Permit

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental authority P-EA-100187577

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

Environmental authority number: P-EA-100187577

Environmental authority takes effect on the day of the approval.

The first annual fee is payable within 20 business days of the take effect date.

The anniversary date of this environmental authority is the same day each year as the take effect date. The payment of the annual fee will be due each year on this day.

Environmental authority holder

Name	Registered address
Department of Education	30 Mary Street Brisbane City QLD 4000

Environmentally relevant activity and location details

Environmentally relevant activit	Location
ERA 63 - Sewage Treatment 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	26 Briggs Road, Withcott QLD 4352; Lot 129 on CC3371

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).

ABN 46 640 294 485

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.

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.

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.

	11/04/2022
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
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 Resources (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	Location
ERA 63 - Sewage Treatment 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	26 Briggs Road, Withcott QLD 4352; Lot 129 on CC3371

The environmentally relevant activity conducted at the location as described above must be conducted in accordance with the following site-specific conditions of the approval.

Agency interest: General	
Condition number	**Condition**
G1	**Activities** must be conducted in accordance with the following: (a) The **average** inflows into the sewage treatment plant must not exceed 4kL/**day;** and (b) daily peak design capacity of 7.4kL/**day**; and (c) The septic tanks, sewage treatment plant, pumping station and the **effluent** storage tank/s must be located on Lot 129 Plan CC3371, as depicted in *Appendix 1 – Site layout.*
G2	All reasonable and practicable **measures** must be taken to prevent or minimise any **environmental harm** caused, or likely to be 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 24 hours of becoming aware of the contravention.
G4	Within 14 **days** of providing the notification under condition G3, or a longer period agreed to in writing by the **administering authority,** an investigation must be completed into any contravention of a condition of the environmental authority to determine: (a) the potential circumstances and actions that may have contributed to the contravention; and (b) the environmental impact of the contravention; and (c) reasonable **measures** that could be implemented to address the cause of the contravention to prevent future contraventions of this nature.
G5	**Measures** identified under condition G4(c) must be implemented within: (a) 28 **days** of the investigation required by condition G4 being completed; or (b) a longer period agreed to in writing by the **administering authority**.
G6	The following details must be recorded for all contraventions of conditions within the environmental authority: (a) date and time the contravention occurred; and (b) nature and details of the contravention; and (c) investigations carried out in response to the contravention as required by condition G4; and (d) the results of investigations; and (e) **measures** taken under condition G4(c).
G7	Other than as permitted by this environmental authority, the **release of a contaminant into the environment** must not occur.

G8	All **records** required by the conditions of this environmental authority must be kept for a minimum of five years, and all **monitoring** results and **raw data** must be kept until surrender of this environmental authority.
G9	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**.
G10	An **appropriately qualified person(s)** must **monitor**, record and interpret all parameters that are required to be **monitored** by this environmental authority.
G11	All analyses required under this environmental authority must be carried out by a laboratory that has National Association of Testing Authorities (**NATA)** accreditation or an equivalent certification, for such analyses.
G12	An annual monitoring report (Annual Monitoring Report) must be prepared and submitted to the **administering authority** by 30 November each year, for the preceding financial year.
G13	The following details must be recorded for all **environmental complaints** received: (a) date and time the complaint was received; and (b) if authorised by the **person** making the complaint, their name and contact details; and (c) nature and details of the complaint; and (d) investigations carried out in response to the complaint as required by condition G14; and (e) the results of investigations; and (f) **measures** taken under condition G14.
G14	An investigation must be undertaken within 28 **days** (or a longer period agreed to in writing by the **administering authority**) into all complaints received to determine**:** (a) the potential circumstances and actions on **site** that may have contributed to the basis of the complaint; and (b) reasonable **measures** that could be implemented to address the complaint.
G15	**Measures** identified under condition G14 must be implemented within: (a) 28 **days** of the investigation required by condition G14 being finalised; or (b) a longer period agreed to in writing by the **administering authority.**
G16	When requested 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**.
G17	The results, including an analysis of the results, of **monitoring** required by condition G16 must be provided to the **administering authority:** (a) within 10 **days** after you receive the **monitoring** results; or (b) A longer period agreed to in writing by the **administering authority**.
G18	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.
G19	Written procedures required by condition G18 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**.
G20	Plant and equipment necessary to comply with the conditions of this environmental authority must be installed, operated, calibrated and maintained: (a) in a proper and effective manner; and (b) in accordance with the written procedures developed under condition G18 for the plant and equipment.
G21	Chemicals and fuels in containers of greater than 15 litres must be stored within a **secondary containment system.**
G22	Notices must be prominently displayed warning the public that treated sewage is being disposed of at the location.
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: Acoustic	
Condition number	**Condition**
N1	Noise generated by the **activity** must not cause **environmental nuisance** to any **sensitive place** or **commercial place.**
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.
Agency interest: Land	
Condition number	**Condition**
L1	Other than as permitted within this environmental authority, contaminants from the **activity** must not be **released** to **land**.
L2	All organic material removed from vegetation growing in the **effluent** disposal area must be transported and disposed of in an area other than in the **effluent** disposal area.

