

Notice

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Notice of decision - Temporary emissions licence

This statutory notice is issued by the administering authority pursuant to section 357E of the Environmental Protection Act 1994, to advise you of a decision or action.

To: Central SEQ Distributor – Retailer Authority T/A
Queensland Urban Utilities
Level 2, 15 Green Square Close
Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006

Email: Tamara.Bauld@urbanutilities.com.au
Attention: Tamara Bauld

Reference: A-TEL-NEW-100215279

Application for temporary emissions licence (TEL) for flood impacted sewage treatment plants (resource recovery centres).

1 Application details

The application for a temporary emissions licence was received by the administering authority on 4 March 2022.

Application reference number: A-TEL-NEW-100215279

Authorised activities and locations:

Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
ERA 63 Sewage treatment (1)(b)(ii) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of— more than 100 but not more than 1,500EP— otherwise - no IT or IR	Esk Sewage Treatment Plant Brisbane Valley Highway, ESK, QLD 4312 Lot 1 RP156580. Fernvale Sewage Treatment Plant Banks Creek Road, FERNVALE QLD 4306 Lot 4 RP814367. Helidon Sewage Treatment Plant Back Flagstone Road, HELIDON QLD 4344 Lot 1 RP32742.

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Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
	Kooralbyn Sewage Treatment Plant 8-22 Etruscan Road, KOORALBYN QLD 4285 Lot 371 SP238312 and Lot 173 SP238312. Lowood Sewage Treatment Plant 3249 Fernvale Road LOWOOD QLD 4311 Lot 1 RP138867. Toogoolawah Sewage Treatment Plant Lot 1 RP135864. Kalbar Sewage Treatment Plant 29 Heit Road KALBAR QLD 4309 Lot 2 RP127542. Aratula Sewage Treatment Plant Cunningham Highway ARATULA QLD 4309 Lot 4 SP121584.
ERA 63 Sewage treatment (1)(b)(i) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of more than 100 but not more than 1,500EP if treated effluent is discharged from the works to an infiltration trench or through an irrigation scheme	Forest Hill Sewage Treatment Plant Dodt Road FOREST HILL QLD 4342 Lot 1 RP114066.
ERA 63 Sewage treatment (1)(c) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of— more than 1,500 but not more than 4,000EP	Canungra Sewage Treatment Plant Finch Road, CANUNGRA QLD 4275 Lot 2 RP150199 and Lot 2 RP204982. Karana Downs Sewage Treatment Plant Nalya Crescent, KARANA DOWNS QLD 4306 Lot 2 RP180342. Kilcoy Sewage Treatment Plant William Street, KILCOY QLD 4515 Lot 3 RP118370.

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Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
	Rosewood Sewage Treatment Plant 55-69 Rosewood-Warrill View Road ROSEWOOD QLD 4340 Lot 1 RP12983. Boonah Sewage Treatment Plant, Gorkow Road BOONAH QLD 4310 Lot 10 SP237223, Lot 11 SP237223, Lot 12 SP237223, Lot 13 SP237223, Lot 1 RP113490, Lot 2 RP113490.
ERA Sewage treatment 63 (1)(d) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of— more than 4,000 but not more than 10,000EP	Beaudesert Sewage Treatment Plant Drumley Street, BEAUDESERT QLD 4285 Lot 4 RP111345 and Lot 7 RP904224. Gatton Sewage Treatment Plant Treatment Plant Road GATTON QLD 4343 Lot 3 SP235464, and Lot 4 SP235464, and Lot 4 RP96384. Laidley Sewage Treatment Plant Cnr East and Braham Roads off Boundary Road LAIDLEY NORTH QLD 4341 Lot 2 RP107816. Lowood Sewage Treatment Plant Forest Hill - Fernvale Road LOWOOD QLD 4311 Lot 1 SP295901.
ERA 63 Sewage treatment (1)(e) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of— more than 10,000 but not more than 50,000EP	Carole Park Sewage Treatment Plant Boundary Road, CAROLE PARK QLD 4300 Lot 119 CP907852. Fairfield Sewage Treatment Plant Brisbane Corso FAIRFIELD QLD 4103 Lot 3 RP806359.

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Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
	Wynnum Sewage Treatment Plant Tanker St, LYTTON QLD 4178 Lot 3 RP162446.
ERA 63 Sewage treatment (1)(f) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of— more than 50,000 but not more than 100,000EP	Goodna Sewage Treatment Plant Lower Cross Street, GOODNA QLD 4300 Lot 1 RP887551. Wacol Sewage Treatment Plant Grindie Road, WACOL QLD 4076 Lot 906 SP220999 and Lot 1 SP220999.
ERA 63 Sewage treatment (1)(g) operating sewage treatment works, other than no-release works, with a total daily peak design capacity of— more than 100,000EP	Bundamba Sewage Treatment Plant 5 Hanlon Street, BUNDAMBA QLD 4304 Lot 1 SP230116. Gibson Island Sewage Treatment Plant, Paringa Road, MURARRIE QLD 4172 Lot 41 SP227024 and Lot 43 SP227024. Luggage Point Sewage Treatment Plant 200 Main Beach Road, PINKENBA QLD, 4008 Lot 1 & 2 SP230688. Oxley Sewage Treatment Plant 240 Donaldson Rd, ROCKLEA QLD 4106. Lot 818 SL5746, Lot 957 SL7763, Lot 1207 M3117, Lot 1 RP99640, Lot 83 SP220962, Lot 82 SP220962, Lot 2 on Plan RP37416, Lot 2 RP99640, Lot 100 SP1622583. Sandgate Sewage Treatment Plant Bicentennial Road, BOONDALL QLD 4034 Lot 1 RP63707.
ERA 61 Thermal waste reprocessing and treatment (1)(a) thermally reprocessing or treating, in a year, the following quantity of general waste — 5,000t or less	Oxley Sewage Treatment Plant 240 Donaldson Rd, ROCKLEA QLD 4106. Lot 818 SL5746, Lot 957 SL7763, Lot 1207 M3117, Lot 1 RP99640, Lot 83 SP220962, Lot 82 SP220962, Lot 2 on Plan RP37416, Lot 2 RP99640, Lot 100 SP1622583.

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Environmentally relevant activity	Locations
ERA 61 Thermal waste reprocessing and treatment (2)(a) thermally reprocessing or treating, in a year, the following quantity of category 2 regulated waste— 5,000t or less	Oxley Sewage Treatment Plant 240 Donaldson Rd, ROCKLEA QLD 4106. Lot 818 SL5746, Lot 957 SL7763, Lot 1207 M3117, Lot 1 RP99640, Lot 83 SP220962, Lot 82 SP220962, Lot 2 on Plan RP37416, Lot 2 RP99640, Lot 100 SP1622583.
ERA 61 Thermal waste reprocessing and treatment (3)(a) thermally reprocessing or treating, in a year, the following quantity of category 1 regulated waste— (a) 5,000t or less	Oxley Sewage Treatment Plant 240 Donaldson Rd, ROCKLEA QLD 4106. Lot 818 SL5746, Lot 957 SL7763, Lot 1207 M3117, Lot 1 RP99640, Lot 83 SP220962, Lot 82 SP220962, Lot 2 on Plan RP37416, Lot 2 RP99640, Lot 100 SP1622583.

2 Decision

The administering authority has decided to grant the application on different terms than those requested.

3 Reasons for the decision

This application for a temporary emissions licence proposed to override the following conditions of EPPR00495113:

- Refer to attached document: *Appendix D – Impacted conditions of TEMPORARY EMISSIONS LICENCE REQUEST – RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRES, Queensland Urban Utilities, version 1, dated 01 March 2022.*

The application proposed to override a number of conditions within environmental authority (EA) EPPR00521513 relating to releases to water and land. The proposed TEL conditions inferred that the TEL conditions were in force unless particular circumstances occurred. This is not enforceable.

The intent of the conditions is as requested, except for the following aspects:

- Only the conditions of the EA regarding notification requirements are overridden; the conditions of the TEL otherwise permit non-compliance with relevant EA conditions in particular circumstances;
- Specific conditions concerning notification of sewage overflows or releases not in accordance with EA conditions have been applied to protect environmental values of primary and secondary recreation and drinking water in affected waters; and
- An exemption to lawful handling, storage and disposal of regulated waste was not permitted. This is because applicable exemptions to regulated waste storage exist under applicable legislation, and it is not appropriate to permit such an exemption under a TEL. Where an exemption does not apply under applicable legislation concerning offsite storage of sludge and biosolids, it is not appropriate to imply in a TEL that an unlawful waste transfer activity conducted outside of, and independent to, the sites that are subject to the TEL, is permitted by this instrument where it has no authority to permit such an activity.

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This temporary emissions licence commences on 4 March 2022 and authorises the release of contaminants to waters and land until 3 June 2022.

The licence overrides the following conditions of your environmental authority, approval number EPPR00521513:

GA2, WTA3, GB2, WTB6, MPC2, G3B2, G3C2, G3H3, G3J6, G3O3, WT3O5, WT3S6, MPC4, MPC5, MPC7, G3J3, G3J8, MPC18, WTA4, WT3S7, WTB5, G3J5, G3J26, WT3O6.

2.1 Temporary Emissions Licence Conditions

The following conditions temporarily apply to the locations as described above on this licence:

Agency interest: General	
Condition number	Condition
TEL-1	Notifications For the period of time this temporary emissions license is in effect, you must provide a weekly report to the administering authority's Pollution Hotline, commencing 07 March 2022, which includes at least the following: a) Details of any release of contaminants not in accordance with conditions of the environmental authority EPPR00521513, including: i) location of release, ii) quality of release, iii) quantity of release, iv) measures taken to prevent or minimise environmental harm associated with the release, unless obtaining the information is not practicable due to impacts from the applicable event; and b) Details of any bypass events that have occurred during the past week, and those that are occurring; and c) Ongoing progress with recovery actions for impacts from the applicable event and associated timeframes for completion; and d) Monitoring results in accordance with condition TEL-6
TEL-2	For the period of time this temporary emissions license is in effect, bypass releases from the sewage treatment plants are not required to be screened where the sewage treatment plant is not operational due to power failure, inundation, or critical impacts due to flooding.
TEL-3	A release of contaminants to land or waters that is not in accordance with conditions of environmental authority EPPR00521513 is permitted only where: a) It is unavoidable due to adverse impacts caused by the applicable event, and b) All reasonable and practicable measures have been taken to prevent environmental harm caused by the release.

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TEL-4	Sewage overflow notification signs must be erected at appropriate locations (i.e. release points, publicly accessible locations), and public health messages must be distributed for land and waters that are impacted by releases where the releases may pose a public health risk.
TEL-5	You must notify Seqwater where releases of contaminants to land or water may adversely impact drinking water.
TEL-6	Subject to safe access requirements, until full functionality is restored, you must conduct a waterway sampling program on waterways affected by release of contaminants to waters that is not in accordance with conditions of environmental authority EPPR00521513. This program must include monitoring of at least the following parameters: dissolved oxygen, electrical conductivity, pH, total nitrogen, total phosphorus, enterococci, ammonia and turbidity.

Definitions:

Key terms and/or phrases used in this document are defined in this section and **bolded** throughout this document. Applicants should note that 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.

Applicable event means flooding of the Brisbane River, Breakfast Creek, Oxley Creek, Bremer River, Deebing Creek, Lockyer Creek, Tevlot Creek, Logan River and Brisbane River at Lowood, and any/all significant rainfall events occurring in the catchment reporting to the relevant sewage treatment plant from Friday 25th February 2022 to Friday 11 March 2022.

Bypass means when the standard treatment processes of the plant do not occur as a result of wet weather and inflows that are in excess of the peak design capacity for inflow resulting in the release of untreated or partially treated effluent from the sewage treatment plant to the environment.

Environmental harm as defined in Section 14 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

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

You means the holder of this temporary emissions license.

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Should you have any queries in relation to this notice, Liz Clarke, Manager, on telephone 0402 968 411 would be happy to assist you.



Signature

4 March 2022

Date

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

Enquiries:

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