

Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority EPPR03887416

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

Environmental authority number: EPPR03887416

Environmental authority takes effect on 14 January 2019

Environmental authority holder(s)

Name(s)	Registered address
Gainsdale Pty Ltd	168 Knapp St FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006

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 5/SP215918

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

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- 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.

Rebecca Griffiths
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: 14 January 2019

Environmental authority

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

Legislative Requirements

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.

Development Approval

This permit is not a development approval under the *Planning Act 2016*. The conditions of this environmental authority are separate, and in addition to, any conditions that may be on the development approval. If a copy of this environmental authority is attached to a development approval, it is for information only, and may not be current. Please contact the Department of **Environment and Science** to ensure that **you** have the most current version of the environmental authority relating to this site.

Conditions of Environmental Authority

Part 1 – General Conditions

Environmentally relevant activities	Locations
ERA 63(1)(a)(i) - Operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of 21 to 100EP, if treated effluent is discharged from the works to an infiltration trench or through an irrigation scheme	88 Obi Lane South and Maleny - Lot 5 on Plan SP215918

The environmentally relevant activities conducted at the locations as described above must be conducted in accordance with the following general conditions of approval.

Agency interest: General	
Condition number	Condition
G1	Inflows must not exceed the peak design capacity of 6,000L per day .
G2	All reasonable and practicable measures must be taken to prevent or minimise environmental harm caused by the activities.
G3	Other than as permitted by this environmental authority, the release of a contaminant into the environment must not occur.
G4	The activity must be undertaken in accordance with written procedures that: a) identify potential risks to the environment from the activity during routine operations, closure and an emergency; b) establish and maintain control measures that minimise the potential for environmental harm;

	c) ensure plant, equipment and measures are maintained in a proper and effective condition; d) ensure plant, equipment and measures are operated in a proper and effective manner; e) ensure that staff are trained in and aware of their obligations under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>; and f) ensure that reviews of environmental performance are undertaken at least annually.												
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	Any breach of a condition of this environmental authority must be reported to the administering authority as soon as practicable within 24 hours of becoming aware of the breach. Records must be kept including full details of the breach and any subsequent actions taken.												
G7	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.												
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. The only exception to this condition is for <i>in situ</i> monitoring of pH and electrical conductivity.												
Agency interest: Air													
Condition number	Condition												
A1	Other than as permitted within this environmental authority, odours or airborne contaminants must not cause environmental nuisance at a sensitive place or commercial place .												
Agency interest: Land													
Condition number	Condition												
L1	The only contaminant permitted to be released to land is treated sewage effluent to the Spray Irrigation Areas, Sub-surface Irrigation Area and Native Vegetation Irrigation Area shown in <i>Attachment 1 — Wastewater Irrigation Area</i> in compliance with the release limits stated in <i>Table 1 - Contaminant Release Limits to Land</i> and the conditions of this approval. Table 1— Contaminant Release Limits to Land <table><tr><th>Characteristics</th><th>Release Limit</th><th>Limit Type</th><th>Monitoring Frequency</th></tr><tr><td>Irrigation rate</td><td>0.6mm/day</td><td>Average</td><td>Daily</td></tr><tr><td>Total Nitrogen</td><td>40mg/L</td><td>Maximum</td><td>Quarterly</td></tr></table>	Characteristics	Release Limit	Limit Type	Monitoring Frequency	Irrigation rate	0.6mm/day	Average	Daily	Total Nitrogen	40mg/L	Maximum	Quarterly
Characteristics	Release Limit	Limit Type	Monitoring Frequency										
Irrigation rate	0.6mm/day	Average	Daily										
Total Nitrogen	40mg/L	Maximum	Quarterly										

