



Environment Protection Licence

Licence - 227

<u>Licence Details</u>	
Number:	227
Anniversary Date:	01-January

<u>Licensee</u>
HUNTER WATER CORPORATION
PO BOX 5171
HUNTER REGION MAIL CENTRE NSW 2310

<u>Premises</u>
CESSNOCK WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS
OFF GOVERNMENT ROAD
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

<u>Scheduled Activity</u>
Sewage treatment

<u>Fee Based Activity</u>	<u>Scale</u>
Sewage treatment processing by small plants	> 1000-5000 ML annual maximum volume of discharge

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Information about this licence

Dictionary

A definition of terms used in the licence can be found in the dictionary at the end of this licence.

Responsibilities of licensee

Separate to the requirements of this licence, general obligations of licensees are set out in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 ("the Act") and the Regulations made under the Act. These include obligations to:

- ensure persons associated with you comply with this licence, as set out in section 64 of the Act;
- control the pollution of waters and the pollution of air (see for example sections 120 - 132 of the Act);
- report incidents causing or threatening material environmental harm to the environment, as set out in Part 5.7 of the Act.

Variation of licence conditions

The licence holder can apply to vary the conditions of this licence. An application form for this purpose is available from the EPA.

The EPA may also vary the conditions of the licence at any time by written notice without an application being made.

Where a licence has been granted in relation to development which was assessed under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 in accordance with the procedures applying to integrated development, the EPA may not impose conditions which are inconsistent with the development consent conditions until the licence is first reviewed under Part 3.6 of the Act.

Duration of licence

This licence will remain in force until the licence is surrendered by the licence holder or until it is suspended or revoked by the EPA or the Minister. A licence may only be surrendered with the written approval of the EPA.

Licence review

The Act requires that the EPA review your licence at least every 5 years after the issue of the licence, as set out in Part 3.6 and Schedule 5 of the Act. You will receive advance notice of the licence review.

Fees and annual return to be sent to the EPA

For each licence fee period you must pay:

- an administrative fee; and
- a load-based fee (if applicable).



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The EPA publication “A Guide to Licensing” contains information about how to calculate your licence fees. The licence requires that an Annual Return, comprising a Statement of Compliance and a summary of any monitoring required by the licence (including the recording of complaints), be submitted to the EPA. The Annual Return must be submitted within 60 days after the end of each reporting period. See condition R1 regarding the Annual Return reporting requirements.

Usually the licence fee period is the same as the reporting period.

Transfer of licence

The licence holder can apply to transfer the licence to another person. An application form for this purpose is available from the EPA.

Public register and access to monitoring data

Part 9.5 of the Act requires the EPA to keep a public register of details and decisions of the EPA in relation to, for example:

- licence applications;
- licence conditions and variations;
- statements of compliance;
- load based licensing information; and
- load reduction agreements.

Under s320 of the Act application can be made to the EPA for access to monitoring data which has been submitted to the EPA by licensees.

This licence is issued to:

HUNTER WATER CORPORATION
PO BOX 5171
HUNTER REGION MAIL CENTRE NSW 2310

subject to the conditions which follow.



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1 Administrative Conditions

A1 What the licence authorises and regulates

A1.1 This licence authorises the carrying out of the scheduled activities listed below at the premises specified in A2. The activities are listed according to their scheduled activity classification, fee-based activity classification and the scale of the operation.

Unless otherwise further restricted by a condition of this licence, the scale at which the activity is carried out must not exceed the maximum scale specified in this condition.

Scheduled Activity	Fee Based Activity	Scale
Sewage treatment	Sewage treatment processing by small plants	> 1000 - 5000 ML annual maximum volume of discharge

- A1.2 The objectives of this licence are to:
- a) require that practical measures be taken to protect public health and the environment;
 - b) require the proper and efficient design, construction and management of the sewage treatment system to minimise harm to public health and the environment; and
 - c) minimise the frequency and volume of overflows from the reticulation system and sewage treatment plant.
- A1.3 This licence is to be construed in a manner that will promote the objectives referred to in condition A1.2 above.

A2 Premises or plant to which this licence applies

A2.1 The licence applies to the following premises:

Premises Details
CESSNOCK WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS
OFF GOVERNMENT ROAD
CESSNOCK
NSW 2325
LOT 2 DP 749418

- A2.2 The premises also includes the reticulation system owned and operated by the licensee that is associated with the sewage treatment plant(s) identified in condition A2.1.
- ### A3 Information supplied to the EPA
- A3.1 Works and activities must be carried out in accordance with the proposal contained in the licence application, except as expressly provided by a condition of this licence.

In this condition the reference to "the licence application" includes a reference to:



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- a) the applications for any licences (including former pollution control approvals) which this licence replaces under the Protection of the Environment Operations (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 1998; and
- b) the licence information form provided by the licensee to the EPA to assist the EPA in connection with the issuing of this licence.

