

# 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:

MACKAY SUGAR LIMITED  
1 Racecourse Mill  
MACKAY QLD 4740

Email: S.Hayes-Stanley@mkysugar.com.au

Attention: Scott Hayes-Stanley

Your reference: EPPR00423513 / ENEL06902216  
Our reference: EPPR00423513 / ENEL06902216

#### **Application for a temporary emissions licence (TEL) to release contaminants to waters from Pond 2 at Racecourse Sugar Mill**

Thank you for your application for a temporary emissions licence. Your application, which was received by this office on **4 August 2016**, has been granted.

This Temporary Emissions License (TEL) (reference ENEL06902216) commences on **5 August 2016 and ends on 26 August 2016** or earlier as stated in the conditions of this temporary emissions licence.

The treated effluent described in this temporary emission licence consists of treated effluent from Pond 2 of Racecourse Mill Effluent Treatment Ponds.

This TEL overrides the following conditions of your environmental authority EPPR00423513 (formerly approval number ENDC00437305):

#### **Condition C4: Quality Characteristics of Release to Waters**

The release of contaminants to waters must comply, at the sampling and in situ measurement points specified above, with each of the limits specified in Table 1 of Schedule C for each quality characteristic.

#### **Condition C5: Biochemical Oxygen Demand**

Compliance with Schedule C Table 1 is deemed to be achieved if no one sample exceeds 58mg/L and no more than 30% of samples collected over a period of one year exceed 20mg/L.

#### **Condition C6: Suspended Solids**

Compliance with Schedule C Table 1 is deemed to be achieved if no one sample exceeds 88mg/L and no more than 30% of samples collected over a period of one year exceed 30mg/L.

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Schedule C – Table 1 – Release Quality Characteristic Limits

| Quality Characteristics                    | Release Point Number | Release Limit | Limit Type |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| 5-day Biogeochemical Oxygen Demands (mg/L) | W1, W2, W3, W4       | 20 mg/L       | Maximum    |
| Suspended Solids (mg/L)                    | W1, W2, W3, W4       | 30 mg/L       | Maximum    |
| pH (pH units)                              | W1, W2, W3, W4       | 6.5 – 8.5     | Range      |
| Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)                    | W1, W2, W3, W4       | 2.0 mg/L      | Minimum    |

## Temporary Emissions Licence Conditions

The TEL is granted subject to the following conditions:

## Commencement of contaminant release to waters:

**TEL1** The release of treated effluent to waters may commence when the **threshold for shutdown of operations** of the plant, described as Racecourse Sugar Mill, is reached due to the **anticipated applicable event**.

**Note:**

The **threshold for shutdown of operations** of the plant is described as: where a freeboard at the Racecourse Sugar Mill effluent ponds is 50mm or less.

The **anticipated applicable event** is described as: rainfall of up to 5mm forecast for the Mackay Region from 6 August 2016 and referred to in information provided in the application signed by Nicholas Harry dated 04 August 2016.

## Release of contaminants to waters

**TEL2** The release of treated effluent to waters must be mixed in equal part with a raw or recycled water source for the duration of the discharge.

**TEL3** The release of treated effluent to waters is only authorised to occur for seven (7) consecutive days from commencement of discharge.

**TEL4** The release of treated effluent to waters must only occur from the release point and source specified in **Table TEL1: Contaminant release points, sources and receiving waters** and depicted in **Attachment 1 – TEL Figure 1: Racecourse Mill Effluent Treatment Ponds Location**.

Table TEL1: Contaminant release points, sources and receiving waters

| Release Point (RP) | Racecourse Mill water source and location | Receiving waters description |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| RP W1              | Pond 2                                    | Rocky Creek                  |

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**TEL5** Monitoring of treated effluent from the authorised release point specified in **Table TEL1: Contaminant release points, sources and receiving waters** must comply with the requirements in **Table TEL2: Monitoring requirements for water releases from Pond 2** and associated requirements.

**Table TEL2: Monitoring requirements for water releases from Pond 2**

| Monitoring locations                                                       | Parameter                                  | Monitoring Frequency                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Spillway of Pond 2;                                                     | 5-day Biogeochemical Oxygen Demands (mg/L) | Daily during releases. The first sample must be taken within two (2) hours upon commencement of a release event. |
| 2. Receiving environment – upstream of spillway;                           | Suspended Solids (mg/L)                    |                                                                                                                  |
| 3. Receiving environment - downstream of spillway; and                     | pH (pH units)                              |                                                                                                                  |
| 4. Any other release point (see point f) in Associated requirements below) | Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)                    |                                                                                                                  |

**Associated requirements**

- Monitoring locations and samples must be representative of the contaminated water being released and receiving environment.
- All analyses required under this TEL must be carried out by a laboratory that has NATA certification, or an equivalent certification, for such analyses.
- The results of all sampling and analysis, including field analysis, must be provided to the administering authority on request.
- Water quality monitoring must be in accordance with the methods prescribed in the current edition of the administering authority's *Monitoring and Sampling Manual*.
- All monitoring devices must be calibrated and maintained according to the manufacturer's instruction manual.
- Any other release point is only applicable if uncontrolled releases occur from a point other than spillway.

**General conditions**

- TEL6** All reasonable and practicable measures must be taken to prevent or minimise environmental harm caused as a result of this temporary emissions licence (TEL).
- TEL7** All records must be kept for a period of at least five (5) years and provided to the administering authority upon request.
- TEL8** Notwithstanding any condition of this TEL, if the release of contaminated water causes adverse impact on an environmental value of the receiving environment, the holder of this TEL must take appropriate action/s to remedy the situation.

**Notification of release events**

**TEL9** The TEL holder must notify the administering authority as soon as practicable, but within twenty-four (24) hours, of commencement or cessation of releases authorised under this TEL.

**Environmental nuisance from odour**

- TEL10** Following the commencement of a release under this TEL, the TEL holder must undertake odour assessments of the receiving environment in accordance with, but not limited to, the following requirements:
- During release: daily assessments of receiving waters and any ponded water accumulated as a result of the release.
  - Following cessation of release: daily assessments of receiving waters and any ponded water accumulated as a result of the release.
  - Following cessation of release: the daily assessments are to be carried out for at least fourteen (14) days after the cessation of release. Monitoring may be ceased earlier if agreed to in writing by the administering authority.

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**TEL11** In the event that the release of contaminated water causes environmental nuisance in the form of odour, the TEL holder must take appropriate action/s to remedy the situation.

### Flushing of receiving waters

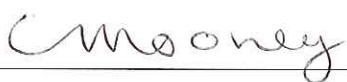
**TEL12** Within twenty-four (24) hours of cessation of all releases under this TEL, the TEL holder must flush receiving waters with raw or recycled water in accordance with the following requirements:

- a) Flushing must only occur from RP W1 or a point upstream of W1; and
- b) The quality characteristics of raw or recycled water used for flushing must not exceed the release limits stated in **Table TEL3: Flushing water release limits**

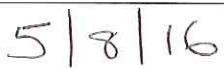
**Table TEL3: Flushing water release limits**

| Quality Characteristics                    | Release Limit | Limit Type |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 5-day Biogeochemical Oxygen Demands (mg/L) | 20 mg/L       | Maximum    |
| Suspended Solids (mg/L)                    | 30 mg/L       | Maximum    |
| pH (pH units)                              | 6.5 – 8.5     | Range      |
| Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)                    | 2.0 mg/L      | Minimum    |

Should you have any queries in relation to this notice, please contact Liz Clarke on telephone 3330 5922.



Signature



Date

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

### Enquiries:

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## Attachment 1

TEL Figure 1: Racecourse Mill Effluent Treatment Ponds Location

