



Licence number	L6072/1991/12
Licence holder	Water Corporation
Registered business address	629 Newcastle Street, LEEDERVILLE WA 6007
DWER file number	DEC9149/1
Duration	13/12/2023 to 12/12/2043
Date of issue	11/12/2023
Premises details	Merredin Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) 13 Whitehead Court MERREDIN WA 6415
	Legal description - Being Lot 501 on Diagram 83829 as depicted in Schedule 1

Prescribed premises category description (Schedule 1, <i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987</i> )	Assessed 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	750 cubic metres per day

This licence is granted to the licence holder, subject to the attached conditions, on 11 December 2023, by:

Neville Welsh

SENIOR INDUSTRY REGULATION OFFICER

REGULATORY SERVICES

*Officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

## Licence history

Date	Reference number	Summary of changes
01/12/2001	L6072/1991/7	Licence re-issue
01/12/2002	L6072/1991/8	Licence re-issue
13/12/2004	L6072/1991/9	Licence re-issue
13/12/2009	L6072/1991/10	Licence re-issue
01/11/2012	L6072/1991/10	Licence amendment
4/12/2014	L6072/1991/11	Licence re-issue REFIRE format
11/06/2015	L6072/1991/11	Licence amendment
21/08/2019	L6072/1991/11	Licence amendment to extend duration by 4 years
11/12/2023	L6072/1991/12	Licence re-issue with a twenty-year term.

## Interpretation

In this licence:

- (a) the words 'including', 'includes' and 'include' in conditions mean "including but not limited to", and similar, as appropriate;
- (b) where any word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or other grammatical form of that word or phrase has a corresponding meaning;
- (c) where tables are used in a condition, each row in a table constitutes a separate condition;
- (d) any reference to an Australian or other standard, guideline, or code of practice in this licence:
  - i. if dated, refers to that particular version; and
  - ii. if not dated, refers to the latest version and therefore may be subject to change over time;
- (e) unless specified otherwise, any reference to a section of an Act refers to that section of the EP Act; and
- (f) unless specified otherwise, all definitions are in accordance with the EP Act.

**NOTE:** This licence requires specific conditions to be met but does not provide any implied authorisation for other emissions, discharges, or activities not specified in this licence.

## Licence conditions

The licence holder must ensure that the following conditions are complied with:

1. The Licence Holder shall only allow waste to be accepted on to the Premises if:
  - (a) it is of a type listed in Table 1;
  - (b) the quantity accepted is below any limit listed in Table 1; and
  - (c) it meets any specification listed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Waste acceptance**

Waste	Waste Code	Quantity Limit	Specification <sup>1</sup>
Sewage	N/A	N/A	Accepted through sewer inflow(s) only
Septage wastes (Sewage) – domestic wastes from apparatus for the treatment of sewage	K130		Tankered into the premises and discharged via the Pump Station or manhole into pond 1.

Note 1: Additional requirements for the acceptance of controlled waste are set out in the *Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004*.

2. The Licence Holder shall ensure that the wastes accepted onto the Premises are only subjected to the process(es) set out in Table 2 and in accordance with any process requirements described in that table.

**Table 2: Waste processing**

Waste type	Process	Process requirements
Sewage	Physical, biological and chemical treatment	Treatment of sewage waste shall be targeted at or below the treatment capacity of 750 m <sup>3</sup> /day.

3. The Licence Holder shall ensure that waste material is only stored and/or treated within vessels or compounds provided with the infrastructure detailed in Table 3.

**Table 3: Containment infrastructure**

Vessel or compound	Material	Requirements
Pond 1 (Facultative Pond)	Wastewater	Lined with compacted in-situ soils
Pond 2 (Facultative Pond)		
Pond 3 (Facultative Pond)		
Pond 4 (First Maturation Pond)	Treated wastewater	
Pond 5 (Second Maturation pond)		
Pond 6 (Third Maturation Pond)		
Sewage sludge compound	Sewage sludge	A clay lined bunded hardstand area capable of preventing surface run-off of leachate and sludge and which returns sludge leachate to the start of the treatment process when pumped.

