

Code for self-assessable development of subartesian bores

WSS/2013/585

Version 1.07

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Version History

Version	Date	Comments
1.00	09/07/2003	Policy Register
1.01	24/06/2005	Conversion Project - New Word XML Template
1.02	03/06/2006	Convert to new SharePoint template
1.03	12/01/2010	Make changes associated with the implementation of the <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i> (replaced Integrated Planning Act 1997 on 18 December 2009). Update departmental name.
1.04	28/02/2014	Updated licensed water bore driller requirements to reflect section 816 of the <i>Water Act 2000</i> . Updated departmental references. Changed policy ID number from WAM/2003/1157 to WSS/2013/585
1.05	01/07/2016	Updated departmental template.
1.06	06/12/2016	Section references and title of document updated to be consistent with changes from the Water Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014
1.07	03/07/2017	Amendments associated with implementation of the <i>Planning Act 2016</i> (replaced <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i> on 3 July 2017).

Approval

Position	Name	Date
Director, Operations Support (Water)	Ian Gordon	03/07/2017

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1 Development to which this code applies

This code only applies to the development of water bores identified in Schedule 9 of the Water Regulation 2016 as self-assessable bores. Normally, these bores are used for stock or domestic water supplies.

All water bores in Queensland deeper than six metres must be constructed by, or under the supervision of, a licensed water bore driller in accordance with the 'Minimum construction requirements for water bores in Australia' (3rd edition, 2012).

For the purposes of the *Planning Act 2016* (Planning Act), development in accordance with this code is considered accepted development.

Where an accepted development proceeds but does not remain compliant with the relevant code, the developer may be prosecuted under the provisions of the Planning Act.

Contact your local Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) office for information on accepted development.

2 Purpose

The purpose of this code is to ensure self-assessable bores are:

- constructed to an adequate standard that prolongs the productive life of the bore to the benefit of the user
- constructed to protect the aquifers from which water is extracted
- sited and constructed to protect the quality and quantity of the water resource for other users
- decommissioned in a way that protects public safety and the aquifer after they have deteriorated or have been abandoned.

3 Code requirements

Table 1 below lists the performance criteria and acceptable solutions for meeting the requirements of this self-assessable code.

Table 1: Performance outcomes and acceptable outcomes

Performance outcomes	Acceptable outcomes
<p>Legal owner/occupier of land—the person responsible for the development must be the legal owner or occupier of the land.</p>	<p>The person responsible for the development is the legal owner or occupier of the land, either as a freehold title or leased from the freehold title owner.</p> <p>If the land on which the development is proposed is Crown land (e.g. a road reserve) then a permit to occupy that site will be required from DNRM before any work can commence.</p>
<p>Construction standards—to ensure that the construction, maintenance and decommissioning of water bores is carried out in a consistent way that protects the integrity of the resources (e.g. quality and quantity).</p>	<p>Drilling is carried out in accordance with ‘Minimum construction requirements for water bores in Australia’ (3rd edition’ 2012).</p> <p>A licensed water bore driller will be familiar with these standards.</p>
<p>Site rehabilitation—the aquifer is protected from pollution or damage after the bore is abandoned.</p>	<p>If the bore is abandoned, the site needs to be rehabilitated to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effectively plug the bore with a cement grout to prevent leakage • prevent inundation of the aquifer by flood or surface water drainage • restore the natural level of the ground.