



Application to renew a licence

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

Licence Number	L9129/2018/2
Licence Holder	Compass Group (Australia) Pty Ltd
ACN	000 683 125
File Number	DER2018/000554-1~1
Premises	Port Haven Village Wastewater Treatment System 2444 Great Northern Highway Port Hedland WA 6721 Legal description Part of Lot 9008 on Deposited Plan 404824 Certificate of Title Volume 2874 Folio 673 As defined by the Premises map and coordinates attached to the issued licence
Date of Report	26 May 2022
Decision	To grant a licence

Neville Welsh
SENIOR INDUSTRY REGULATION OFFICER
REGULATORY SERVICES
An officer delegated by the CEO under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

1. Decision summary

Under the regulatory framework the Delegated Officer decided to process the application to renew licence L9129/2018/1 without conducting any additional risk assessment.

The licence can be issued for 20 years, which is consistent with the *Guidance Statement on Licence Duration 2016*. In renewing the licence the Delegated Officer has determined to:

- update the format and appearance of the licence;
- transfer existing regulatory controls and conditions to the new licence and update conditions to meet current standards;
- remove redundant conditions;
- revised the premises maps to conform with current standards;
- incorporate licence amendment/s issued prior to the replacement licence; and,
- include conditions considered necessary for the effective administration of the licence (i.e. record keeping and reporting requirements).

As a result of the above, the Delegated Officer decided to grant Licence L9129/2018/2 subject to conditions set out in the attached licence.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Application summary

On 1 March 2023 Compass Group (Australia) Pty Ltd (licence holder) applied to renew licence L9129/2018/1 as the licence is due to expire on 27 May 2023. The licence was granted to the licence holder for the premises located at Part of Lot 9008 Great Northern Highway Port Hedland (Premises).

The licence relates to prescribed premises category described in Table 1.

Table 1: Premises category description and production/ design capacity

Prescribed premises category description (Schedule 1, <i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987</i>)	Production / design capacity
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.	560m ³ per day

The Premises is known as the Port Haven Village Wastewater Treatment System (WTS) which treats sewage from the Transient Workforce Accommodation facility located in the vicinity of the Port Hedland International Airport. The total maximum throughput is approximately 560m³ per day.

In summary, the Premises infrastructure consists of a Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) treatment plant; waste sludge drying beds; and a 7.7 hectare spray irrigation area (sprayfield).

Raw sewage undergoes a screening process and is then treated within Recirculating Anoxic Buffer and Aeration/Decant tanks. Supernatant from the Aeration/Decant tank is chlorinated and conveyed to holding tanks prior to being pumped to the spray field. A component of the decant volume is diverted to a separate holding tank for watering of the village landscaping. The

treatment system is designed to deliver an effluent quality in line with the Department of Health's Guidelines for effluent reuse for irrigation (medium exposure level) and the Australian Guidelines for Sewage Systems – Effluent Management, 1997.

The sludge drying beds are located over an underground auxiliary sewage storage structure. Sludge discharged to the beds dries over time and sludge filtrate is returned to the WTS. Dried sludge is collected for disposal to landfill.

3. Regulatory framework

The Delegated Officer has not conducted a full review and risk assessment of emissions and discharges from the Premises, which is in line with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (department) *Work Instruction: Industry Regulation, Licensing position – COVID 19 response, October 2022*.

In granting the licence, the Delegated Officer has considered and given due regard to the department's regulatory framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>

4. Considerations for issuing a new licence

4.1 Legal occupancy

The licence holder has demonstrated legal occupancy of the Premises.

4.2 Prescribed premises details

The requested prescribed premises category and the corresponding maximum throughput is consistent with the category and throughput which was previously assessed by the Department.

The licence holder confirmed there are no proposed changes to the previously assessed infrastructure/equipment and operational activities.

4.3 Planning approval

The licence holder has informed the department that it has planning approval for the activities on the Premises. The Delegated Officer did not receive contradicting information from the Town of Port Hedland.

4.4 Compliance and enforcement actions

There have been no incidents or complaints identified at the Premises by the Department in the last five years. There have been no enforcement actions taken against the occupier in the last 5 years regarding the licence.

5. Summary of changes to the licence conditions

Section 62 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) provides the legal power to attach conditions to licences. Most licences are issued with conditions as per *Guidance Statement – Setting Conditions* (October 2015) to prevent, control, abate or mitigate pollution or environmental harm as a result of the emissions and/or discharges from the premises in question.

Table 2 summarises the changes from the expiring licence into the new licence including changes made to licence conditions where required and the rationale for changes made.

Table 2: Licence conditions changes, description and rationale

Current licence section/ condition / schedule	New section/ condition / schedule (if relevant)	Description and rationale
Location of premises	Premises details	The Premises description details have been updated to correspond with the current land description details.
Definitions section	Definitions section	Defined terms have been transferred from the existing licence and revised in accordance with the current standard (where applicable). Redundant terms have been removed. Additional terms have been added in accordance with the current licence template.
Not applicable	Condition 1	New condition added in accordance with current standards.
Condition 1	Not applicable	The requirement to manage odour emissions from the premises is addressed through Section 49 of the EP Act. Therefore, the existing condition is deemed redundant and has been removed from the licence.
Not applicable	Condition 2	New condition added in accordance with current standards. The condition specifies the authorised discharge points.
Condition 2 and Condition 4	Condition 3 and Condition 4	Conditions revised in accordance with current standard.
Condition 3	Conditions 5, 6 and 7. Schedule 3	Condition revised in accordance with the current standard for ambient groundwater monitoring. Removed the parameter “salinity” from ambient groundwater monitoring as this is addressed through analysis of total dissolved solids.
Condition 5	Condition 3 and Condition 5	Existing condition removed and addressed in new Conditions 4 and 6 which detail relevant Australian standards for the collection and preservation of samples.
Condition 6	Condition 12	Condition revised to meet current standard. Additionally, the requirement to submit an Annual Environmental Report has been revised to a Biennial Environmental Report (BER) in accordance with the amendment notice dated 16 May 2022. Note that the due date for the BER is updated to 28 February 2024 and biennially thereafter.

Current licence section/ condition / schedule	New section/ condition / schedule (if relevant)	Description and rationale
Condition 7	Condition 11	Existing condition revised in accordance with current standard.
Not applicable	Conditions 8, 9 and 10	New records and reporting conditions in accordance with the current standard for all new licences.
Attachment 1 – groundwater bore locations	Schedule 1 Maps – groundwater monitoring bore locations	Inserted the groundwater monitoring bore location map into Schedule 1 in accordance with the current licence template.
Attachment 2 – Premises boundary	Schedule 1 Maps – Premises map	The Premises map has been updated to meet the current standard. The boundary of the Premises has been revised to include the prescribed premises activity area and irrigation area only.
Not applicable	Schedule 1 Maps – map of authorised discharge points	A map to illustrate the authorised treated wastewater discharge points has been added in accordance with current standards.
Not applicable	Schedule 2 Premises boundary	Schedule 2 has been added to the licence in accordance with current standards to detail the Premises boundary coordinates. The Premises boundary coordinates correspond with the revised Premises boundary.

6. Consultation

The Delegated Officer undertook the consultation for the application to renew the licence as per Table 3.

Table 3: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Delegated Officer's response
Application advertised on the department's website on 20 March 2023	No comments received.	Noted
Town of Port Hedland advised of application on 20 March 2023	No comments received.	Noted.

Consultation method	Comments received	Delegated Officer's response
<p>Department of Health advised of application on 20 March 2023</p>	<p>Response received on 4 April 2023:</p> <p><i>The DoH has no object to the proposal subject to adherence to the conditions of the DoH recycled water scheme approval C68/00000 issued to the Port Haven Village. Recycled water scheme.</i></p> <p><i>Annual reports are required to be sent to the DoH by 30 September each year as per the Guidelines for the Non-Potable Uses of Recycled Water in Western Australia 2011. The report shall contain detail in accordance with Appendix K "Annual Report" of the Recycled Water Quality Management Plan Template.</i></p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Applicant was provided with draft licence and decision report on 12 May 2023.</p>	<p>Summary of response received on 15 May 2023.</p> <p><i>The licence holder requested that the licence be issued as soon as possible.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the licence holder confirmed the following details in relation to the licence document:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>the property certificate of title details (street address and volume/folio) to be noted in the licence cover page; and</i> ▪ <i>that the Premises boundary coordinates generated by the Department are correct.</i> 	<p>Noted</p>