2 Discharges to Air and Water and Applications to Land

P1 Location of monitoring/discharge points and areas

P1.1 The following points referred to in the table are identified in this licence for the purposes of the monitoring and/or the setting of limits for discharges of pollutants to water from the point.

Water and land

EPA Identification no.	Type of Monitoring Point	Type of Discharge Point	Location Description
1	Effluent quality and volume monitoring	Effluent quality and volume monitoring	The outlet of the No. 3 maturation pond as indicated in drawing titled "Plan Showing Monitoring Point Locations at Cessnock WWTW - dated 12 February 2009"
2	Effluent quality and monitoring volume	Effluent quality and monitoring volume	Reclaimed water storage tank as indicated in drawing titled "Plan Showing Monitoring Point Locations at Cessnock WWTW - dated 12 February 2009"

3 Limit Conditions

L1 Pollution of waters

- L1.1 Except as may be expressly provided in any other condition of this licence, the licensee must comply with section 120 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
- L1.2 The licensee may only discharge untreated or partially treated sewage from the sewage treatment plant and/or the reticulation system subject to the conditions of this licence, including those conditions at Sections O1 and O2.

L2 Load limits

- L2.1 The actual load of an assessable pollutant discharged from the premises during the reporting period must not exceed the load limit specified for the assessable pollutant in the table below.



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Note: An assessable pollutant is a pollutant which affects the licence fee payable for the licence.

L2.2 The actual load of an assessable pollutant must be calculated in accordance with the relevant load calculation protocol.

Assessable Pollutant	Load limit (kg)
BOD (Enclosed Water)	28931.00
Nitrogen (total) (Enclosed Water)	30116.00
Oil and Grease (Enclosed Water)	1055.00
Phosphorus (total) (Enclosed Water)	3079.00
Total suspended solids (Enclosed Water)	86887.00

L2.3 For the purpose of determining compliance with condition L2.1, assessable pollutant loads to the reuse project at the Stonebridge Golf Course are excluded.

L3 Concentration limits

L3.1 For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified in the table/s below (by a point number), the concentration of a pollutant discharged at that point, or applied to that area, must not exceed the concentration limits specified for that pollutant in the table.

L3.2 Where a pH quality limit is specified in the table, the specified percentage of samples must be within the specified ranges.

L3.3 To avoid any doubt, this condition does not authorise the pollution of waters by any pollutant other than those specified in the table/s.

L3.4 Water and/or Land Concentration Limits

POINT 2

Pollutant	Units of Measure	50 percentile concentration limit	90 percentile concentration limit	3DGM concentration limit	100 percentile concentration limit
BOD	milligrams per litre	20	30		45
pH	pH				6.5-8.5
Phosphorus (total)	milligrams per litre		2		-



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Total suspended solids	milligrams per litre	25	40	70
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L3.5 For the purpose of determining compliance with the specified Total Suspended Solids (TSS) licence limit, the concentration of TSS in samples collected, must be determined using the following equation:

$$\text{TSS(a) (milligrams per litre)} = \text{TSS(b) (milligrams per litre)} - 0.1 \times \text{chlorophyll 'a' (micrograms per litre)}$$

TSS(a) = TSS concentration calculated for compliance
TSS(b) = measured concentration of TSS (including algae).

The chlorophyll 'a' analysis must be carried out on a subsample of the sample collected for the determination of the measured TSS. The sample must be well mixed when subsampling.

L3.6 For the purpose of determining compliance with the licence limit for pH, the licensee will be deemed to have complied with the pH licence limit provided that the pH of the secondary effluent from the humus clarifier entering the tertiary ponds is within the range 6.5 – 8.5 for more than 90 percent of the samples collected.

L4 Volume and mass limits

L4.1 For each discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the volume/mass of:
a) liquids discharged to water; or;
b) solids or liquids applied to the area;
must not exceed the volume/mass limit specified for that discharge point or area.

Point	Unit of Measure	Volume/Mass Limit
2	megalitres per day	35

L5 Waste

L5.1 The licensee must not cause, permit or allow any waste generated outside the premises to be received at the premises for storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal or any waste generated at the premises to be disposed of at the premises, except as expressly permitted by the licence.

L5.2 This condition only applies to the storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of waste at the premises if those activities require an environment protection licence.

L5.3 The licensee may receive and/or transfer sewage and liquid waste generated outside the premises for treatment, processing or reprocessing at the premises. The licensee must take reasonable steps to ensure that sewage and liquid waste received at the premises has been lawfully discharged in accordance with a trade waste agreement or customer contract (as applicable) in force between the licensee and the generator of the waste. The licensee must treat, process or reprocess the sewage and liquid waste in accordance with this licence prior to discharge from the premises.

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L5.4 The licensee may receive, store, treat, process or reprocess and/or transfer at the premises sewage products generated or stored outside the premises by the licensee's other sewage treatment systems. Sewage products must be received, treated, processed or reprocessed in accordance with this licence.

