30 mg/L |
| pH | 6.5 | | | 9 |
| Total Nitrogen | | 10 mg/L | 15 mg/L | 30 mg/L |
| Total Phosphorus | | 5 mg/L | 8 mg/L | 15 mg/L |
| Faecal Coliforms | | | | 100 thermotolerant coliforms/100ml |

(F2-2) The irrigation of effluent must be carried out in a manner such that:

- vegetation is not damaged;
- soil erosion and soil structure damage is avoided;
- there is no surface ponding of effluent;
- percolation of effluent beyond the plant root zone is minimised;
- the capacity of the land to assimilate nitrogen, phosphorus, salts, organic matter as measured by oxygen demand and water is not exceeded; and
- the quality of ground water is not adversely affected.

(F2-3) Notices must be prominently displayed on any effluent irrigation area warning the public that the area is irrigated with effluent and not to use or drink the effluent. These notices must be maintained in a visible and legible condition.

(F2-4) Conduct and keep records of any monitoring programs of contaminant releases from the treatment plant at the monitoring points, frequency, and for the parameters specified in Schedule F - Table 2.

(F2-5) Monitoring must be undertaken and records kept of a monitoring program of contaminant releases to the irrigation area at the monitoring points, frequency, and for the parameters specified in Schedule F - Table 2.

Schedule F - Table 2 (Monitoring program)

| Monitoring point | Quality characteristics | Units | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| Exit point of holding tank | 5-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand | mg/l | Quarterly |
| As above | Suspended Solids | mg/l | Quarterly |
| As above | pH | | Weekly |
| As above | Total Nitrogen | mg/l | Quarterly |
| As above | Total Phosphorus | mg/l | Quarterly |
| As above | Faecal Coliforms | mg/l | Quarterly |

(F2-6) The daily volume of contaminants released to land must be determined or estimated by an appropriate method, for example a flow meter, and records kept of such determinations and estimates.

(F2-7) When conditions prevent the irrigation of treated effluent to land (such as during or following rain events), the contaminants must be directed to wet weather storage or alternative measures must be taken to store/lawfully dispose of effluent (such as wet weather storage or tanking off site to another treatment plant or sewer). A record must be kept of any removal or discharge off site, including destination, transporter, dates and volumes.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE F

## Schedule G - Community

**Complaint response**

(G1-1) All complaints received must be recorded including investigations undertaken, conclusions formed and action taken. This information must be made available to the administering authority on request.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE G

## Schedule H - Definitions

Words and phrases used throughout this licence or development approval are defined below:
Where a definition for a term used in this authority is sought and the term is not defined within this authority the definitions provided in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, its regulations, and Environmental Protection Policies shall be used.

**Word Definitions**

**"administering authority"** means the Environmental Protection Agency or its successor.

**"you"** means the holder of this Environmental Authority or owner / occupier of the land which is the subject of this Development Approval.

**"site"** means the place to which this environmental authority relates or the premises to which this development approval relates.

**"authorised place"** means the place authorised under this environmental authority/development approval for the carrying out of the specified environmentally relevant activities.

**"this authority"** means this environmental authority/development approval.

**"authority"** means level 1 licence (without development approval), or level 1 approval (without development approval), or level 2 approval (without development approval) under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

**"approval"** means 'notice of development application decision' or 'notice of concurrence agency response' under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*

**"dust sensitive place"** means -

- a dwelling, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential place;
- a motel, hotel or hostel;
- a kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution;
- a medical centre or hospital;
- a protected area;
- a park or gardens; or
- a place used as an office or for business or commercial purposes.

and includes the curtilage of any such place.

**"dwelling"** means any of the following structures or vehicles that is principally used as a residence-

- a house, unit, motel, nursing home or other building or part of a building;
- a caravan, mobile home or other vehicle or structure on land;
- a water craft in a marina.

**"noxious"** means harmful or injurious to health or physical well being.

**"offensive"** means causing offence or displeasure; is disagreeable to the sense; disgusting, nauseous or repulsive.

**"nuisance sensitive place"** includes -

- a 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 1992 or a World Heritage Area; or
- a public thoroughfare, park or gardens; or
- 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.

**"noise affected premises"** means a "noise sensitive place" or a "commercial place"

**"noise sensitive place"** means -

- a dwelling, 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; or
- a park or gardens.

and includes the curtilage of such place.

**"commercial place"** means a place used as an office or for business or commercial purposes.

**"intrusive noise"** means noise that, because of its frequency, duration, level, tonal characteristics, impulsiveness or vibration -

- is clearly audible to, or can be felt by, an individual; and
- annoys the individual.

In determining whether a noise annoys an individual and is unreasonably intrusive, regard must be given to Australian Standard 1055.2 - 1997 Acoustics - Description and Measurement of Environmental Noise Part 2 - Application to Specific Situations.

**"protected area"** means -

- a protected area under the Nature Conservation Act 1992; or
- a marine park under the Marine Parks Act 1992; or
- a World Heritage Area.

**"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.

**"50th percentile" means** not more than three (3) of the measured values of the quality characteristic are to exceed the stated release limit for any six (6) consecutive samples for a release/monitoring point at any time during the environmental activity(ies) works.

**"80th percentile" means** not more than one (1) of the measured values of the quality characteristic is to exceed the stated release limit for any five (5) consecutive samples for a sampling point at any time during the environmental activity(ies) works

**"land"** in the "land schedule" of this document means land excluding waters and the atmosphere.

**"mg/L"** means milligrams per litre.

**"annual return"** means the return required by the annual notice (under section 316 of the Environment Protection Act, 1994) for the section 86(2) licence that applies to the development approval.

END OF DEFINITIONS FOR SCHEDULE H

## Schedule I - Maps / Plans

There are no attachments to this schedule.

END OF CONDITIONS FOR SCHEDULE I

## END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY