



# Licence

## *Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V*

**Licensee:** Water Corporation

**Licence:** L6268/1991/10

**Registered office:** 629 Newcastle Street  
LEEDERVILLE WA 6007

**Premises address:** Halls Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Crown Reserve 40202, Lot 3001 on Plan 53871  
HALLS CREEK WA 6770  
as depicted in Schedule 1.

**Issue date:** Thursday, 31 October 2013

**Commencement date:** Friday, 1 November 2013

**Expiry date:** Thursday, 31 October 2030

**Prescribed premises category**  
Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987*

Category number	Category description	Category production or design capacity	Approved Premises production or design capacity
54	Sewage facility: premises – (a) on which sewage is treated (excluding septic tanks); or (b) from which treated sewage is discharged onto land or into waters.	100 m <sup>3</sup> or more per day	800 m <sup>3</sup> per day

### Conditions

This Licence is subject to the conditions set out in the attached pages.

Date signed: 21 July 2016

.....  
**Steve Checker**  
MANAGER LICENSING (WASTE INDUSTRIES)  
Officer delegated under section 20  
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*



## Contents

Licence	1
Contents	2
Introduction	2
Licence conditions	4
1 General	4
2 Monitoring	6
3 Improvements	7
4 Information	8
Schedule 1: Maps	10
Schedule 2: Reporting & notification forms	12

## Introduction

This Introduction is not part of the Licence conditions.

### DER's industry licensing role

The Department of Environment Regulation (DER) is a government department for the state of Western Australia in the portfolio of the Minister for Environment. DER's purpose is to advise on and implement strategies for a healthy environment for the benefit of all current and future Western Australians.

DER has responsibilities under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (the Act) for the licensing of prescribed premises. Through this process DER regulates to prevent, control and abate pollution and environmental harm to conserve and protect the environment. DER also monitors and audits compliance with works approvals and licence conditions, takes enforcement action as appropriate and develops and implements licensing and industry regulation policy.

### Licence requirements

This Licence is issued under Part V of the Act. Conditions contained within the Licence relate to the prevention, reduction or control of emissions and discharges to the environment and to the monitoring and reporting of them.

Where other statutory instruments impose obligations on the Premises/Licensee the intention is not to replicate them in the licence conditions. You should therefore ensure that you are aware of all your statutory obligations under the Act and any other statutory instrument. Legislation can be accessed through the State Law Publisher website using the following link: <http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/default.html>

For your Premises relevant statutory instruments include but are not limited to obligations under the:

- *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* – these Regulations make it an offence to discharge certain materials such as contaminated stormwater into the environment other than in the circumstances set out in the Regulations.
- *Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004* - these Regulations place obligations on you if you produce, accept, transport or dispose of controlled waste.
- *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* – these Regulations require noise emissions from the Premises to comply with the assigned noise levels set out in the Regulations.

You must comply with your licence. Non-compliance with your licence is an offence and strict penalties exist for those who do not comply.

Licence holders are also reminded of the requirements of section 53 of the Act which places restrictions on making certain changes to prescribed premises unless the changes are in accordance with a works approval, licence, closure notice or environmental protection notice.



**Licence fees**

If you have a licence that is issued for more than one year, you are required to pay an annual licence fee prior to the anniversary date of issue of your licence. Non payment of annual licence fees will result in your licence ceasing to have effect meaning that it will no longer be valid and you will need to apply for a new licence for your Premises.

**Ministerial conditions**

If your Premises has been assessed under Part IV of the Act you may have had conditions imposed by the Minister for Environment. You are required to comply with any conditions imposed by the Minister.

**Premises description and Licence summary**

The Halls Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is located 2.5km south-east of the Halls Creek townsite along the Duncan Highway. The WWTP is located within a priority P1 classified protection zone within the Halls Creek Water Reserve, as declared under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947*.

The WWTP was originally designed to treat wastewater to a secondary standard via two primary and two secondary treatment ponds and to discharge the treated water to China Wall Pool. On 5 February 1998 construction of an Evaporation Pond was finalised at the WWTP for the primary disposal of treated wastewater from the plant. Discharges to China Wall Pool were discontinued, with the exception of emergency discharges to prevent overtopping of the ponds during extreme rainfall events. The licence was re-issued on 27/01/1999 and amended to reflect this change.

This Licence is the result of an amendment sought by the Licensee to remove the requirement to maintain a suitable device for measuring cumulative volumes of treated wastewater discharged from the WWTP, and to enable in-field non-NATA accredited sampling for pH.

The licences and works approvals issued for the Premises since 17/09/1996 are:

Instrument log		
Instrument	Issued	Description
6268	17/09/1996	Licence re-issue with conditions, licensed capacity of 400m <sup>3</sup> /day
6268/1	27/01/1999	Licence re-issue, increase licensed capacity to 600m <sup>3</sup> /day, amend conditions.
6268/2	07/10/1999	Licence re-issue
6268/3	06/10/2000	Licence re-issue, increase licensed capacity to 800m <sup>3</sup> /day, amend conditions.
6268/4	04/10/2001	Licence re-issue, amend conditions.
6268/5	02/10/2002	Licence re-issue
6268/6	22/09/2003	Licence re-issue
6268/7	05/10/2004	Licence re-issue, amend conditions, add complaints, add measuring cumulative volumes of treated wastewater discharged, amend desludging, amend monitoring, remove maintain sample point.
L6268/8	26/10/2006	Licence re-issue
L6268/1991/9	31/10/2008	Licence re-issue, amend conditions, add AACR, add maintain sample point.
L6268/1991/10	31/10/2013	Licence re-issue, update format.
L6268/1991/10	29/04/2016	Administrative amendment to extend the duration of the Licence expiry date.
L6268/1991/10	21/07/2016	Licence amendment, amend pH in field non-NATA sampling, delete flow meter, update to v2.9 format.

**Severance**

It is the intent of these Licence conditions that they shall operate so that, if a condition or a part of a condition is beyond the power of this Licence to impose, or is otherwise *ultra vires* or invalid, that condition or part of a condition shall be severed and the remainder of these conditions shall nevertheless be valid to the extent that they are within the power of this Licence to impose and are not otherwise *ultra vires* or invalid.

**END OF INTRODUCTION**



## Licence conditions

### 1 General

#### 1.1 Interpretation

1.1.1 In the Licence, definitions from the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* apply unless the contrary intention appears.

1.1.2 For the purposes of this Licence, unless the contrary intention appears:

**'Act'** means the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

**'annual period'** means the inclusive period from 1 July the previous year and ending on 30 June in that year;

**'AS/NZS 2031'** means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 2031 *Selection of containers and preservation of water samples for microbiological analysis*;

**'AS/NZS 5667.1'** means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.1 *Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance of the Design of sampling programs, sampling techniques and the preservation and handling of samples*;

**'AS/NZS 5667.10'** means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.10 *Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance on sampling of waste waters*;

**'averaging period'** means the time over which a limit is measured or a monitoring result is obtained;

**'CEO'** means Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation;

**'CEO'** for the purpose of correspondence means;

Chief Executive Officer  
Department Administering the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*  
Locked Bag 33  
CLOISTERS SQUARE WA 6850  
Email: [info@der.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@der.wa.gov.au)

**'extreme rainfall event'** means a 1 in 10 year rainfall event of 72 hours duration;

**'freeboard'** means the distance between the maximum water surface elevations and the top of retaining banks or structures at their lowest point;

**'hardstand'** means a surface with a permeability of  $10^{-9}$  metres/second or less;

**'Licence'** means this Licence numbered L6268/1991/10 and issued under the Act;

**'Licensee'** means the person or organisation named as Licensee on page 1 of the Licence;

**'NATA'** means the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia;

**'NATA accredited'** means in relation to the analysis of a sample that the laboratory is NATA accredited for the specified analysis at the time of the analysis;

**'Premises'** means the area defined in the Premises Map in Schedule 1 and listed as the Premises address on page 1 of the Licence;



**'quarterly'** means the 4 inclusive periods from 1 July to 30 September and 1 October to 31 December and in the following year, 1 January to 31 March and 1 April to 30 June;

**'Schedule 1'** means Schedule 1 of this Licence unless otherwise stated; and

**'Schedule 2'** means Schedule 2 of this Licence unless otherwise stated.

1.1.3 Any reference to an Australian or other standard in the Licence means the relevant parts of the standard in force from time to time during the term of this Licence.

1.1.4 Any reference to a guideline or code of practice in the Licence means the version of that guideline or code of practice in force from time to time, and shall include any amendments or replacements to that guideline or code of practice made during the term of this Licence.

**1.2 General conditions**

1.2.1 The Licensee shall immediately recover, or remove and dispose of spills of sewage, partially treated sewage and sewage sludge outside an engineered containment system.

1.2.2 The Licensee shall ensure stormwater run-off:  
(a) is prevented from entering the two Facultative Treatment Ponds, the two Maturation Ponds and the Evaporation Pond; and  
(b) is prevented from causing erosion of the outer pond embankments.

**1.3 Premises operation**

1.3.1 The Licensee shall record and investigate the exceedance of any descriptive or numerical limit in this section.

1.3.2 The Licensee shall only allow waste to be accepted onto the Premises if  
(a) it is of a type listed in Table 1.3.1;  
(b) the quantity accepted is below any limit listed in Table 1.3.1; and  
(c) it meets any specification listed in Table 1.3.1.

<b>Table 1.3.1: Waste acceptance</b>			
<b>Waste</b>	<b>Waste Code</b>	<b>Quantity Limit</b>	<b>Specification</b>
Sewage	N/A	800 m <sup>3</sup> per day (as a monthly average)	Accepted through the Rising Main.

1.3.3 The Licensee shall ensure that the wastes accepted onto the Premises are only subjected to the processes set out in Table 1.3.2 and in accordance with any process limits described in Table 1.3.2.

<b>Table 1.3.2: Waste processing</b>		
<b>Waste Type</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Process Requirement</b>
Sewage	Biological, physical and chemical treatment	Treatment of sewage waste shall not exceed the treatment capacity 800 m <sup>3</sup> per day (as a monthly average).
Sewage sludge	Storage	In accordance with the document titled 'Western Australian guidelines for biosolids management' (Department of Environment and Conservation 2012) as amended from time to time.
Treated wastewater	Disposal	Disposal to the Evaporation Pond.
	Emergency Discharge	To China Wall Pool only as a result of rainfall in excess of an extreme rainfall event and to prevent over topping of the Evaporation Pond.



1.3.4 The Licensee shall ensure that waste material is only sorted and/or treated within vessels or compounds provided with the infrastructure detailed in Table 1.3.3.

<b>Table 1.3.3: Containment infrastructure</b>		
<b>Vessel or Compound</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
Primary Treatment Pond	Wastewater	Two ponds lined with clay.
Secondary Treatment Pond	Wastewater	Two ponds lined with clay.
Evaporation Pond	Treated wastewater	Lined with clay.
Sludge Drying Area	Sewage Sludge	To be constructed as required. Bunded and lined to achieve hydraulic permeability of $1 \times 10^{-9}$ m/s or less, and returns sludge leachate to the start of the treatment process.

1.3.5 The Licensee shall manage all wastewater treatment ponds such that:

- (a) overtopping of the ponds does not occur;
- (b) a freeboard equal to, or greater than, 200mm is maintained in the two Facultative Treatment Ponds, the two Maturation Ponds and the Evaporation Pond;
- (c) the integrity of the containment infrastructure is maintained;
- (d) trapped overflows are maintained on the outlet of ponds to prevent carry-over of surface floating matter; and
- (e) vegetation and floating debris (emergent or otherwise) is prevented from encroaching onto pond surfaces or inner pond embankments.

1.3.6 The Licensee shall dispose of all grit, screenings, sludge and biosolids to a licensed landfill facility.

## 2 Monitoring

### 2.1 General monitoring

2.1.1 The Licensee shall ensure that:

- (a) all water samples are collected and preserved in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.1;
- (b) all wastewater sampling is conducted in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.10;
- (c) all microbiological samples are collected and preserved in accordance with AS/NZS 2031;
- (d) all laboratory samples are submitted to and tested by a laboratory with current NATA accreditation for the parameters being measured, unless indicated otherwise in the relevant table.

2.1.2 The Licensee shall ensure that quarterly monitoring is undertaken at least 45 days apart.

2.1.3 The Licensee shall ensure that the flow meter used to comply with the conditions of this Licence is calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

2.1.4 Where the requirements for sampling, calibration or maintenance cannot be practicably met, or a discrepancy exists in the interpretation of the requirements, the Licensee shall bring these issues to the attention of the CEO accompanied with a report comprising details of any modifications to the methods.





## 2.2 Monitoring of inputs and outputs

2.2.1 The Licensee shall undertake the monitoring in Table 2.2.1 according to the specifications in that table.

Table 2.2.1: Monitoring of inputs and outputs					
Input/Output	Monitoring Point Reference	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
Sewage – Inlet Flow	Wellman St SPS	Volumetric flow rate (cumulative)	m <sup>3</sup> per day	Monthly	Continuous

## 2.3 Process monitoring

2.3.1 The Licensee shall undertake the monitoring in Table 2.3.1 according to the specifications in that table.

Table 2.3.1: Process monitoring				
Monitoring point reference	Process description	Parameter	Units	Frequency
S2	Discharge from wastewater treatment plant to Evaporation Pond	pH <sup>1</sup> ;	-	Quarterly
		Total Suspended Solids;	mg/L	
		Total Dissolved Solids;	mg/L	
		Biochemical Oxygen Demand;	mg/L	
		Total Nitrogen;	mg/L	
		Ammonium Nitrogen;	mg/L	
		Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen;	mg/L	
		Total Phosphorus; and <i>E. coli</i> .	mg/L CFU/100mL	

Note 1: In field non-NATA accredited analysis permitted.

# 3 Improvements

## 3.1 Improvement program

3.1.1 The Licensee shall complete the improvements in Table 3.1.1 by the date of completion in Table 3.1.1.

Table 3.1.1: Improvement program		
Improvement reference	Improvement	Date of completion
IR1	The Licensee shall determine the permeability of the clay liners of the two Facultative Treatment Ponds, the two Maturation Ponds and the Evaporation Pond and submit a report to the CEO that advises the outcome.	31 December 2016



## 4 Information

### 4.1 Records

4.1.1 All information and records required by the Licence shall:

- (a) be legible;
- (b) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original and subsequent amendments remain legible or are capable of retrieval;
- (c) except for records listed in 4.1.1(d) be retained for at least 6 years from the date the records were made or until the expiry of the Licence or any subsequent licence; and
- (d) for those following records, be retained until the expiry of the Licence and any subsequent licence:
  - (i) off-site environmental effects; or
  - (ii) matters which affect the condition of the land or waters.

4.1.2 The Licensee shall complete an Annual Audit Compliance Report indicating the extent to which the Licensee has complied with the conditions of the Licence, and any previous licence issued under Part V of the Act for the Premises for the previous annual period.

4.1.3 The Licensee shall implement a complaints management system that as a minimum records the number and details of complaints received concerning the environmental impact of the activities undertaken at the Premises and any action taken in response to the complaint.

### 4.2 Reporting

4.2.1 The Licensee shall submit to the CEO an Annual Environmental Report within 63 calendar days after the end of the annual period. The report shall contain the information listed in Table 4.2.1 in the format or form specified in that table, which was collected during the annual period.

<b>Table 4.2.1: Annual Environmental Report</b>		
<b>Condition or table (if relevant)</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Format or form<sup>1</sup></b>
-	Summary of any failure or malfunction of any pollution control equipment and any environmental incidents that have occurred during the annual period and any action taken	None specified
Table 1.3.1	Waste acceptance	Tabular
Table 1.3.2	Waste processing	Tabular
Table 2.2.1	Monitoring of inputs and outputs	Tabular and Graphical
Table 2.3.1	Process monitoring	Tabular and Graphical
4.1.2	Compliance	Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR)
4.1.3	Complaints summary	None specified

Note 1: Forms are in Schedule 2

4.2.2 The Licensee shall ensure that the Annual Environmental Report also contains:

- (a) an assessment of the information contained within the report against previous monitoring results from the previous three annual periods;
- (b) any changes to site boundaries, location of groundwater monitoring bores, surface drainage channels and on-site or off-site impacts or pollution that occurred during the annual period; and
- (c) quantities of sludge removed during each desludging event that occurred during the annual period.





4.2.3 The Licensee shall submit the information in Table 4.2.2 to the CEO according to the specifications in that table.

<b>Table 4.2.2: Non-annual reporting requirements</b>				
<b>Condition or table (if relevant)</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Reporting period</b>	<b>Reporting date (after end of the reporting period)</b>	<b>Format or form<sup>1</sup></b>
-	Copies of original monitoring reports submitted to the Licensee by third parties	Not Applicable	Within 14 days of the CEOs request	As received by the Licensee from third parties

### 4.3 Notification

4.3.1 The Licensee shall ensure that the parameters listed in Table 4.3.1 are notified to the CEO in accordance with the notification requirements of the table.

<b>Table 4.3.1: Notification requirements</b>			
<b>Condition or table (if relevant)</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Notification requirement<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Format or form<sup>2</sup></b>
1.3.2 1.3.3 1.3.5	Breach of any limit specified in the Licence	As soon as practicable but no later than 5pm of the next usual working day.	N1
1.3.4	Desludging event	No less than 14 days prior to any desludging event, advise: (a) the dates that desludging is intended to occur; (b) the method by which the wastewater treatment pond is to be desludged; (c) the proposed action to mitigate potential impact of odour emissions; and (d) the method by which the community will be advised of the desludging activities.	Written notice

Note 1: Notification requirements in the Licence shall not negate the requirement to comply with s72 of the Act

Note 2: Forms are in Schedule 2



## Schedule 1: Maps

### Premises map

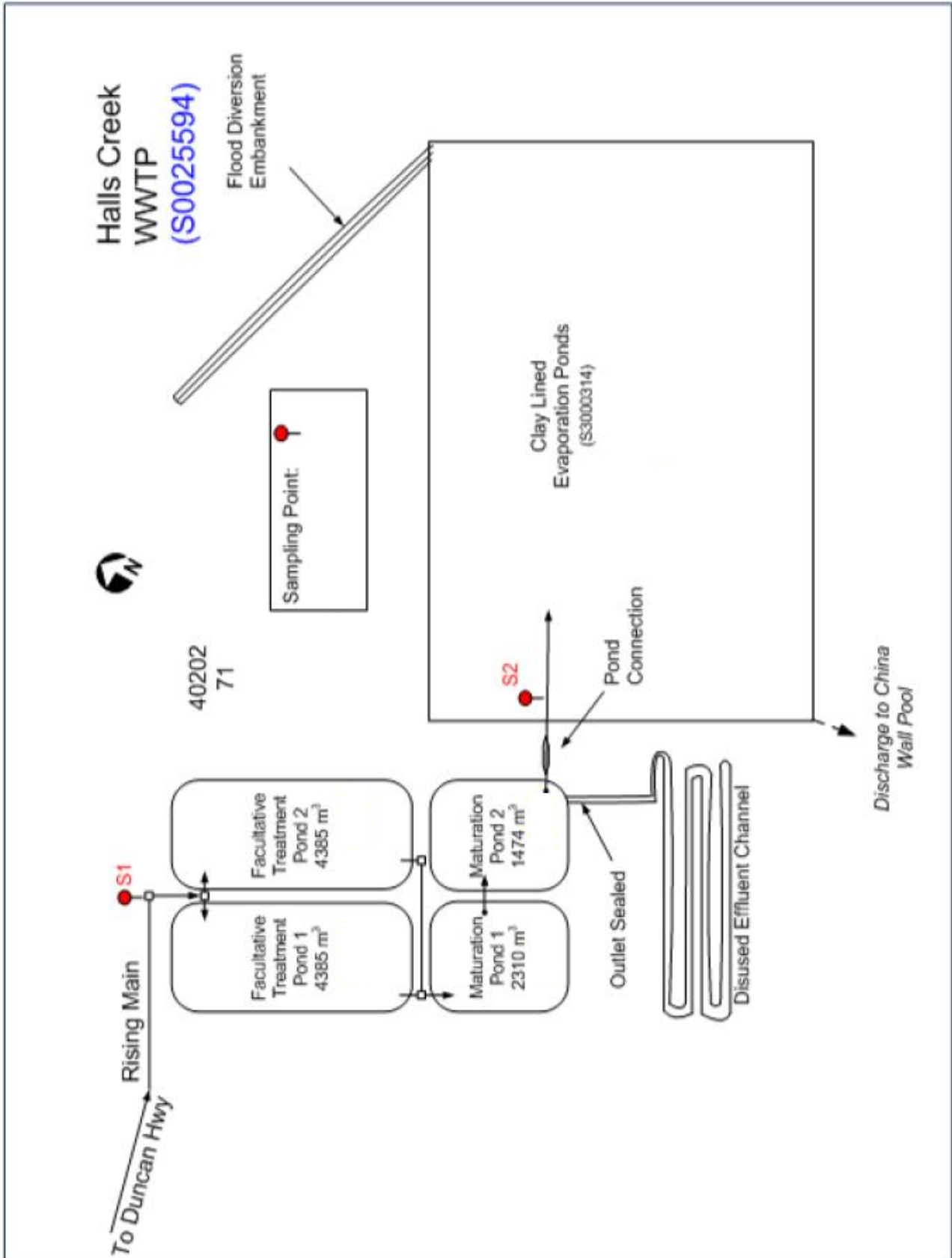
The Premises is shown in the map below. The red line depicts the Premises boundary.





### Map of monitoring locations

The locations of the monitoring points defined in Tables 2.2.1 and 2.3.1 are shown below.





## Schedule 2: Reporting & notification forms

These forms are provided for the proponent to report monitoring and other data required by the Licence. They can be requested in an electronic format.

---

### ANNUAL AUDIT COMPLIANCE REPORT PROFORMA

#### SECTION A LICENCE DETAILS

Licence Number:	Licence File Number:
Company Name:	ABN:
Trading as:	
Reporting period: _____ to _____	

#### STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. Were all conditions of the Licence complied with within the reporting period? (please tick the appropriate box)

Yes  Please proceed to Section C

No  Please proceed to Section B

Each page must be initialled by the person(s) who signs Section C of this Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR).

Initial:



## **SECTION B**

### **DETAILS OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH LICENCE CONDITION.**

Please use a separate page for each Licence condition that was not complied with.

a) Licence condition not complied with:	
b) Date(s) when the non compliance occurred, if applicable:	
c) Was this non compliance reported to DER?:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to DER verbally Date _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to DER in writing Date _____	<input type="checkbox"/> No
d) Has DER taken, or finalised any action in relation to the non compliance?:	
e) Summary of particulars of the non compliance, and what was the environmental impact:	
f) If relevant, the precise location where the non compliance occurred (attach map or diagram):	
g) Cause of non compliance:	
h) Action taken, or that will be taken to mitigate any adverse effects of the non compliance:	
i) Action taken or that will be taken to prevent recurrence of the non compliance:	

Each page must be initialled by the person(s) who signs Section C of this AACR

Initial:





## SECTION C

### SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION

This Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR) may only be signed by a person(s) with legal authority to sign it. The ways in which the AACR must be signed and certified, and the people who may sign the statement, are set out below.

Please tick the box next to the category that describes how this AACR is being signed. If you are uncertain about who is entitled to sign or which category to tick, please contact the licensing officer for your premises.

If the licence holder is		The Annual Audit Compliance Report must be signed and certified:
An individual	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the individual licence holder, or by a person approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation to sign on the licensee's behalf.
A firm or other unincorporated company	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the principal executive officer of the licensee; or by a person with authority to sign on the licensee's behalf who is approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation.
A corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by affixing the common seal of the licensee in accordance with the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> ; or by two directors of the licensee; or by a director and a company secretary of the licensee, or if the licensee is a proprietary company that has a sole director who is also the sole company secretary – by that director, or by the principal executive officer of the licensee; or by a person with authority to sign on the licensee's behalf who is approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation.
A public authority (other than a local government)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the principal executive officer of the licensee; or by a person with authority to sign on the licensee's behalf who is approved in writing by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation.
a local government	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by the chief executive officer of the licensee; or by affixing the seal of the local government.

It is an offence under section 112 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* for a person to give information on this form that to their knowledge is false or misleading in a material particular. There is a maximum penalty of \$50,000 for an individual or body corporate.

I/We declare that the information in this annual audit compliance report is correct and not false or misleading in a material particular.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME:  
(printed) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME:  
(printed) \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

SEAL (if signing under seal)





Licence: L6268/1991/10 Licensee: Water Corporation  
Form: N1 Date of breach:

**Notification of detection of the breach of a limit.**

These pages outline the information that the operator must provide.  
Units of measurement used in information supplied under Part A and B requirements shall be appropriate to the circumstances of the emission. Where appropriate, a comparison should be made of actual emissions and authorised emission limits.

**Part A**

Licence Number	
Name of operator	
Location of Premises	
Time and date of the detection	

<b>Notification requirements for the breach of a limit</b>	
Emission point reference/ source	
Parameter(s)	
Limit	
Measured value	
Date and time of monitoring	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to stop the emission	



## Part B

Any more accurate information on the matters for notification under Part A.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to prevent a recurrence of the incident.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to rectify, limit or prevent any pollution of the environment which has been or may be caused by the emission.	
The dates of any previous N1 notifications for the Premises in the preceding 24 months.	

Name	
Post	
Signature on behalf of Water Corporation	
Date	



# Decision Document

## *Environmental Protection Act 1986, Part V*

---

**Licensee:** Water Corporation

**Licence:** L6268/1991/10

---

**Registered office:** 629 Newcastle Street  
LEEDERVILLE WA 6007

**Premises address:** Halls Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Crown Reserve 40202, Lot 3001 on Plan 53871  
HALLS CREEK WA 6770  
as depicted in Schedule 1.

**Issue date:** Thursday, 31 October 2013

**Commencement date:** Friday, 1 November 2013

**Expiry date:** Thursday, 31 October 2030

### Decision

Based on the assessment detailed in this document a decision has been made to issue an amended licence. In reaching this decision, all relevant considerations have been taken into account.

Decision Document prepared by: Sarah Greenwood  
Licensing Officer

Decision Document authorised by: Delegated Officer



## Contents

Decision Document	1
Contents	2
1 Purpose of this Document	2
2 Administrative summary	3
3 Executive summary of proposal and assessment	4
4 Decision table	5
5 Advertisement and consultation table	10
6 Risk Assessment	11

### 1 Purpose of this Document

This decision document explains how DER has assessed and determined the application and provides a record of DER's decision-making process and how relevant factors have been taken into account. Stakeholders should note that this document is limited to DER's assessment and decision making under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Other approvals may be required for the proposal, and it is the proponent's responsibility to ensure they have all relevant approvals for their Premises.



## 2 Administrative summary

Administrative details									
Application type	Works Approval <input type="checkbox"/> New Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Licence amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Works Approval amendment <input type="checkbox"/>								
Activities that cause the premises to become prescribed premises	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category number(s)</th> <th>Assessed design capacity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>54</td> <td>800 m<sup>3</sup> per day</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category number(s)	Assessed design capacity	54	800 m <sup>3</sup> per day				
	Category number(s)	Assessed design capacity							
	54	800 m <sup>3</sup> per day							
Application verified	Date: NA								
Application fee paid	Date: NA								
Works Approval has been complied with	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Compliance Certificate received	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Commercial-in-confidence claim	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Commercial-in-confidence claim outcome									
Is the proposal a Major Resource Project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Was the proposal referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Part IV of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral decision No: Managed under Part V <input type="checkbox"/> Assessed under Part IV <input type="checkbox"/>								
Is the proposal subject to Ministerial Conditions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ministerial statement No: EPA Report No:								
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> )?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Water consulted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes include details of which EPP(s) here.								
Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If Yes, include details here, eg Site is subject to SO <sub>2</sub> requirements of Kwinana EPP.								



### **3 Executive summary of proposal and assessment**

The WWTP was originally designed to treat wastewater to a secondary standard via two primary and two secondary treatment ponds and discharge the treated water to China Wall Pool.

On 5 February 1998 construction of an Evaporation Pond was finalised at the WWTP to dispose of all treated wastewater from the plant. Discharges to China Wall Pool were discontinued, with the exception of emergency discharges to prevent overtopping of the ponds during extreme rainfall events. The licence was re-issued on 27/01/1999 and amended to reflect this change.

This Licence is the result of an amendment sought by the Licensee to remove the requirement to maintain a suitable device for measuring cumulative volumes of treated wastewater discharged from the WWTP, and to enable in-field non-NATA accredited sampling for pH.

This amendment does not modify current licensed activities and does not increase discharges from the premises, therefore this partial decision document does not reassess all emissions and discharges from the premises.





## 4 Decision table

All applications are assessed in line with the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* and DER's Operational Procedure on Assessing Emissions and Discharges from Prescribed Premises. Where other references have been used in making the decision they are detailed in the decision document.

DECISION TABLE			
Works Approval / Licence section	Condition number W = Works Approval L= Licence	Justification (including risk description & decision methodology where relevant)	Reference documents
General conditions	L1.2	<p>Previous licence condition 4 (a) has been converted to condition 1.2.2 and amended to include specific infrastructure and processes on site for stormwater management at the WWTP.</p> <p><u>Emission Description</u>  <i>Emission:</i> Discharges to land and groundwater of from spills of sewage or untreated wastewater on unlined areas of the premises.  <i>Impact:</i> Contamination of the Priority P1 Public Drinking Water Source Area, the surrounding land and surface water drainage systems from the addition of nutrients.  <i>Controls:</i> 'closed – system' with minimal potential for discharges.</p> <p><u>Risk Assessment</u>  <i>Consequence:</i> Minor  <i>Likelihood:</i> Possible  <i>Risk Rating:</i> Moderate</p> <p><u>Regulatory Controls</u>            Licence condition 1.2.1 has been included to require clean-up of any spills of waste regulated under the licence. Expedient clean-up of spilled material outside of lined cantonment infrastructure will mitigate the risk of contaminants impacting groundwater.</p> <p><u>Residual Risk</u>  <i>Consequence:</i> Minor  <i>Likelihood:</i> Rare  <i>Risk Rating:</i> Low</p>	Application supporting documentation



<b>DECISION TABLE</b>			
<b>Works Approval / Licence section</b>	<b>Condition number W = Works Approval L= Licence</b>	<b>Justification (including risk description &amp; decision methodology where relevant)</b>	<b>Reference documents</b>
<b>Premises operation</b>	L1.3	<p>Previous licence condition 11 has been converted to condition 1.3.3.            Previous licence condition 12 has been converted to condition 1.3.6            Previous licence conditions 14, 15 and 16 have been converted to condition 1.3.4.            Previous licence condition 4 has been converted to condition 1.3.5.            Previous condition 4 (c) relating to discernible seepage loss has not been included in the amended licence as the term discernible is not considered sufficiently objective or certain to enable compliance to be accurately determined.            As descriptive and numerical limits have been included on the licence at conditions 1.3.2, 1.3.3 and 1.3.5, licence condition 1.3.1 has been included to ensure exceedances of these limits is recorded and investigated.            Licence condition 1.3.2 has been included on the licence to specify the type and quantity of waste permitted to be accepted at the premises, and the method of acceptance.</p>	
<b>Monitoring general</b>	L2.1	<p>Previous licence conditions 8 and 9 have been converted to condition 2.1.1.            Licence condition 2.1.2 has been included on the licence to give definition to the monitoring required by condition 2.3.1.            Licence conditions 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 have been included on the licence to ensure maintenance of the measuring device on the Rising Main to ensure measurements of the cumulative volumetric flow rate of untreated wastewater entering the wastewater treatment plant are accurate.</p>	
<b>Monitoring of inputs and outputs</b>	L2.2	<p>There is no flow meter installed at the premises to measure cumulative volumes of treated wastewater discharged from the treatment plant. As the plant operates as a 'closed-system' where discharge is to an evaporation pond, the requirement for metering this discharge is considered redundant. Previous licence condition 5 required the maintenance of a device to measure discharge from the premises, and has not been incorporated into the amended licence.</p>	Application supporting documentation



DECISION TABLE			
Works Approval / Licence section	Condition number W = Works Approval L = Licence	Justification (including risk description & decision methodology where relevant)	Reference documents
		<p>This requirement may be revisited should the liner investigation (see 'Improvements' section below) indicate that the system is not closed. Emergency discharges to China Wall Pool have reportedly not occurred in the previous 4 years.</p> <p>The Licensee has advised a measuring device is installed on the rising main at the outlet of the Wellman St SPS to measure the cumulative volumetric flow rate of untreated wastewater entering the wastewater treatment plant. Licence condition 2.2.1 has been included on the licence to require this measurement.</p> <p>Due to the inclusion of condition 2.2.1, the requirement under previous licence condition 6 to maintain a sampling point in the outlet pipe is considered redundant and has not been included in the amended licence.</p>	
Process monitoring	L2.3	<p>Previous licence condition 7 has been converted to condition 2.3.1.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with AS/NZS 5667 when analysing for pH, the sample must be received by the laboratory within 6 hours of the sample being taken. As the WWTP is located remotely and the designated NATA accredited laboratory is located in Perth, the Licensee cannot meet this timeframe. As such, the Licensee has applied to amend the licence to enable in field, non-NATA accredited analysis for pH samples - which is consistent with license requirements for similar remote sites. Condition 2.3.1 has been amended accordingly.</p>	Application supporting documentation
Improvements	L3.1	<p><b>Operation</b> <u>Emission Description</u> <i>Emission:</i> Discharges to land and groundwater of untreated wastewater from the two Facultative Treatment Ponds, the two Maturation Ponds and treated wastewater from the disposal (Evaporation) pond via infiltration.</p>	Application supporting documentation



DECISION TABLE			
Works Approval / Licence section	Condition number W = Works Approval L = Licence	Justification (including risk description & decision methodology where relevant)	Reference documents
		<p><i>Impact:</i> Contamination of the Priority P1 Public Drinking Water Source Area, the surrounding land and surface water drainage systems from the addition of nutrients.</p> <p><i>Controls:</i> The Licensee has advised DER that the two Facultative Treatment Ponds, the two Maturation Ponds and the disposal (Evaporation) pond were constructed with a compacted layer of clay.</p> <p><u>Risk Assessment</u>  <i>Consequence:</i> Major  <i>Likelihood:</i> Possible  <i>Risk Rating:</i> High</p> <p><u>Regulatory Controls</u>            The Licensee cannot provide documented evidence that the permeability of the liners meet a suitable standard in order to mitigate the risk of untreated or treated wastewater being discharged into the Priority P1 Public Drinking Water Source Area.</p> <p>Licence condition 3.1.1 has been included on the licence for the Licensee to investigate to determine the permeability of the clay liners of the two Facultative Treatment Ponds, the two Maturation Ponds and the Evaporation Pond and submit to the CEO a report that advises the outcome.</p> <p>Pending the outcome of the investigation, DER will reconsider the potential for emissions to land and/or groundwater. Further regulatory controls may be included on the licence to reduce risk.</p> <p><u>Residual Risk</u>  <i>Consequence:</i> Major  <i>Likelihood:</i> Possible  <i>Risk Rating:</i> High</p>	



<b>DECISION TABLE</b>			
<b>Works Approval / Licence section</b>	<b>Condition number W = Works Approval L = Licence</b>	<b>Justification (including risk description &amp; decision methodology where relevant)</b>	<b>Reference documents</b>
<b>Information</b>	L4.1 L4.2 L4.3	Previous licence conditions 1 and 10 have been converted to condition 4.2.1. Previous licence condition 2 has been converted to condition 4.1.3. Previous licence condition 3 has been converted to condition 4.1.2. Previous licence condition 13 has been converted to condition 4.3.1 and amended to include instructions for notifications to the CEO. Licence conditions 4.1.1, 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 have been included on the licence to instruct on record keeping and reporting. Due to the inclusion of condition 4.3.1 on the licence, condition 4.2.2 (c) has been added to the licence for reporting requirements.	
<b>Licence Duration</b>	NA	An administrative amendment was granted on 29 April 2016 to extend the duration of the Licence expiry date until 31 October 2030. No alteration of this date is proposed as part of this amendment.	



## 5 Advertisement and consultation table

Date	Event	Comments received/Notes	How comments were taken into consideration
24/06/2016	Draft amended licence provided to the Licensee for comment.	<p>The Licensee provided comments via email on 18/07/2016 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of quarterly to reflect the annual reporting period of the licence;</li> <li>• The licence to reflect that the sludge drying area need only be constructed when required;</li> <li>• Table numbering to reflect condition it is applicable to;</li> <li>• Correct text within condition 1.3.4 referring to the subsequent table;</li> <li>• The flow meter is located off the premises, on the rising main at the outlet of the Wellman St SPS;</li> <li>• The flow meter is not referenced as S1 Rising Main;</li> <li>• The improvement condition can be achieved by 31/12/2016; and</li> <li>• To remain consistent with the original licence the AER is to be lodged by 1<sup>st</sup> September annually, which equates to 63 calendar days after the end of the annual period.</li> </ul>	<p>The draft licence was amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of quarterly amended to reflect the annual reporting period of the licence;</li> <li>• Amend the licence at condition 1.3.4 to reflect that the sludge drying area need only be constructed when required;</li> <li>• Table numbering to remain reflective of sequential tables in each section of the licence in accordance with the accepted licence format;</li> <li>• Text within condition 1.3.4 amended to refer to Table 1.3.3;</li> <li>• Amend the licence at condition 2.1.3 to remove the text “on the premises”;</li> <li>• Amend the licence at condition 2.2.1 within Table 2.2.1 so Monitoring Point Reference reads “Wellman St SPS”;</li> <li>• The due date at condition 3.1.1 within Table 3.1.1 remains as 31/12/2016; and</li> <li>• Amend the licence at condition 4.2.1 to read “within 63 calendar days”.</li> </ul>





## 6 Risk Assessment

Note: This matrix is taken from the DER Corporate Policy Statement No. 07 - Operational Risk Management

**Table 1: Emissions Risk Matrix**

Likelihood	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Almost Certain	Moderate	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Extreme
Possible	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	Extreme
Unlikely	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	High
Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High