<table>
<tr><td>L3</td><td>Contaminants generated by the system must only be released to land within the AES disposal area where the following requirements are complied with:
(a) the release limits for the quality characteristic are complied with at the monitoring location as specified in Table 1 – Contaminant limits for releases to land; and
(b) releases are monitored at the monitoring location and at the minimum monitoring frequency for the quality characteristic specified in Table 1 – Contaminant limits for releases to land.

Table 1 – Contaminant limits for releases to land
<table>
<tr><th>Monitoring Point</th><th>Quality Characteristic (units)</th><th>Minimum</th><th>Maximum</th><th>Minimum monitoring frequency</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="7">Outlet of the Prepackaged Treatment Plant</td><td>Volume (L)</td><td>-</td><td>7400</td><td>Daily</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total Nitrogen (mg/L as N)</td><td>-</td><td>30</td><td>Every 4 weeks</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total Phosphorus (mg/L as P)</td><td>-</td><td>15</td><td>Every 4 weeks</td></tr>
<tr><td>pH</td><td>6.5</td><td>8.5</td><td>Every 4 weeks</td></tr>
<tr><td>E.coli (CFU/100mL)</td><td>-</td><td>10</td><td>Every 4 weeks</td></tr>
<tr><td>Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm)</td><td>-</td><td>1600</td><td>Every 4 weeks</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total Dissolved Salts (mg/L)</td><td></td><td>1000</td><td>Every 4 weeks</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>L4</td><td>Releases to land authorised under condition L3 must comply with the following:
(a) AES technology must be installed over a minimum surface area of 925m^2; and
(b) Releases to land must only occur in the AES disposal area as specified in Appendix 1 – Site Layout; and
(c) The treated sewage effluent must be disposed of uniformly across the AES disposal area.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L5</td><td>Soil structure must not be degraded as a result of the activity.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L6</td><td>Soil sodicity and the build-up of nutrients and heavy metals in the soil and subsoil must be minimised.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L7</td><td>Ponding of contaminants within the AES disposal area must not occur.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L8</td><td>Contaminants must not run off to areas beyond the AES disposal area.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L9</td><td>Public access to the AES disposal area must be prevented.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L10</td><td>The AES disposal area must be maintained with an appropriate crop in a viable state.</td></tr>
<tr><td>L11</td><td>The aerobic pre-package treatment plant must be managed to ensure that microorganisms utilised in the treatment of sewage remain viable during periods of low inflow.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Agency interest: Water</td></tr>
<tr><td>Condition number</td><td>Condition</td></tr>
<tr><td>WT1</td><td>Contaminants must not be released to any waters.</td></tr>
<tr><td>WT2</td><td>The associate sewage pumping stations must be fitted with stand-by pumps, pump-failure alarms and high level alarms to warn of imminent pump station overflow. All alarms must be able to operate in the event of power failure.</td></tr>
<tr><td>WT3</td><td>All duty and stand-by pumps must be inspected, tested and maintained on a regular basis to ensure they remain in a constant state of service.</td></tr>
</table>

Definitions

Where a word or phrase in this document is **bolded**, it has its corresponding meaning that is defined below.
Where a word or phrase in this document is **not bolded**, it has the meaning given to it in (in order of priority):

(a) the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, its regulations or its environmental protection policies;
(b) *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*;
(c) *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*;
(d) *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*;
(e) *The Acts Interpretation Act 1954*;
(f) the Macquarie Dictionary (taking account of the context in which the word or phrase is used in this document).

Defined words or phrases in the singular include the plural and vice versa.

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 Chief Executive administering the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

AES disposal area means the area identified as '4 AES Beds' in *Appendix 1 – Site Layout* of this environmental authority.

Appropriately qualified person 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.

Average means the average volume taken over a rolling 365 days.

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.

Effluent means the liquid fraction of treated sewage.

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

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.

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).

Person means an individual and a corporation, as per section 32D of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*.