L5.5 Any grit or screenings generated on the premises that the licensee disposes of within the boundary of the premises' sewage treatment plant(s) is to be managed and disposed of in an appropriate manner that prevents as far as practicable harm to the environment.

L6 Potentially offensive odour

L6.1 No condition in this licence identifies a potentially offensive odour for the purposes of section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

Note: Section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 provides that the licensee must not cause or permit the emission of any offensive odour from the premises but provides a defence if the emission is identified in the relevant environment protection licence as a potentially offensive odour and the odour was emitted in accordance with the conditions of a licence directed at minimising odour.

L7 Other limit conditions

L7.1 The licensee must not permit discharges in dry weather from any sewage pumping station or directed overflow structure within the premises.

L7.2 The requirements of condition L7.1 do not apply to sewage pumping station(s) Cessnock No.1; Cessnock No. 2; Cessnock No.3.

Note: The requirements of condition M7.3 applies to these sewage pumping stations.

4 Operating Conditions

O1 Activities must be carried out in a competent manner

O1.1 Licensed activities must be carried out in a competent manner.

This includes:

- a) the processing, handling, movement and storage of materials and substances used to carry out the activity; and
- b) the treatment, storage, processing, reprocessing, transport and disposal of waste generated by the activity.

Note: The requirements of condition O1.1 apply to the whole of the premises, including the reticulation system.

O1.2 Biosolids at the premises must be stored, treated, processed, classified, transported and disposed in accordance with the Biosolids Guidelines, or as otherwise approved in writing by the EPA.

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O2 Maintenance of plant and equipment

- O2.1 All plant and equipment installed at the premises or used in connection with the licensed activity:
- a) must be maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and
 - b) must be operated in a proper and efficient manner.

Note: The requirements of O2.1 apply to the whole of the premises, including the reticulation system.

O3 Emergency response

- O3.1 In the event of an overflow or bypass that harms or is likely to harm the environment, the licensee must use all practicable measures to minimise the impact of the overflow or bypass on public health and the environment. These measures are to be implemented as soon as practical after the licensee or one of the licensee's employees or agents becomes aware of the overflow or bypass.

O4 Processes and management

- O4.1 Additional directed overflow structures must not be constructed within the sewage treatment system unless the directed overflow structure is essential for the proper and efficient operation of the system.

Before constructing an additional directed overflow structure, the licensee must prepare a written report assessing the following issues for the purposes of this condition:

- a) risk of harm to public health, environment or property if the proposed directed overflow structure is not constructed;
- b) risk of harm to public health and the receiving environment if an overflow from the directed overflow structure occurred;
- c) systems to be used to monitor overflows, power failures or mechanical failures of pumping or electrical equipment relating to or affecting the proposed directed overflow structure; and
- d) ability of the licensee to respond to overflows from the proposed directed overflow structure and to minimise the impact on the environment and public health.

- O4.2 The report must be:
- a) kept for at least 4 years after the report is made or the directed overflow structure is constructed, whichever is later; and
 - b) produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see it.
- O4.3 Sewage or effluent discharged must not be discharged from Point(s) 1 and 2 unless it has been treated in accordance with conditions O4.4 and O4.5.
- O4.4 The portion of sewage inflows to the sewage treatment plant less than 200L/s must receive screening, degritting, primary sedimentation, trickle filtration, secondary sedimentation and ponding prior to discharge to point(s) 1 and 2.
- O4.5 The portion of the sewage inflows to the sewage treatment plant that is 200. L/s or more must receive screening and ponding.
- O4.6 The licensee must ensure that any extension to the reticulation system is planned, designed, constructed and installed to prevent as far as practicable discharges of sewage or partially treated sewage from the premises.

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Note: "The premises" includes both the new and the previously existing parts of the reticulation system.

- O4.7 When the upgraded plant commences commissioning, Condition O4.4 does not apply and the portion of sewage inflows to the sewage treatment plant less than 200L/s must receive screening, degritting, biological treatment and ponding prior to discharge to point(s) 1 and 2.

O5 Other operating conditions

O5.1 Prohibition on acceptance of pesticides

The licensee must not consent to any discharge of organophosphate pesticides (including chlorpyrifos, diazinon, malathion) or organochlorine pesticides (including dieldrin, heptachlor and chlordane) into the sewage treatment system.

- O5.2 Discharges in dry weather from any sewage pumping station(s) installed within the sewage treatment system after 1 April 2005 are not permitted.

5 Monitoring and Recording Conditions

M1 Monitoring records

- M1.1 The results of any monitoring required to be conducted by this licence or a load calculation protocol must be recorded and retained as set out in this condition.
- M1.2 All records required to be kept by this licence must be:
- a) in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form;
 - b) kept for at least 4 years after the monitoring or event to which they relate took place; and
 - c) produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.
- M1.3 The following records must be kept in respect of any samples required to be collected for the purposes of this licence:
- a) the date(s) on which the sample was taken;
 - b) the time(s) at which the sample was collected;
 - c) the point at which the sample was taken; and
 - d) the name of the person who collected the sample.

M2 Requirement to monitor concentration of pollutants discharged

- M2.1 For each monitoring/discharge point or utilisation area specified below (by a point number), the licensee must monitor (by sampling and obtaining results by analysis) the concentration of each pollutant specified in Column 1. The licensee must use the sampling method, units of measure, and sample at the frequency, specified opposite in the other columns:
- M2.2 Water and/ or Land Monitoring Requirements

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POINT 1

Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method
Biochemical oxygen demand	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
Chlorophyll a	micrograms per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
Nitrogen (ammonia)	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
Nitrogen (total)	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
Oil and Grease	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
pH	pH	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
Phosphorus (total)	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample
Total suspended solids	milligrams per litre	Special Frequency 1	Representative sample

POINT 2

Pollutant	Units of measure	Frequency	Sampling Method
BOD	milligrams per litre	Weekly	Grab sample
Chlorophyll a	micrograms per litre	Weekly	Grab sample
Nitrogen (ammonia)	milligrams per litre	Weekly	Grab sample
Nitrogen (total)	milligrams per litre	Monthly	Grab sample
Oil and Grease	milligrams per litre	Fortnightly	Grab sample
pH	pH	Weekly	Grab sample
Phosphorus (total)	milligrams per litre	Weekly	Grab sample
TSS	milligrams per litre	Weekly	Grab sample

M2.3 For the purposes of the table(s) above Special Frequency 1 means: the collection of samples within the first 24 hours of the discharge occurring. If the discharge continues, sampling must be undertaken on a weekly basis thereafter.

Note: Weekly sampling means samples taken weekly at a minimum of 5 day intervals.
 Fortnightly sampling means samples taken fortnightly at a minimum of 10 day intervals.
 Monthly sampling means samples taken monthly at a minimum of 20 day intervals.

M3 Testing methods - concentration limits

M3.1 Subject to any express provision to the contrary in this licence, monitoring for the concentration of a pollutant discharged to waters or applied to a utilisation area must be done in accordance with the Approved Methods Publication unless another method has been approved by the EPA in writing before any tests are conducted.

M4 Testing methods - load limits

Note: Division 4 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2022* requires that

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monitoring of actual loads of assessable pollutants listed in L2.2 must be carried out in accordance with the relevant load calculation protocol set out for the fee-based activity classification listed in the Administrative Conditions of this licence.

M5 Recording of pollution complaints

- M5.1 The licensee must keep a legible record of all complaints made to the licensee or any employee or agent of the licensee in relation to pollution arising from any activity to which this licence applies.
- M5.2 The record must include details of the following:
- a) the date and time of the complaint;
 - b) the method by which the complaint was made;
 - c) any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect;
 - d) the nature of the complaint;
 - e) the action taken by the licensee in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and
 - f) if no action was taken by the licensee, the reasons why no action was taken.
- M5.3 The record of a complaint must be kept for at least 4 years after the complaint was made.
- M5.4 The record must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.

M6 Telephone complaints line

- M6.1 The licensee must operate during its operating hours a telephone complaints line for the purpose of receiving any complaints from members of the public in relation to activities conducted at the premises or by the vehicle or mobile plant, unless otherwise specified in the licence.
- M6.2 The licensee must notify the public of the complaints line telephone number and the fact that it is a complaints line so that the impacted community knows how to make a complaint.
- M6.3 The preceding two conditions do not apply until 3 months after: the date of the issue of this licence.
- M6.4 For the purpose of this condition, operating hours are defined as twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.
- M6.5 The public notification referred to in condition M5.2 must include specific reference to the fact that the complaints line may be used by the community for the reporting of overflows.

M7 Requirement to monitor volume or mass

- M7.1 For each discharge point or utilisation area specified below, the licensee must monitor:
- a) the volume of liquids discharged to water or applied to the area;
 - b) the mass of solids applied to the area;
 - c) the mass of pollutants emitted to the air;
- at the frequency and using the method and units of measure, specified below.



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POINT 1

Frequency	Unit of Measure	Sampling Method
Daily	kilolitres per day	Level sensor and continuous logger

POINT 2

Frequency	Unit of Measure	Sampling Method
Daily	kilolitres per day	Special Method 1

- M7.2 For the purposes of the table(s) above Special Method 1 means measuring the flow from Pond 3 to the tertiary treatment plant minus the flow of sludge from the tertiary treatment plant minus the flow of reclaimed water from the tertiary treatment plant used at the premises.
- M7.3 Equipment used to monitor the volume must provide data that is within 5 percent of the actual volume over the likely full range of flow required to be measured by the equipment.
- M7.4 In the event that the licensee cannot comply with a volume monitoring method as required by this licence solely due to the failure or malfunction of essential monitoring equipment, volume may be calculated using another agreed method approved in writing by the EPA. This provision only applies for the duration of the failure or malfunction and the licensee is to rectify the failure or malfunction as soon as practical.
- M7.5 For the purpose of condition M7.4, the alternative method approved by the EPA is as follows:

Parameter	Frequency	Method
Total volume	In the event of failure of the total volume flow meter	Pump hours run (contributing pump stations: Cessnock No.1, Nulkaba No.1; Lovedale No.1 and Rothbury No. 1)

M8 Requirement to record bypass incidents from sewage treatment plants

- M8.1 The licensee must record the following details in respect of each bypass of any of the appropriate treatment processes required by condition O4.3 which may adversely affect the quality of the final effluent:
- a) the EPA point identification number through which the bypass discharged;
 - b) the estimated start time, date and duration of the bypass;
 - c) the estimated volume of the bypass;
 - d) the level of treatment at the sewage treatment plant prior to discharge; and
 - e) the most likely cause of the bypass.
- M8.2 Sewage treatment plant overflows

The licensee must record the following details in relation to each overflow from the sewage treatment plant:

- a) the EPA point identification number through which the overflow discharged;
- b) the date, estimated start time and estimated duration of the overflow;
- c) the estimated volume of the overflow;

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- d) the level of treatment at the sewage treatment plant prior to discharge; and
- e) the most likely cause of the overflow.

M8.3 Overflows from the reticulation system

The licensee must record the following details in relation to each observed or reported overflow from the reticulation system:

- a) the location of the overflow;
- b) the date, estimated start time, and estimated duration of the overflow;
- c) the estimated volume of the overflow;
- d) the most likely cause of the overflow; and
- e) actions taken to prevent the overflow happening again.

M9 Other monitoring and recording conditions

- M9.1 The licensee must monitor biosolids that are produced at the premises in accordance with the Biosolids Guideline. However, the licensee is not required to comply with the monitoring conditions in the Biosolids Guideline that relate to the reuse or disposal of biosolids at the locations other than the premises.

6 Reporting Conditions

R1 Annual return documents

- R1.1 The licensee must complete and supply to the EPA an Annual Return in the approved form comprising:

1. a Statement of Compliance,
2. a Monitoring and Complaints Summary,
3. a Statement of Compliance - Licence Conditions,
4. a Statement of Compliance - Load based Fee,
5. a Statement of Compliance - Requirement to Prepare Pollution Incident Response Management Plan,
6. a Statement of Compliance - Requirement to Publish Pollution Monitoring Data; and
7. a Statement of Compliance - Environmental Management Systems and Practices.

At the end of each reporting period, the EPA will provide to the licensee notification that the Annual Return is due.

- R1.2 An Annual Return must be prepared in respect of each reporting period, except as provided below.

Note: The term "reporting period" is defined in the dictionary at the end of this licence. Do not complete the Annual Return until after the end of the reporting period.

- R1.3 Where this licence is transferred from the licensee to a new licensee:

- a) the transferring licensee must prepare an Annual Return for the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on the date the application for the transfer of the licence to the new licensee is granted; and
- b) the new licensee must prepare an Annual Return for the period commencing on the date the application for

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the transfer of the licence is granted and ending on the last day of the reporting period.

Note: An application to transfer a licence must be made in the approved form for this purpose.

- R1.4 Where this licence is surrendered by the licensee or revoked by the EPA or Minister, the licensee must prepare an Annual Return in respect of the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on:
- a) in relation to the surrender of a licence - the date when notice in writing of approval of the surrender is given; or
 - b) in relation to the revocation of the licence - the date from which notice revoking the licence operates.
- R1.5 The Annual Return for the reporting period must be supplied to the EPA via eConnect *EPA* or by registered post not later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period or in the case of a transferring licence not later than 60 days after the date the transfer was granted (the 'due date').
- R1.6 Where the licensee is unable to complete a part of the Annual Return by the due date because the licensee was unable to calculate the actual load of a pollutant due to circumstances beyond the licensee's control, the licensee must notify the EPA in writing as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than the due date. The notification must specify:
- a) the assessable pollutants for which the actual load could not be calculated; and
 - b) the relevant circumstances that were beyond the control of the licensee.
- R1.7 The licensee must retain a copy of the Annual Return supplied to the EPA for a period of at least 4 years after the Annual Return was due to be supplied to the EPA.
- R1.8 Within the Annual Return, the Statements of Compliance must be certified and the Monitoring and Complaints Summary must be signed by:
- a) the licence holder; or
 - b) by a person approved in writing by the EPA to sign on behalf of the licence holder.

R2 Notification of environmental harm

Note: The licensee or its employees must notify all relevant authorities of incidents causing or threatening material harm to the environment immediately after the person becomes aware of the incident in accordance with the requirements of Part 5.7 of the Act.

- R2.1 Notifications must be made by telephoning the Environment Line service on 131 555.
- R2.2 The licensee must provide written details of the notification to the EPA within 7 days of the date on which they became aware of the incident.

R3 Written report

- R3.1 Where an authorised officer of the EPA suspects on reasonable grounds that:
- a) where this licence applies to premises, an event has occurred at the premises; or
 - b) where this licence applies to vehicles or mobile plant, an event has occurred in connection with the carrying out of the activities authorised by this licence,
- and the event has caused, is causing or is likely to cause material harm to the environment (whether the harm

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occurs on or off premises to which the licence applies), the authorised officer may request a written report of the event.

- R3.2 The licensee must make all reasonable inquiries in relation to the event and supply the report to the EPA within such time as may be specified in the request.
- R3.3 The request may require a report which includes any or all of the following information:
- a) the cause, time and duration of the event;
 - b) the type, volume and concentration of every pollutant discharged as a result of the event;
 - c) the name, address and business hours telephone number of employees or agents of the licensee, or a specified class of them, who witnessed the event;
 - d) the name, address and business hours telephone number of every other person (of whom the licensee is aware) who witnessed the event, unless the licensee has been unable to obtain that information after making reasonable effort;
 - e) action taken by the licensee in relation to the event, including any follow-up contact with any complainants;
 - f) details of any measure taken or proposed to be taken to prevent or mitigate against a recurrence of such an event; and
 - g) any other relevant matters.
- R3.4 The EPA may make a written request for further details in relation to any of the above matters if it is not satisfied with the report provided by the licensee. The licensee must provide such further details to the EPA within the time specified in the request.

R4 Other notifications

- R4.1 Where either:
- a) sewage or partially treated sewage is discharged from the premises as a result of a bypass of the sewage treatment plant, or
 - b) an observed or reported overflow has occurred from the reticulation system,
- and the overflow or bypass may result in a significant risk to public health, the licensee is to promptly give appropriate notification to any parties that are likely to be affected, such as:
- i) the EPA's Pollution Line service on 131 555,
 - ii) the NSW Department of Public Health; and
 - iii) local council(s) where relevant.
- R4.2 Within 3 months from 1 January 2005 the licensee must develop and implement an incident notification protocol. The incident notification protocol must include procedures for notification of, but not limited to, the following groups or organisations:
- a) notification of the EPA's Pollution Line service on 131 555 where an overflow has occurred from either the treatment plant or the reticulation system that has discharged to a waterway or could reasonably be expected to discharge to a waterway;
 - b) notification of the NSW Department of Public Health for incidents of public health significance; and
 - c) notification of local council(s) where relevant.

For the purposes of this condition, "overflow" does not include leakage.

- R4.3 Notifications required by condition R4.1 must include the following information:
- a) the nature of the incident that led to the bypass or overflow;

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- b) any testing or inspections of the discharge or receiving waters that have been carried out;
- c) any testing or inspections currently occurring and when results are anticipated; and
- d) any other available information regarding harm or potential harm to the environment.

R4.4 The notification is to be given as soon as practicable after the licensee or one of the licensee's employees or agents becomes aware of the incident.

The notification could detail incidents in more than one location or sewage treatment system operated by the licensee.

Note: These reporting requirements do not affect any obligations of the licensee to report under Part 5.7 of the Act incidents which cause or threaten harm to the environment.

R4.5 The Licensee must notify the SafeFood NSW of incidents of significance to shellfish production. This notification is to be given as soon as practicable after the licensee or one of the licensee's employees or agents becomes aware that the incident may be of significance to shellfish production.

R5 Annual system performance report

R5.1 The licensee must supply to the EPA an Annual System Performance Report not later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period.

R5.2 The Report is to supplement the Annual Return and must include but need not be limited to:

- a) the 50 percentile, 90 percentile, 100 percentile and 3DGM values calculated from the monitoring data for each pollutant which has corresponding concentration limits specified in this licence;
- b) a diagram showing the major process elements, discharge points and monitoring points at the premises' sewage treatment plant(s), where there has been any significant change since the previous reporting period or this information has not been provided previously to the EPA;
- c) the number of dry and wet weather bypasses recorded over the reporting period (recorded in accordance with condition M7);
- d) a summary of observed, reported or recorded sewage treatment plant bypasses and overflows. These data are to be for the current reporting period and for the previous twelve-month periods, up to a maximum of four, for which data has been required to be collected. Any significant actions taken to address bypasses or overflows are to be noted;
- e) the amount of rainfall measured at a rain gauge at the STP, or at the rain gauge closest to the centre of the catchment of the sewage treatment system, for each month of the reporting period;
- f) a progress report on the implementation over the reporting period of actions specified in the PRP's; and
- g) any additional structures constructed in accordance with condition O4.1.

R5.3 The Annual System Performance Report must be presented in a format approved in writing by the EPA.

7 General Conditions

G1 Copy of licence kept at the premises or plant

G1.1 A copy of this licence must be kept at the premises to which the licence applies.