4. The Licence Holder shall manage all wastewater treatment ponds such that:
  - (a) overtopping of the ponds does not occur; and
  - (b) a freeboard equal to, or greater than 150mm; and
  - (c) the integrity of the containment infrastructure is maintained; and
  - (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.
5. The Licence Holder shall:
  - (a) implement security measures at the site to prevent as far as is practical unauthorised access to the site;
  - (b) undertake regular inspections of all security measures and repair damage as soon as practicable; and
  - (c) ensure the entrance gates are closed and locked when the site is closed or unmanned.
6. The Licence Holder shall ensure that where waste is emitted to surface water from the emission points in Table 4 it is done so in accordance with the conditions of this Licence.

**Table 4: Emission points to surface water**

<b>Emission point reference</b>	<b>Emission point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source including abatement</b>
W1	Treated wastewater discharge point	Discharge to Cohn Creek via Shire of Merredin Overflow Holding Pond when surplus effluent cannot be reused	Treated wastewater from Pond 6

7. The Licence Holder shall ensure that:
  - (a) all wastewater sampling is conducted in accordance with AS/NZS 5667.10;
  - (b) all microbiological samples are collected and preserved in accordance with AS/NZS 2031;
  - (c) 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.
8. The Licence Holder shall ensure that quarterly monitoring is undertaken at least 45 days apart.
9. The Licence Holder shall record production or throughput data and any other process parameters relevant to any non-continuous monitoring undertaken.

10. The Licence Holder shall undertake the monitoring in Table 5 according to the specifications in that table.

**Table 5: Monitoring of inputs and outputs**

Input/Output	Monitoring point reference and location	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
Sewage - Inlet Flow (rising main)	None specified (calculated)	Volumetric flow rate (cumulative)	m <sup>3</sup> /day	Monthly	Continuous
Supply to Shire Overflow Holding Dam	Merredin WWTP Outflow Measuring Unit S5011030				
Supply to Shire Dam - for reuse schemes	Merredin WWTP Gamenya reuse meter S5010975				

11. The Licence Holder shall undertake the monitoring in Table 6 according to the specifications in that table.

**Table 6: Process monitoring**

Monitoring point reference and location	Process description	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency	Method
A - Treated WW flume sampling point (S5000490)	Treatment of wastewater prior to discharge to Shire Overflow Holding Pond	pH <sup>1</sup>	mg/L	Spot sample	Quarterly	None specified
		Biochemical Oxygen Demand				
		Total Nitrogen				
		Ammonium nitrogen				
		Nitrate + Nitrite nitrogen				
		Total Phosphorus				
		Total Dissolved Solids				
		Total Suspended Solids				
B- Post UV sampling point (S5010925)	Treatment of wastewater prior to discharge to Shire Dam (for reuse schemes)	Escherichia coli	cfu/100 ml	Spot sample	Quarterly	None specified
		pH <sup>1</sup>	mg/L			
		Biochemical Oxygen Demand				
		Total Nitrogen				
		Ammonium nitrogen				
Nitrate + Nitrite nitrogen						

Monitoring point reference and location	Process description	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency	Method
		Total Phosphorus				
		Total Dissolved Solids				
		Total Suspended Solids				
		Escherichia coli	cfu/100ml			

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

12. The Licence Holder shall undertake the monitoring in Table 7 according to the specifications in that table.

**Table 7: Monitoring of ambient surface water quality**

Monitoring point reference and location	Parameter	Units	Averaging period	Frequency
C – Cohn Creek upstream of discharge point (S5000980)	pH <sup>1</sup>	N/A	Spot sample	Monthly (during creek discharge)
D – Cohn Creek downstream of discharge point (S5000950)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L		
E - Cohn Creek downstream of discharge point (S5000960)	Total Nitrogen			
	Total Phosphorus			
	Escherichia coli	cfu/100ml		

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

## Records and reporting

13. 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 13(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.

14. The licence holder must:
  - (a) undertake an audit of their compliance with the conditions of this licence during the preceding annual period; and
  - (b) prepare and submit to the CEO an Annual Audit Compliance Report in the approved form by 1 October each year.
  
15. The licence holder must record the following information in relation to complaints received by the licence holder (whether received directly from a complainant or forwarded to them by the Department or another party) about any alleged emissions from the premises:
  - (a) the name and contact details of the complainant, (if provided);
  - (b) the time and date of the complaint;
  - (c) the complete details of the complaint and any other concerns or other issues raised; and
  - (d) the complete details and dates of any action taken by the licence holder to investigate or respond to any complaint.
  
16. The licence holder must:
  - (a) prepare an environmental report that provides information in accordance with Table 8 for the preceding two annual periods, and
  - (b) submit the environmental report to the CEO by 1 October 2024 and biennially thereafter.

**Table 8: Environmental reporting requirements**

Condition	Requirement
-	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
Table 4	Summary of inputs/outputs Methodology and calculations used to estimate the daily volumetric flow rate of wastewater inflow into the plant and results of those calculations.
Table 5	Process monitoring
14	Compliance
15	Complaints summary

Note 1: Forms are in Schedule 2

17. The Licence Holder shall ensure that the Environmental Report also contains:
  - (a) any relevant process, production or operational data recorded under condition 12; and
  - (b) an assessment of the information contained within the report against previous monitoring results and Licence limits and/or targets.

18. The Licence Holder shall submit the information in Table 9 to the CEO at the Contact Address according to the specifications in that table.

**Table 9: Non-annual reporting requirements**

Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Reporting period	Reporting date (after end of the reporting period)	Format or form
-	Copies of original monitoring reports submitted to the Licence Holder by third parties	Not Applicable	Within 14 days of the CEOs request	As received by the Licence Holder from third parties

19. The Licence Holder shall ensure that the parameters listed in Table 10 are notified to the CEO at the Contact Address and in accordance with the notification requirements of the table.

**Table 10: Notification requirements**

Condition or table (if relevant)	Parameter	Notification requirement <sup>1</sup>	Format or form
-	Taking process equipment offline for maintenance works that may result in increased odour emissions	No less than 72 hours in advance of works	None specified
-	Removal of sewage sludge from a treatment pond, wastewater treatment vessel, sewage sludge storage pond or Geobag	No less than 14 days in advance of works <sup>3</sup>	
11	If any sample taken during discharge to Cohn Creek has an Escherichia coli level $\geq 1000$ cfu/100ml	As soon as practicable	None specified

Note 1: No notification requirement in the Licence shall negate the requirement to comply with s72 of the Act.

Note 2: The following information shall be included: (i) when desludging is proposed to occur, (ii) the desludging method, (iii) action to mitigate potential odour impacts, and (iv) the method by which the community will be advised of the desludging activities.



## Definitions

In this licence, the terms in Table 11 have the meanings defined.

**Table 11: Definitions**

Term	Definition
ACN	Australian Company Number.
Act	means the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
AHD	means the Australian height datum
Annual Audit Compliance Report (AACR)	means a report submitted in a format approved by the CEO (relevant guidelines and templates may be available on the Department's website).
annual period	means a 12 month period commencing from 1 July until 30 June of the immediately following year.
averaging period	means the time over which a limit or target is measured or a monitoring result is obtained;
AS/NZS 2031	means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 2031 <i>Selection of containers and preservation of water samples for microbiological analysis</i> ;
AS/NZS 5667.10	means the Australian Standard AS/NZS 5667.10 <i>Water Quality – Sampling – Guidance on sampling of waste waters</i> ;
books	has the same meaning given to that term under the EP Act.
CEO	means Chief Executive Officer of the Department. “submit to / notify the CEO” (or similar), means either: Director General Department administering the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> Locked Bag 10 Joondalup DC WA 6919 or: <a href="mailto:info@dwer.wa.gov.au">info@dwer.wa.gov.au</a>
storage and handling of dangerous goods	means document titled “Storage and handling of dangerous goods: Code of Practice” published by the Department of Mines and Petroleum, as amended from time to time;
controlled waste	has the definition in <i>Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004</i> .
dangerous goods	has the meaning defined in the <i>Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007</i> ;
Department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
DWER	means Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
EP Regulations	<i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987</i> (WA)
freeboard	means the distance between the maximum water surface elevations and the top of retaining banks or structures at their lowest point.
fugitive emissions'	means all emissions not arising from point sources
hardstand	means a surface with a permeability of 10 <sup>-9</sup> metres/second or less;
in-situ soils	means soils that are in place and have not been moved from their original

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
	place of deposition;
leachate	means liquid released by or water that has percolated through waste and which contains some of its constituents.
licence	refers to this document, which evidences the grant of a licence by the CEO under section 57 of the EP Act, subject to the specified conditions contained within.
licence holder	refers to the occupier of the premises, being the person specified on the front of the licence as the person to whom this licence has been granted.
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	refers to the premises to which this licence applies, as specified at the front of this licence and as shown on the premises map (Figure 1) in Schedule 1 to this licence.
process equipment	means any wastewater or sludge containment infrastructure or wastewater treatment vessel;
quarterly	means the four inclusive periods from 1 April to 30 June, 1 July to 30 September, 1 October to 31 December and in the following year, 1 January to 31 March;
Schedule 1	means Schedule 1 of this Licence unless otherwise stated
spot sample	means a discrete sample representative at the time and place at which the sample is taken;

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**END OF CONDITIONS**

# Schedule 1: Maps

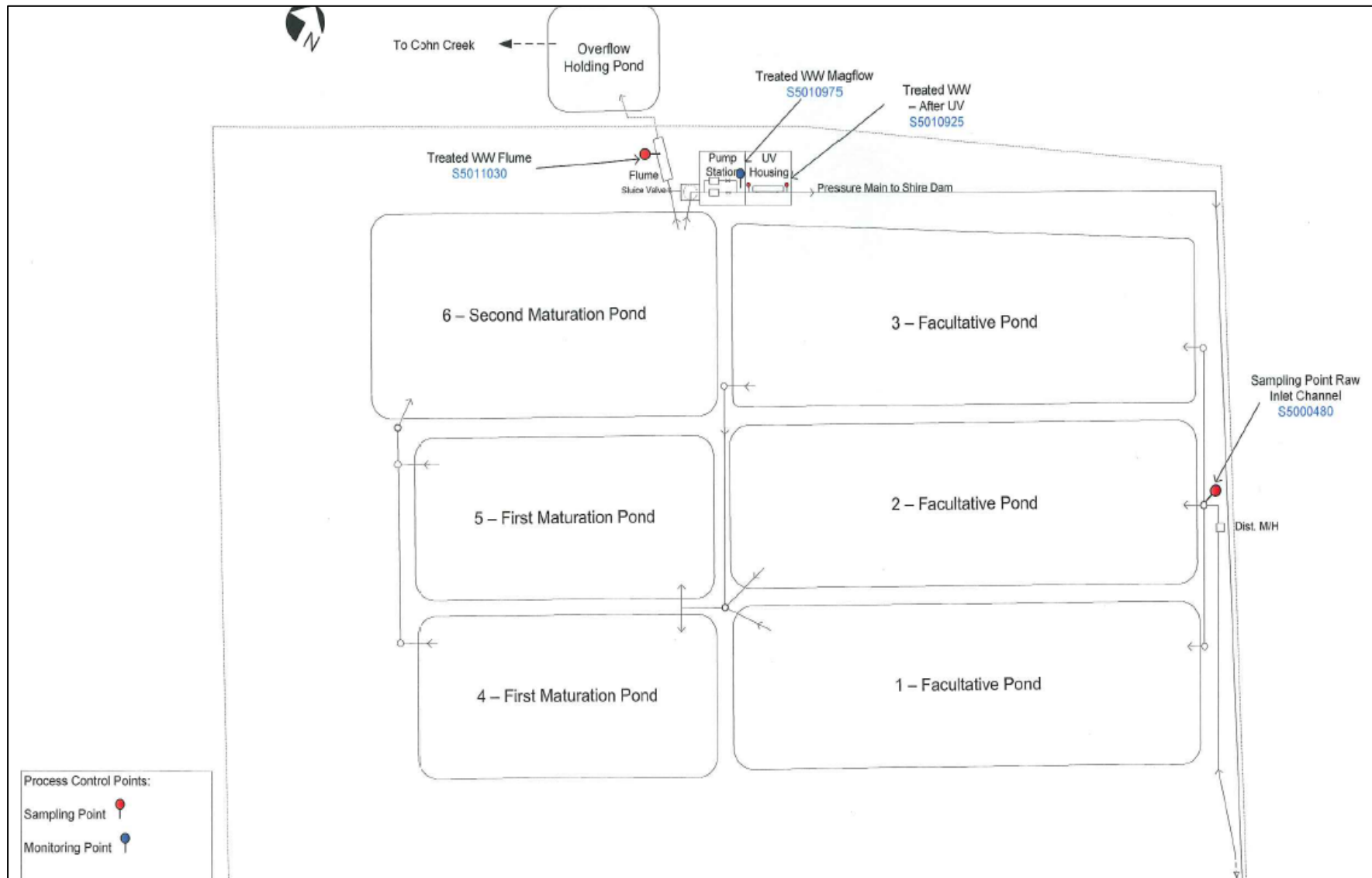
## Premises map

The boundary of the prescribed premises is shown in the map below (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the prescribed premises

Process schematic and process monitoring locations



Process schematic and process monitoring locations

