Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority EPPR02851415

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

Environmental authority number: EPPR02851415

Environmental authority takes effect on 02 February 2018

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL	135 Bundall Road SURFERS PARADISE QLD 4217

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 70/WD5093
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 39/WD6594
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 45/WD5694
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 38/WD4474
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 74/WD5641

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
www.ehp.qld.gov.au ABN 46 640 294 485

Queensland Government

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.

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

Date issued: 02 February 2018

Enquiries:
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Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
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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

Condition

General

G1 All reasonable and practicable measures must be taken to prevent the likelihood of environmental harm being caused.

G2 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.

G3 Other than as permitted by this environmental authority, the release of a contaminant into the environment must not occur.

G4 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.

G5 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.

G6 A receiving environment monitoring program must be designed and implemented by appropriately qualified person(s) to monitor the effects of the activity on land and groundwater.

G7 The receiving environment monitoring program required by condition G6, must include at least the following:

Soil monitoring should include:

(a) 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 irrigation release areas; and

(b) determination of the quantity and quality of contaminants applied to the soils from the irrigation; and

(c) periodic re-assessment including modelling of the water, nutrient and salt balances and irrigation rate and return period to ensure sustainable use of the irrigation area; and

(d) reporting of monitoring results and an assessment of the impact of the releases on the irrigation areas.

(e) vegetation survey to determine whether vegetation has changed or become damaged since irrigation commenced.

Groundwater monitoring should:

(a) be able to determine the impacts of the licensed activity on the groundwater quality in the underlying aquifer; and

(b) include, but not be limited to, a sufficient number of bores (minimum of four for the irrigation areas on Lot 70 WD5093 and a minimum of six for the irrigation areas across Lot 39 WD6594, Lot 45 WD5694, Lot 38 WD4474 and Lot 74 WD5641) installed at locations and depths which yield representative groundwater samples from at least the upper-most aquifer so as to:

i. establish the quality of groundwater that has not been affected by seepage or drainage of contaminants to groundwater from the activity; and

ii. detect any seepage of contaminants to groundwater from the licensed place; and

(c) include monitoring of background groundwater quality, hydraulically up-gradient of any release of contaminants to groundwater; and

(d) include monitoring of upstream groundwater quality, hydraulically down gradient of all storage ponds, sewage treatment plant and irrigation areas;

(e) include, six monthly monitoring of the quality of groundwater during the first two years of activity, to detect any possible release(s) of contaminants, and then twelve monthly monitoring afterwards; and

(f) consider the potential use of groundwater in the vicinity.

G8 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.

G9 You must record the following details for all environmental complaints received:

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

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:
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
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 *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
6. ensure that reviews of environmental performance are undertaken at least annually.

G12 Storage of chemicals and fuels in bulk or in containers of greater than 15 litres must be within a secondary containment system and releases controlled in a manner that prevents environmental harm.

W1 All waste generated in carrying out the activity must be lawfully reused, recycled or removed to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste.

Condition

Acoustic

N1 Noise generated by the activity must not cause environmental nuisance to any sensitive place or commercial place.

Condition

Air

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

Condition

Land

L1 The only contaminants to be released to land are treated effluent, to the areas shown in Figure 1 – Tipplers and South Currigee sewage treatment plants (Tipplers site layout) and Figure 2 - Tipplers and South Currigee sewage treatment plants (South Currigee site layout), and in accordance with the Table 1 – Treated effluent release limits to irrigation area and the associated requirements.

Table 1 - Treated effluent release limits to irrigation area

Quality characteristics	Release limit	Limit type	Frequency
Total nitrogen (TN)	15mg/L	maximum	quarterly
Total phosphorous (TP)	8mg/L	maximum	quarterly
Electrical conductivity	1500µs/cm	maximum	quarterly
pH	6.5 – 8.5	range	quarterly
Total Suspended Solids	30mg/L	maximum	quarterly
Total residual chlorine (if used for disinfection)	2mg/L	maximum	quarterly
E.coli	<10cfu/100ml	maximum	quarterly

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. Releases of treated effluent must not be outside of the irrigation areas indicated in Figure 1 – Tipplers and South Currigee sewage treatment plants (Tipplers site layout) and Figure 2 - Tipplers and South Currigee sewage treatment plants (South Currigee site layout).

3. Monitoring must be undertaken when treated sewage effluent is being irrigated, unless irrigation has ceased for longer than the relevant parameters specified minimum frequency.

4. Indicators for TN and TP are recommended to be done as grab samples.

L2 In addition to the requirements of L1, the treated effluent must be evenly distributed over an area stated in Table 2 - Irrigation area requirements or a greater area.

Table 2 – Irrigation Requirements

Site	Maximum irrigation rate (kl/day)	Average annual irrigation rate (kl/day)	Minimum land required (m2)
Tipplers	18.4	7.91	10000
South Currigee	11.6	3.20	5000

L3 Monitoring of contaminant releases to land must be undertaken in accordance with condition L1 and records of the results must be kept.

L4 Treated effluent released to land must be done in accordance with documentation that ensures:

(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

(g) sufficient buffer zones are maintained between irrigation sites and sensitive environmental receptors.

L5 When weather conditions or soil conditions preclude the release of effluent to land, effluent must be directed to wet weather storage or be lawfully removed from the site.

Condition

Water

WT1 Stormwater contaminated by the activity must be managed to minimise or prevent any adverse effect on the environmental values of the receiving environment.

Definition

PD077 Activity means the environmentally relevant activities, whether resource activities or prescribed activities, to which the environmental authority relates.

