



Department of Natural Resources and Mines

Code for Self-Assessable Development of Bores Identified in a Water Resource Plan as Self-Assessable

INTRODUCTION

The *Integrated Planning Act 1997* (IPA) sets up, as part of the Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS), the concept of self-assessment, code assessment and impact assessment for development proposals. Impact assessment is for major developments that require public comment on the proposal before any development approval can be issued. Code assessment is intended for development proposals that will have a significant impact and require development approval but do not require advertising as the proposal can be developed according to and measured against a code that is or reflects laws and policies of State and Local Governments. Self-assessable developments are also constructed according to and measured against a code that is or reflects laws and policies of State and Local Governments but, because of their limited impact on the environment or the community, do not require any prior approval.

DEVELOPMENT TO WHICH THIS CODE APPLIES

This code applies to the development of water bores identified in a Water Resource Plan as self-assessable bores. (Normally, these bores are used for stock or domestic water supplies.) While all water bores in Queensland are required to be constructed by a licensed water bore driller to meet the “Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia”, this code is limited to only those bores identified in a water resource plan.

Any licensed driller should be aware of the “Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia” standards.

Bores within a Water Resource Plan area that are other than those identified as self-assessable development require a development approval under the *Integrated Planning Act*. The penalties for constructing non-approved works are substantial. Therefore, if you want to construct a bore other than a self-assessable bore or if you want to convert an existing self-assessable bore to a use that requires a licence under the *Water Act 2000* or a development permit under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*, please contact your local office of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines for advice and the relevant application forms.

Where a self-assessable development proceeds but does not remain compliant with the relevant code, the developer may be prosecuted under provisions of the *Integrated Planning Act*.

THE PURPOSE OR INTENT OF THIS CODE

To ensure that 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 way that protects public safety and the aquifer after they have deteriorated or have been abandoned.

Code for Self-Assessable Development of Bores in Water Resource Plan Areas

Authorised by GM Water Management and Use

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. J. ...', is positioned over the text 'Authorised by GM Water Management and Use'.

Date 3/1/2003

Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
<p>Legal Owner/Occupier of Land</p> <p>Person responsible for the development must be the legal owner or occupier of the land.</p>	<p>Legal Owner/Occupier of Land</p> <p>The person responsible for the development will be the legal owner or occupier of the land, either as a freehold title or leased from the freehold title owner. If the land on which the development is proposed is Crown land (eg, a road reserve) then a permit to occupy that site will be required from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines before any work can commence.</p>
<p>Licensed Driller</p> <p>Drilling is carried out in a professional manner.</p>	<p>Licensed Driller</p> <p>The work must be carried out only by a person who holds a water bore driller's licence issued by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.</p>
<p>Construction Standards</p> <p>Drilling is carried out in a professional manner.</p>	<p>Construction Standards</p> <p>Drilling is carried out in accordance with the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand "Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia".</p> <p>(A licensed water bore driller will be familiar with these standards.)</p>
<p>Access by an Authorised Officer</p> <p>Authorised Officer to have full and free access to the works at all reasonable times.</p>	<p>Access by an Authorised Officer</p> <p>The Chief Executive of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines or any person duly authorised by him/her shall have full and free access to the works at all reasonable times for the purpose of carrying out any inspection or check of the works for compliance with the self-assessable code.</p>
<p>Site Rehabilitation</p> <p>The aquifer is to be protected from pollution or damage after the bore is abandoned.</p>	<p>Site Rehabilitation</p> <p>Should the bore be abandoned, either at drilling due to a lack of supply or other reason, or when the bore has deteriorated, collapsed, dried up or for any other reason, then the site is to be rehabilitated in such a way that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bore is effectively plugged with a cement grout to prevent leakage of water between aquifers or permeable zones or to the surface. • Prevents inundation of the aquifer by flood or surface water drainage. • Results in the natural level of the ground being restored, that is, there is no hole or depression that can cause injury or death to a person or animal.



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END OF CODE

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