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- G1.2 The licence must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see it.
- G1.3 The licence must be available for inspection by any employee or agent of the licensee working at the premises.

G2 Contact number for incidents and responsible employees

- G2.1 The licensee must operate 24-hour telephone contact lines for the purpose of enabling the EPA to directly contact one or more representatives of the licensee who can:
 - a) respond at all times to incidents relating to the premises; and
 - b) contact the licensee’s senior employees or agents authorised at all times to:
 - i) speak on behalf of the licensee; and
 - ii) provide any information or document required under this licence.
- G2.2 The licensee is to inform the EPA in writing of the appointment of any subsequent contact persons, or changes to the person’s contact details as soon as practicable and in any event within fourteen days of the appointment or change.

G3 Signage

- G3.1 Each monitoring and discharge point must be clearly marked by a sign that indicates the EPA point identification number.

8 Special Conditions

E1 Special Dictionary

E1.1

Term	Definition
ug/L	Means micrograms per litre.
access chamber	a structure constructed to provide physical access to sewer pipes. Also known as a manhole.
approved	Means approved in writing by the EPA. The EPA’s approval may be given unconditionally, or subject to conditions.
Biosolids	Has the same meaning as in Schedule 1, Part 3 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
Biosolids Guidelines	Means the “Environmental Guidelines: Use and disposal of biosolids products” published by the EPA in October 1997, or any subsequently updated guidelines which replace this publication.

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bypass	Means circumstances where sewage has been received at the sewage treatment plant but is discharged from the plant without it being treated, processed or reprocessed by means of any or all of the designed treatment processes of the plant. A new bypass event is defined as a bypass that commences at least 24 hours after the end of the previous bypass.
cfu	Means colony forming units
choke	Means a full partial blockage in a sewer pipe that results in sewage being discharged to the environment. A choke may be caused by structural collapse of the sewer pipes, tree roots, debris or siltation.
condition	Means a condition of this licence.
directed overflow structure	Means a designed structure (excluding access chambers) in the reticulation system which operates as a relief to allow sewage to discharge at a planned location or a sewage pumping station, but does not include a bypass from a sewage treatment plant.
directed overflow	Means an overflow from a directed overflow structure.
discharge	Has the same meaning as in Schedule 1, classification [71] of the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 1998.
dry weather	Except for the purpose of compliance with condition L7.1, dry weather occurs when less than 10 millimetres of rainfall has been measured at a rain gauge in the catchment of the sewage treatment system during a 24 hour period (where there is no rain gauge in the catchment, at the rain gauge closest to the centre of the catchment).
	For the purpose of compliance with condition L7.1, dry weather means the greater of: (i) the recorded flow into the sewage pumping station is less than or equal to the design wet weather flow, where this flow is determined in accordance with the Public Works Department Sewer Design Guide; or (ii) less than 10mm rainfall has been measured at a rain gauge in the catchment of the SPS during a 24 hour period (where there is no rain gauge in the catchment at the rain gauge closest to the SPS).
dry weather overflow	Means an overflow in the reticulation system not caused by wet weather.
effluent	Means sewage that has received all of the designed treatment processes at the sewage treatment plant.
event	In respect to directed overflows an event is an overflow occurrence at one or more overflow locations in the reticulation system which continues until all overflows have ceased discharging for more than 24 hours.
fc	Means faecal coliforms expressed in colony forming units per 100mL.
harm	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
infiltration	Means the process by which groundwater enters the reticulation system through faults, such as cracks, in sewer pipes.
ISO	Means International Standards Organisation.
kL	Means kilolitre.
L/s	Means litres per second.
leakage	Overflows caused by the leakage of sewage from faults, such as cracks, in sewer pipes to the surrounding environment.
metal-A	Means the following metals: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver and zinc.
mL	Means millilitres.