Raw data means primary data collected from a source that has not been processed and includes monitoring sheets, monitoring device readings, laboratory analysis results and certificate of analysis.

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.

Secondary containment system means a system designed, installed and operated to prevent any release of contaminants from the system, or containers within the system, to land, groundwater, or surface waters.

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.

Sludge means any residual, semi-solid material that is produced as a by-product from the **activity**.

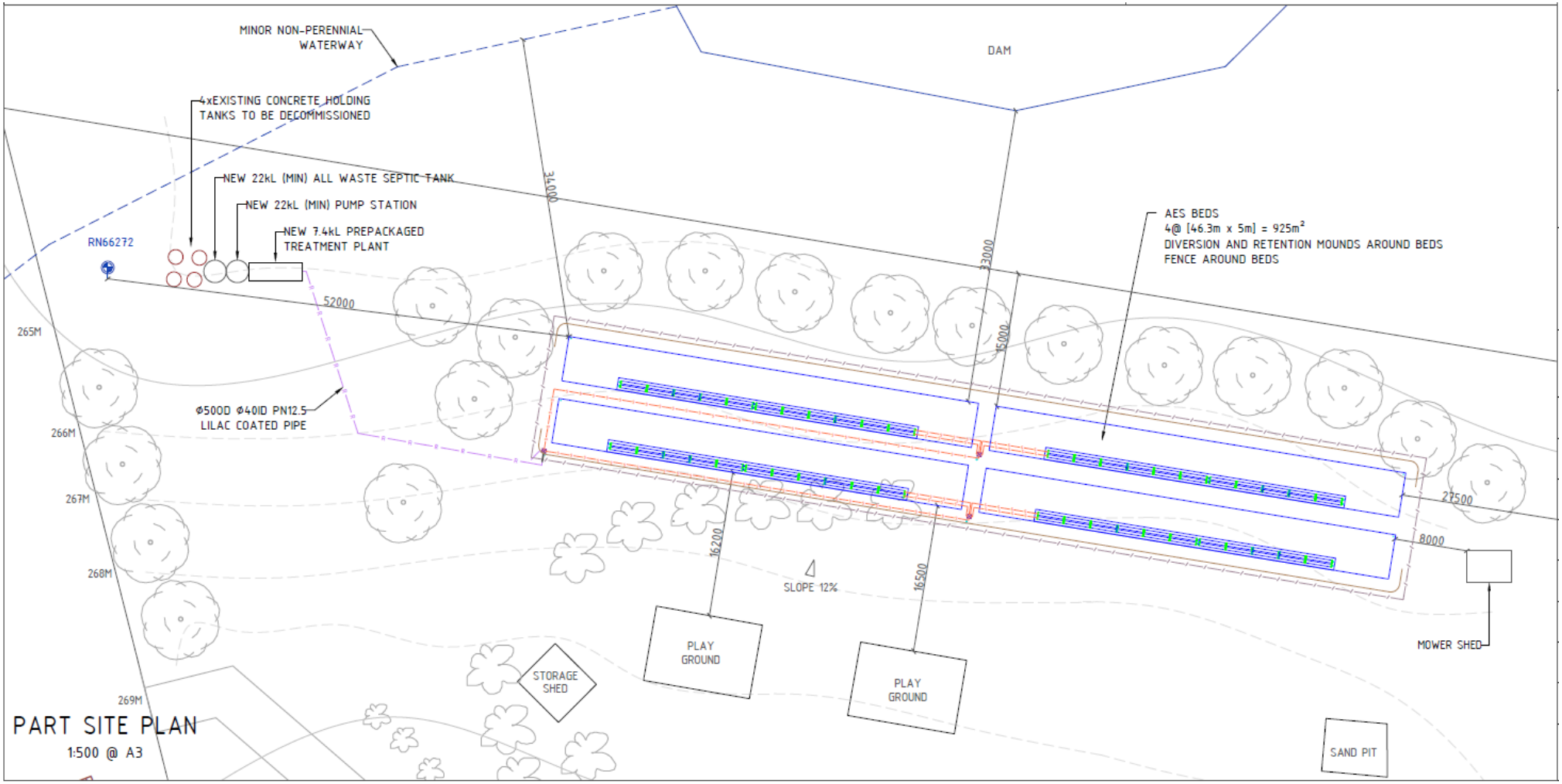
The site means the area of land identified as being approved for the carrying out of the activity as per *Appendix 1 – Site* Layout of this environmental authority.

Viable state or virability means able to live and grow.

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.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – site layout



END OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY