



Licence Number L6786/1991/11

Licence Holder Water Corporation

File Number: DER2016/000759

Premises

Albany Wastewater Treatment Plant
100 Timewell Road
MCKAIL WA 6330; and
35790 Albany Highway (Access via Gunn Road)
DROME WA 6330

Legal description –

Lot 1 on Diagram 44295, Lot 2 on Diagram 43845, Lot 749 on Plan 100633, Lot 815 on Plan 101284, Lot 3325 on Plan 79932, Lot 4822 on Plan 157224 and Lot 10 on Diagram 84694 (including the Albany Septage Facility), as depicted in Schedule 1.

Date of Amendment 23 March 2018

Amendment

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has amended the above Licence in accordance with section 59 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) as set out in this Amendment Notice. This Amendment Notice constitutes written notice of the amendment in accordance with section 59B(9) of the EP Act.

Date signed: 23 March 2018

Steve Checker

MANAGER LICENSING (WASTE INDUSTRIES)

an officer delegated under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)

Definitions and interpretation

Definitions

In this Amendment Notice, the terms in Table 1 have the meanings defined.

Table 1: Definitions

Term	Definition
Amendment Notice	refers to this document
CEO	means Chief Executive Officer. CEO for the purposes of notification means: Director General Department Administering the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> Locked Bag 33 Cloisters Square PERTH WA 6850 info@dwer.wa.gov.au
CS Act	<i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003 (WA)</i>
Delegated Officer	an officer under section 20 of the EP Act
Department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> and designated as responsible for the administration of Part V, Division 3 of the EP Act.
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)</i>
EP Regulations	<i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987 (WA)</i>
Existing Licence	The Licence issued under Part V, Division 3 of the EP Act and in force prior to the commencement of and during this Review
Licence Holder	Water Corporation
m ³	cubic metres
Occupier	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.
Prescribed Premises	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.
Premises	refers to the premises to which this amendment notice applies, as specified at the front of this document.
UDR	<i>Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 (WA)</i>

Amendment Notice

This amendment is made pursuant to section 59 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) to amend the licence issued under the EP Act for a prescribed premises as set out below. This notice of amendment is given under section 59B(9) of the EP Act.

The amendment is a DWER initiated amendment and is limited only to administrative changes to the following:

1. Change to current wording within the introduction section of the Licence (pg. 3 of 21), previously identified within Amendment Notice 1 as amendment number 6 of the Licence;
2. Change to current wording within Condition 3.3.1, Table 3.3.1 of the Licence, previously identified within Amendment Notice 1 as amendment number 7.

The Delegated Officer authorised a DWER initiated administrative change to a previous Licence Holder initiated amendment. The amendment is to rectify an administrative error in the description of the source of controlled waste received to the septage pond at Tree Farm 1.

The administrative change was approved in writing via email to Brian Scott, Water Corporation, on 6 March 2018 by the Delegated Officer.

The following guidance statements have informed the decision made on this amendment:

- *Guidance Statement: Regulatory Principles (July 2015)*
- *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions (October 2015)*
- *Guidance Statement: Decision Making (February 2017)*
- *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessment (February 2017)*
- *Guidance Statement: Environmental Siting (November 2016)*

Amendment description

A descriptive error in the location/ source of controlled waste received to Tree Farm 1 - septage plant, was previously identified in Amendment Notice 1 as being from reticulated sewerage waste received from a single SPS at Timewell Road Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Water Corporation informed DWER via email on 6 March 2018 that the source of the controlled waste is from various locations within the City of Albany, from multiple sewerage pump stations (SPS), and not solely from a single SPS at Timewell Road Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Delegated Officer authorised that the wording of two aspects of the Licence be amended to reflect multiple sources of SPS locations for the removal and transfer of sewerage waste (as a result of annual cleanouts) to Tree Farm 1 – septage plant, and not only Timewell Road Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Amendment history

Table 2 provides the amendment history for L6786/1991/11.

Table 2: Licence amendments

Instrument	Issued	Amendment
L6786/1991/5	04/10/2000	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/6	10/09/2001	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/7	11/10/2002	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/8	06/10/2003	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/9	21/09/2004	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/10	27/09/2007	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/10	20/01/2011	Licence amendment – significant review of operations
L6786/1991/10	28/04/2011	Licence amendment – improvement condition to install soil probes
L6786/1991/10	08/09/2011	Licence amendment – removal of septage plant
L6786/1991/11	27/09/2012	Licence re-issue
L6786/1991/11	24/09/2015	Licence amendment – changes to soil moisture monitoring and addition of brackish water storage.
L6786/1991/11	29/09/2016	Licence amendment – authorise hydrostatic testing of the brackish water storage pond, using treated wastewater.
L6786/1991/11	22/2/2018	Amendment notice 1 – reinstate septage plant for the discharge of material from annual sewer pump station cleaning activities from Timewell Road WWTP.
L6786/1991/11	23/03/2018	Amendment notice 2 – Administrative change to reflect multiple source locations of the sewerage pump station sewerage cleanout within condition 3.3.1 and in the introduction section of the Licence.

Location and receptors

Table 3 below lists the relevant sensitive land uses in the vicinity of the Prescribed Premises which may be receptors relevant to the proposed amendment.

Table 3: Receptors and distance from activity boundary

Residential and sensitive premises	Distance from Prescribed Premises
<i>'Parks & recreation' zoned area</i>	<i>Adjoining the western boundary of Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises.</i>
<i>'General agriculture' zoned area</i>	<i>Adjoining the southern boundary of Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises.</i>

<i>'Priority agriculture' zoned area</i>	<i>Adjoining the northern boundary of Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises.</i>
<i>'Public use' zoned area</i>	<i>Adjoining the eastern boundary of Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises.</i>

Table 4 below lists the relevant environmental receptors in the vicinity of the Prescribed Premises which may be receptors relevant to the proposed amendment.

Table 4: Environmental receptors and distance from activity boundary

Environmental receptors	Distance from Prescribed Premises
<i>Environmental Protection (South West Agriculture Zone Wetlands) Policy 1998 – Inland waters</i>	<i>Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises located within EPP.</i>
<i>Public Drinking Water Source Area P1 (PDWSA) – Marbellup Brook Catchment Area</i>	<i>Approximately 325 m north west of the Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises boundary.</i>
<i>Public Drinking Water Source Area P2 (PDWSA) – Marbellup Brook Catchment Area</i>	<i>Adjoining/ overlapping the north-west of the Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises boundary.</i>
<i>Groundwater</i>	<i>Located within Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises (north east): Monitoring Bore Site Id. 14330222: SWL 6.8 m, TDS 478uS/cm. Located within Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises (south): Monitoring Bore Site id. 11172598: SWL 2.4 m, TDS 1,733 uS/cm.</i>
<i>Surface water – Seven Mile Creek (minor river)</i>	<i>Runs through the middle of the Tree Farm 1 – septage plant premises.</i>

Risk assessment

Table 5 below describes the Risk Events associated with the amendment consistent with the *Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments*. Both tables identify whether the emissions present a material risk to public health or the environment, requiring regulatory controls.

Table 5: Risk assessment for proposed amendments during operation

Risk Event					Consequence rating	Likelihood rating	Risk	Reasoning	
Source/Activities	Potential emissions	Potential receptors	Potential pathway	Potential adverse impacts					
Cat 54 Sewage Facility	Tree Farm 1 - septage plant	Odour: associated with effluent waste disposal	Residential receptors: none identified adjacent to or adjoining the premises boundary	Air/ wind dispersion	Amenity	Minor	Rare	Low	<p>The Licence Holder is proposing to dispose of annual sewer pump station cleaning waste into the septage plant, up to a maximum volume of 150kL.</p> <p>The premises is located within a rural agricultural area.</p>
		Waste/ leachates	<p>Groundwater users: Depth approx. 2.4-6.8 mBGL</p> <p>Surface water: Seven mile creek</p> <p>Land/ soil</p> <p>Groundwater dependent ecosystems</p>	Infiltration, overland surface water flow and water abstraction.	<p>Nutrient enrichment of groundwater, surface water and land.</p> <p>Adverse impact on flora/ fauna ecosystems.</p> <p>Health impacts</p> <p>Disruption of ecological processes</p>	Minor	Possible	Medium	<p>The septage plant will be used only for annual sewer pump station waste disposal, up to a maximum volume of 150kL, received from the City of Albany SPS only.</p> <p>The waste produced from cleaning/ clearing out of the pump stations will be disposed of to the sludge drying beds at Tree Farm 1 – septage plant.</p> <p>The drying beds are lined with 1.5mm HDPE liner. The liner is topped with a sand layer (100mm), slotted drainage pipe, crushed aggregate (400mm), sand layer (300mm) and crushed aggregate (50mm). The facultative pond that may receive any residual leachate from the drying</p>

									<i>bed is lined with a 300mm thick compacted clay liner and a 200mm thick layer of compacted gravel road base above.</i>
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Decision

The Delegated Officer has made the following determinations regarding the proposed administrative amendment to the existing Licence L6786/1991/11.

The Delegated Officer considers this change a minor amendment to undertake administrative changes to the Licence. These changes do not change the risk of potential environmental harm or impacts to human health.

The Delegated Officer has determined that no additional risk assessment will be required as part of this amendment process. However, the original risk assessment from Amendment Notice 1 has been included within Table 5 to reflect the previous assessment process undertaken to assess risk.

The Delegated Officer has granted the administrative amendment to ensure that the description of the source of sewerage waste (sludge) received to Tree Farm 1 – septage plant is appropriately and clearly defined within the Licence, for the purposes of assessment and compliance against the requirements of section 49 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

The Delegated Officer considers that the existing controls within the Licence are adequate and appropriate for the proposed activities undertaken at the prescribed premises.

The Delegated Officer has previously noted (within Amendment Notice 1) that the disposal site (Tree Farm 1 – septage plant) is considerably removed from the main lot (Timewell Road Wastewater Treatment Plant) but connected via pipeline. DWER is currently reviewing its policy regarding the licensing of non-contiguous sites and there is a possibility that the disposal site may be required to be licensed separately in the future should policy in this regard change.

Licence Holder's comments

The Licence Holder was provided with the draft Amendment Notice on 12 March 2018. Comments received from the Licence Holder have been considered by the Delegated Officer as shown in Appendix 2.

Amendment

1. The Licence is amended within the introduction section, Tree Farm 1 (pg. 3 of 21), by the insertion of the red text shown in underline and deletion of text shown in strikethrough below:

A fenced area for tankered sewage disposal is contained on-site and any volumes received from the ~~Timewell Road WWTP from the~~ cleanout of the sewerage pump stations throughout the City of Albany, will be discharged to the sludge drying beds.

2. The Licence is amended with the insertion of the red text shown in underline and deletion of text shown in strike through below in Condition 3.3.1:

3.3.1 *The Licensee shall undertake the monitoring in Table 3.3.1 according to the specifications in that table.*

Table 3.3.1: Monitoring of inputs and outputs

Input/ Output	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
Brackish water	Volume received at Albany Wastewater Treatment Plant	ML	Annual period	Continuous
Sewerage Pump Station (SPS) waste	Tankered waste volume received from the Timewell Road WWTP sewerage pump station cleanout¹ and transported to the Tree Farm 1 – septage plant ²	<u>kL</u>		

Note 1: Sewerage waste (sludge) removed from various SPS throughout the City of Albany

Note 2: Undertaken in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004

Appendix 1: Key documents

	Document title	In text ref	Availability
1	Email: Albany WWTP L6786 – error in amended licence. Received from Brian Scott, Water Corporation, on 06/03/2018.	L6786/1991/11	DWER record (A1629201)
2	Email: RE: Albany WWTP L6786 – error in amended licence. (DWER Response)	-	DWER record (A1629201)
3	DER, July 2015. <i>Guidance Statement: Regulatory principles</i> . Department of Environment Regulation, Perth.	DER 2015a	accessed at www.dwer.wa.gov.au
4	DER, October 2015. <i>Guidance Statement: Setting conditions</i> . Department of Environment Regulation, Perth.	DER 2015b	
5	DER, November 2016. <i>Guidance Statement: Risk Assessments</i> . Department of Environment Regulation, Perth.	DER 2016b	
6	DER, November 2016. <i>Guidance Statement: Decision Making</i> . Department of Environment Regulation, Perth.	DER 2016c	

Appendix 2: Summary of Licence Holder comments

The Licence Holder was provided with the draft Amendment Notice on 12 March 2018. Comments were received via email from Mr Brian Scott, Senior Advisor – Environment, Water Corporation, on 20 March 2018, as outlined below:

Condition	Summary of Licence Holder comments	DWER response
Table 5	<p><i>“...where the reference in the ‘Reasoning’ column still implies that the waste from sewer pump station clean out will be specifically from Timewell Road WWTP.</i></p> <p><i>Please could you change this statement to bring it into line with a more general sourcing of waste from clean out of pump stations.”</i></p>	<p>Table 5, row 2 ‘reasoning’ column, paragraph one updated, as follows:</p> <p><i>‘The septage plant will be used only for annual sewer pump station waste disposal, up to a maximum volume of 150kL, received from the City of Albany SPS only.’</i></p>