



Application for Licence Amendment

Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence Number	L5954/1991/12
Licence Holder	Water Corporation
File number	INS-0001228
Premises	Kalbarri Water Resource Recovery Facility Corner of Porter Street and Atkinson Crescent KALBARRI WA 6536
	Legal description - Lot 11322 on Plan 183298
Date of Report	7 April 2026
Decision	Revised licence granted

Table of Contents

1. Decision summary	3
2. Scope of assessment	3
2.1 Regulatory framework	3
2.2 Amendment summary	3
3. Risk assessment	4
3.1 Assessment of Licence Holder’s request to include tankered waste	4
3.2 Assessment of Licence Holder’s request to amend groundwater monitoring condition	4
4. Consultation	5
5. Conclusion	5
5.1 Summary of amendments	5
References	6
Appendix 1: Summary of licence holder’s comments on draft amendment	7
Table 1: Approved premises production capacity	3
Table 2: Consultation	5
Table 3: Summary of licence amendments	5

1. Decision summary

This amendment report documents the assessment of potential risks to the environment and public health from proposed changes to the emissions and discharges during the operation of the premises.

As a result of this assessment, Revised Licence L5954/1991/12 has been granted. In amending the licence, the delegated officer has also:

- updated the format and appearance of the licence;
- revised licence condition's numbers, removed any redundant conditions and realigned condition numbers for numerical consistency
- corrected clerical mistakes and unintentional errors.

The obligations of the licence holder have not changed in these administrative revisions to the licence. The full list of amendments to conditions as they relate to this revised licence are detailed in Section 5.1.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Regulatory framework

In amending the licence, the delegated officer has considered and given due regard to the regulatory framework of the department and relevant policy documents which are available at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

2.2 Amendment summary

Licence L5954/1991/12 is held by Water Corporation for the Kalbarri Water Resource Recovery Facility, located at Porter Street and Atkinson Crescent, Kalbarri.

The premises relates to the category and the assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in licence L5954/1991/12.

On 18 December 2025 the licence holder applied to amend licence L5954/1991/12 under section 59B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). This amendment maintains the previously assessed production capacity which continues to apply under the revised licence for category 54. Table 1 below outlines the approved production capacity.

Table 1: Approved premises production capacity

Prescribed premises category description	Approved production capacity	Description of proposed amendment
Category 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	Not more than 1,100 m ³ per day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept limited amounts of tankered sewage within existing capacity • Remove acceptance of septage • Modify groundwater monitoring bore network • Modify monitoring requirements for clarity

3. Risk assessment

The delegated officer has assessed the risks of emissions from the prescribed premises and identified the potential source, pathway and impact to receptors in accordance with the *Guideline: Risk assessments* (DWER 2020).

To establish a risk event there must be an emission, a receptor which may be exposed to that emission through an identified actual or likely pathway, and a potential adverse effect to the receptor from exposure to that emission.

In accordance with the *Guideline: Risk Assessments* (DWER 2020) risk ratings need only be assessed where emission sources are proposed to change and must consider potential source-pathway and receptor linkages.

The amendments do not alter the risk profile of the premises, therefore a risk assessment has not been undertaken.

The revised licence L5954/1991/12 that accompanies this amendment report authorises emissions associated with the operation of the premises.

The conditions in the revised licence have been determined in accordance with *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions* (DER 2015),

3.1 Assessment of Licence Holder's request to include tankered waste

The licence currently allows for the acceptance of septage waste via tanker but does not specify the acceptance of tankered sewage. The Licence Holder advises that septage is no longer received by the Premises, however, has received a limited amount (up to 14.4kL per year) of tankered sewage from Water Corporations internal sewer system due to cleaning of sewer pump stations.

The Delegated Officer considers that removing the acceptance of septage and including limited amounts of tankered sewage, subject to specific requirements, does not alter the risk profile of the Premises, nor require the inclusion of Category 61: Liquid waste facility on the licence.

3.2 Assessment of Licence Holder's request to amend groundwater monitoring conditions

Quarterly groundwater monitoring of various parameters is required to identify contamination of groundwater indicative of subsurface seepage from the treatment ponds at the Premises, via a network of five monitoring bores surrounding the Premises.

Groundwater depth is located approximately between 14 - 23 metres below ground level (mbgl). Groundwater flow direction is inferred to be in a north westerly direction towards the Murchison River.

Upgradient monitoring bore 1/97 has been decommissioned and replaced by bore 1/16. Data from bore 1/16 has been provided for the last two annual periods in environmental reports. Downgradient monitoring bore 6/97 and upgradient monitoring bore 2/97 are very shallow (3.0 m to 5.9 m bgl) and monitoring has not been undertaken at these bores for several annual periods due to being dry.

The Delegated Officer has considered the information provided by the Licence Holder and determined that the revised network of three groundwater monitoring bores (Figure 2 within the revised Licence) is suitable to monitor for groundwater contamination and does not alter the risk profile of the Premises.

4. Consultation

Table 2 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the delegated officer.

Table 2: Consultation

Consultation method	Delegated officer's response
Licence holder was provided with draft documents on 23 February 2026. Comments were received on 13 March 2026 and requested revised Figure 2 received on 30 March 2026.	See Appendix 1

5. Conclusion

Based on the assessment in this amendment report, the delegated officer has determined that a revised L5954/1991/12 will be granted, subject to conditions commensurate with the determined controls and necessary for administration and reporting requirements.

5.1 Summary of amendments

Table 3 provides a summary of the proposed amendments and will act as a record of implemented changes. All proposed changes have been incorporated into the revised licence as part of the amendment process.

Table 3: Summary of licence amendments

Condition	Previous condition	Condition summary	Amendments
Condition 1 Table 1	Condition 1 Table 1	Waste acceptance	Updated to remove acceptance of septage waste and include acceptance limited amounts of tankered sewage waste.
Condition 2 Table 2	Condition 2	Waste processing	Updated to remove reference to sewage sludge as requirements in Conditions 3 and 19 are adequate outcomes-based conditions.
N/A	12	Monitoring equipment calibration	Redundant condition. Deleted from licence.
Condition 12 Table 5	Condition 13 Table 5	Monitoring of emissions to land	Monitoring points L1 and L2 requirements separated for clarity. Volumetric flow rate removed as this requirement is included in Condition 13. <i>E.Coli</i> monitoring moved to occur post-chlorination.
Condition 13 Table 6	Condition 14 Table 6	Monitoring of inputs and outputs	Updated to remove reference to septage and include tankered sewage waste. Sewage sludge volume monitoring moved to Condition 19.

Condition	Previous condition	Condition summary	Amendments
Condition 14 Table 7	Condition 15 Table 7	Monitoring of ambient groundwater quality	Updated to revised groundwater bore network.
Condition 15	NA	Maintaining record books	Standard condition for record keeping requirements.
Condition 16	Condition 16	Records requirements	Revised to current wording
Condition 20	Condition 20	Environmental Report requirements	Updated to include requirements for annual sludge quantities removed (previously in Condition 2).
Definitions Table 11	NA	NA	Definitions included: Biosolids Guidelines; books; monthly period Definitions amended: Department/DWER; Definition removed: ABN;
Schedule 1: Maps Figure 2	NA	NA	Replaced by revised Figure 2 with revised monitoring locations.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2015) *Guidance Statement: Setting Conditions*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2020) *Guideline: Environmental Siting*, Perth, Western Australia.
3. DWER (2020) *Guideline: Risk Assessments*, Perth, Western Australia.

Appendix 1: Summary of licence holder's comments on draft amendment

Condition or section	Summary of licence holder's comment	Delegated officer's response
Licence		
Condition 1, Table 1	<p>Remove K130 sewage limit of 15 m³ per year. Sewage received directly via sewer or via tanker doesn't impact the treatment capacity of the WRRF. The WRRF has an assessed design capacity to treat 1,110 m³ per day of sewage.</p> <p>This is consistent with all other extant Water Corporation WWTP/WRRF licences.</p>	<p>The inclusion of the tankered sewerage limit has been reviewed, and it is considered there is no additional risk in removing the 15 m³ limit. However, the waste acceptance table has been updated to include a specification that the acceptance on K130 cannot exceed 100 tonnes per annual period. If monitoring indicates that this limit might be exceeded then Water Corporation will be required to amend the licence to include Category 61 (Liquid waste facility).</p> <p>The volume of sewerage tankered to the Premises is to be separately monitored and reported (Conditions 6 and 19).</p>
Condition 2, Table 2	<p>Remove 'septage'. 'Septage' was removed from Condition 1, Table 1 but has been added to Condition 2, Table 2. This is incorrect as the only waste type treated at Kalbarri WRRF is 'sewage'. 'Septage' should be removed from Table 2 because the site will only be taking sewage waste from Water Corporation pump stations for incident response (e.g. pump downs for blockages and bursts). Water Corporation will not be accepting septage wastes from third parties at Kalbarri WRRF.</p>	Amended as requested.
Condition 13, Table 5	<p>Remove functional locations (S4000080 and S4008750) from Table 5. This is recommended for clarity and to allow operational improvements and plant optimisation. For example, if it is determined that moving the post chlorination monitoring location will give longer contact time and improve quality of reuse water.</p>	Amended as requested as amendment has no material effect on risk or intended outcome of condition.
	Remove E. coli from Final Effluent monitoring parameters and	Amended as requested. The E.coli monitoring requirement is

Licence L5954/1991/12 (amended 07/04/2026)

Condition or section	Summary of licence holder's comment	Delegated officer's response
	<p>add E. coli to Post Chlorination monitoring parameters.</p> <p>Measuring E. coli prior to chlorination is not representative of E. coli / pathogens going to the environment. Monitoring E. coli after chlorination will provide a better understand of pathogens in reuse water. Water Corporation proposed to monitor E. coli and Chlorine post chlorination in the licence amendment supporting documentation, but E. coli was not added to Table 5 in the document. This a was a Water Corporation clerical error.</p>	<p>intended to monitor pathogens in treated wastewater being discharged from the Premises.</p>
Condition 14, Table 6	<p>Remove functional locations S4004992 and S4004945 from Table 6. This is recommended for clarity and to allow operational improvements and plant optimisation. For example, if Water Corporation need to replace the inflow or reuse magflow meters, the new magflow meters would have different functional location identifiers which would require a licence amendment.</p>	<p>Amended as requested as amendment has no material effect on risk or intended outcome of condition.</p>
Condition 15, Table 7	<p>Remove monitoring point 4/97.</p> <p>Groundwater monitoring point 4/97 was accidentally requested to be included on the Licence, this was a clerical error.</p> <p>Groundwater bore 4/97 has never previously been monitored by Water Corporation and is drilled to a depth of 3.8 metres below ground level (mbgl) whilst groundwater beneath the site is approximately 14-23 mgl. Therefore, this bore will always be dry, unable to be sampled and provide no groundwater data.</p>	<p>Amended as requested to correct error.</p>
Definitions, Table 11	<p>Please update the definition of one month period to include the 1st of each month..</p>	<p>Amended as requested for clarity.</p>