	Total Phosphorous	20mg/L	Maximum	Quarterly
	pH	6.5-8.5	Range	Quarterly
	<i>E. coli</i>	<1cfu/100mL	Median	Weekly
		<10cfu/100mL	95th percentile	Weekly
	Electrical conductivity	1130µS/cm	Maximum	Quarterly
L2	Monitoring must be undertaken and records kept of a monitoring program of contaminant releases to the irrigation area in accordance with <i>Table 1- Contaminant release limits to land</i> .			
L3	Notwithstanding the quality characteristic limits specified in <i>Table 1 - Contaminant release limits to land</i> , releases of effluent must not have any properties nor contain any organisms or other contaminants in concentrations that are capable of causing environmental harm.			
L4	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.			
L5	A minimum area of 6,000m ² of land , excluding any necessary buffer zones, must be utilised for the irrigation of treated effluent/stormwater.			
L6	Treated effluent is permitted to be released to land provided that it is done in accordance with a written procedure that ensures: a) infiltration 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 do not carry beyond effluent irrigation areas; f) effluent irrigation areas are maintained with an appropriate crop in a viable state for transpiration and nutrient uptake; and g) the crop on the irrigation area is harvested and removed from the irrigation area.			
L7	Implement and maintain an Irrigation Monitoring Program (IMP) for the release of contaminants to land(s) . As a minimum, the IMP must include:			

	a) soil and sub-soil analysis, including assessment of the soils including types, structure, phosphorus adsorption capacity, nutrient status, salinity and sodicity, cation exchange capacity and sodium absorption ratio (SAR) of the contaminant release area(s), to be carried out from representative locations on an annual basis; b) ground water monitoring that determines the existence and rate of infiltration of effluent that has been irrigated to land, and the potential or actual impacts on ground water from such infiltration, to be carried out on an annual basis; c) plant analysis to assess nutrient export to be carried out on a bi-annual basis; d) determination of the quantity and quality of contaminants applied; e) periodic re-assessment, including modelling of the water, nutrient and salt balances and irrigation rate and return period should be undertaken, if necessary, to ensure sustainable use of the contaminant release area is being achieved; and f) reporting of monitoring results, and an assessment of the impact of the releases on the contaminant release areas.
L8	When weather conditions or soil conditions preclude the release of treated sewage effluent to land , effluent must not be irrigated to land .
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: Social	
Condition number	Condition
S1	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 when provided and authorised by the complainant; c) nature of the complaint; d) investigations undertaken; e) conclusions formed; and f) actions taken.
Agency interest: Waste	
Condition number	Condition
WA1	All waste generated in carrying out the activity must be lawfully reused, recycled or removed to a facility that can lawfully accept the waste.
Agency interest: Water	

Condition number	Condition
W1	Stormwater contaminated by the activity must be managed to minimise or prevent any adverse effect on the environmental values of the receiving environment

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.

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

Approval means environmental authority.

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 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.

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

Day means any 24 hour period.

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

Land in the land schedule of this document 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.

mg/L means milligrams per litre.

Minimise by taking all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the adverse effect having regard to the following matters:

- (a) the nature of the harm or potential harm
- (b) the sensitivity of the receiving environment
- (c) the current state of technical knowledge for the activity
- (d) the likelihood of successful application of different measures that might be taken to **minimise** the adverse effects
- (e) the financial implications of the different measures as they would relate to the type of activity
- (f) if the adverse effect is caused by the location of the activity being carrying out, whether it is feasible to carry out the activity at another location.

NATA means National Association of Testing Authorities.

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 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.

Protected area means —

- (a) a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*; or
- (b) a marine park under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*; or
- (c) a World Heritage Area.

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

- (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 thoroughfare, park or garden
- (g) 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.

Watercourse means a river, creek or stream in which water flows permanently or intermittently-

- (a) in a natural channel, whether artificially improved or not; or
- (b) in an artificial channel that has changed the course of the **watercourse**.

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.

Works or operation means the activity approved under environmental authority.

You means the holder of the environmental authority.

95th percentile means not more than one (1) of the measured values of the quality characteristic is to exceed the stated release limit for any twenty (20) consecutive samples for a sampling point at any time during the environmental activity(ies) **works**.

Attachments

Attachment 1- Wastewater Irrigation Area