PD078 Administering authority means the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection or its successors or predecessors.

PD085 Appropriately qualified person(s) means a person or persons who has professional qualifications, training, skills and experience relevant to the EA requirement and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis in relation to the EA requirement using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.

PD099 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.

PD107 Day means any 24 hour period.

PD123 Environmental nuisance as defined in Chapter 1 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

PD124 Environmental value as defined under Chapter 1 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

PD144 Measures have the broadest interpretation and include plant, equipment, physical objects, monitoring, procedures, actions, directions and competency.

PD147 NATA means National Association of Testing Authorities.

PD167 Release of a contaminant into the environment means to:
(a) deposit, discharge, emit or disturb the contaminant
(b) cause or allow the contaminant to be deposited, discharged, emitted or disturbed
(c) fail to prevent the contaminant from being deposited, discharged emitted or disturbed
(d) allow the contaminant to escape
(e) fail to prevent the contaminant from escaping.

PD176 Sensitive place includes the following and includes a place within the curtilage of such a place reasonably used by persons at that place:
1. a dwelling, residential allotment, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential premises; or
2. a motel, hotel or hostel; or
3. a kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution; or
4. a medical centre or hospital; or
5. a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, the *Marine Parks Act 2004* or a World Heritage Area; or
6. a public park or garden; or
7. for noise, a place defined as a sensitive receptor for the purposes of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008.

PD191 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.

PD192 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**.**

PD199 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.

PD202 You means the holder of the environmental authority.

Schedules

Figure 1 – Tipplers and South Currigee sewage treatment plants (Tipplers site layout)

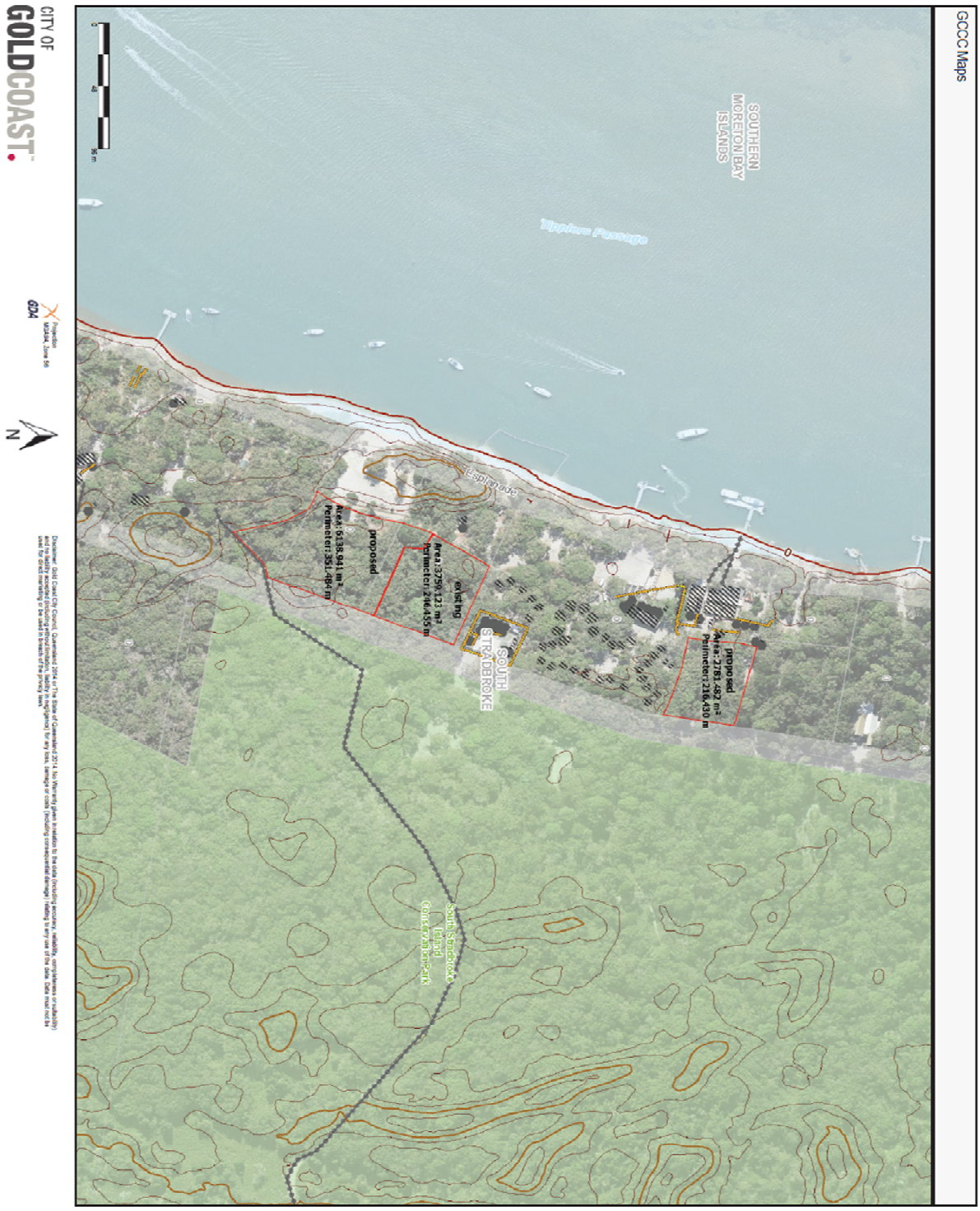


Figure 2 – Tipplers and South Currigee sewage treatment plants (South Currigee site layout)