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ML	Means megalitres.
offensive odour	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
overflow	Is a discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage from the sewage treatment system.
reticulation system	Means that part of the sewage treatment system owned and operated by the licensee which collects and transports sewage to the sewage treatment plant and includes all sewer pipes (whether greater or less than 300mm diameter), sewer rising mains, access chambers, vent shafts, designed overflow structures, sewage ejection units and sewage pumping stations, but does not include the sewage treatment plant.
sensitive areas	Means sites or components of the environment which are of particular importance because of their ecological, conservation, cultural heritage, recreational, social or commercial values. Areas may be sensitive in terms of human health and/or the biophysical environment.
sewage	Means untreated liquid waste received in the reticulation system.
sewage products	Means any by-product of the treatment processes and includes biosolids, raw sludge, liquid sludge, thickened sludge, digested sludge, screenings and grit.
sewage pumping station (SPS)	Is a structure which controls the transport of sewage through the sewer pipes, where steep hills and other variations in the land topography can prevent or limit the gravity flow of sewage to the sewage treatment plant.
sewage treatment plant (STP)	Is a facility at which sewage is stored and treated following delivery from the reticulation system prior to discharge, and includes discharge structures and STP bypass points.
sewage treatment system	Means the reticulation system and the sewage treatment plant used for the transport, treatment and discharge of effluent and sewage.
Trade waste agreements	Means agreements reached between the licensee and industrial and commercial customers to restrict the amount of toxic and other potentially harmful substances discharged to the reticulation system.
TRC	Means total residual chlorine.
uncontrolled flow	Means an overflow from any part of the reticulation system that is not a directed overflow. Leakage or overflows from access chambers are examples of uncontrolled overflows.
waters	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.
waterway	Means the whole or any part of any river, stream, lake, lagoon, swamp, wetlands, unconfined surface water, natural or artificial watercourse, dam or tidal waters (including the sea), or any water stored in artificial works. Artificial watercourses that are dry, water in underground pipes or channels used or designed to receive or pass rainwater, or any gutter used or designed to receive or pass rainwater are not included in this definition of "waterway".
wet weather	Wet weather occurs when 10 millimetres or more of rainfall has been measured at a rain gauge in the catchment of the sewage treatment system during a 24 hour period (where there is no rain gauge in the catchment, at the rain gauge closest to the centre of the catchment).
wet weather overflow	A wet weather overflow in the reticulation system is an overflow caused by wet weather.



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Dictionary

General Dictionary

3DGM [in relation to a concentration limit]	Means the three day geometric mean, which is calculated by multiplying the results of the analysis of three samples collected on consecutive days and then taking the cubed root of that amount. Where one or more of the samples is zero or below the detection limit for the analysis, then 1 or the detection limit respectively should be used in place of those samples
Act	Means the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
activity	Means a scheduled or non-scheduled activity within the meaning of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
actual load	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
AM	Together with a number, means an ambient air monitoring method of that number prescribed by the <i>Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in New South Wales</i> .
AMG	Australian Map Grid
anniversary date	The anniversary date is the anniversary each year of the date of issue of the licence. In the case of a licence continued in force by the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, the date of issue of the licence is the first anniversary of the date of issue or last renewal of the licence following the commencement of the Act.
annual return	Is defined in R1.1
Approved Methods Publication	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
assessable pollutants	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
BOD	Means biochemical oxygen demand
CEM	Together with a number, means a continuous emission monitoring method of that number prescribed by the <i>Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in New South Wales</i> .
COD	Means chemical oxygen demand
composite sample	Unless otherwise specifically approved in writing by the EPA, a sample consisting of 24 individual samples collected at hourly intervals and each having an equivalent volume.
cond.	Means conductivity
environment	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
environment protection legislation	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991
EPA	Means Environment Protection Authority of New South Wales.
fee-based activity classification	Means the numbered short descriptions in Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009.
general solid waste (non-putrescible)	Has the same meaning as in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

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flow weighted composite sample	Means a sample whose composites are sized in proportion to the flow at each composites time of collection.
general solid waste (putrescible)	Has the same meaning as in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
grab sample	Means a single sample taken at a point at a single time
hazardous waste	Has the same meaning as in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
licensee	Means the licence holder described at the front of this licence
load calculation protocol	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
local authority	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
material harm	Has the same meaning as in section 147 Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
MBAS	Means methylene blue active substances
Minister	Means the Minister administering the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
mobile plant	Has the same meaning as in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
motor vehicle	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
O&G	Means oil and grease
percentile [in relation to a concentration limit of a sample]	Means that percentage [eg.50%] of the number of samples taken that must meet the concentration limit specified in the licence for that pollutant over a specified period of time. In this licence, the specified period of time is the Reporting Period unless otherwise stated in this licence.
plant	Includes all plant within the meaning of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 as well as motor vehicles.
pollution of waters [or water pollution]	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
premises	Means the premises described in condition A2.1
public authority	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
regional office	Means the relevant EPA office referred to in the Contacting the EPA document accompanying this licence
reporting period	For the purposes of this licence, the reporting period means the period of 12 months after the issue of the licence, and each subsequent period of 12 months. In the case of a licence continued in force by the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, the date of issue of the licence is the first anniversary of the date of issue or last renewal of the licence following the commencement of the Act.
restricted solid waste	Has the same meaning as in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
scheduled activity	Means an activity listed in Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
special waste	Has the same meaning as in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
TM	Together with a number, means a test method of that number prescribed by the <i>Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in New South Wales</i> .



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TSP	Means total suspended particles
TSS	Means total suspended solids
Type 1 substance	Means the elements antimony, arsenic, cadmium, lead or mercury or any compound containing one or more of those elements
Type 2 substance	Means the elements beryllium, chromium, cobalt, manganese, nickel, selenium, tin or vanadium or any compound containing one or more of those elements
utilisation area	Means any area shown as a utilisation area on a map submitted with the application for this licence
waste	Has the same meaning as in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
waste type	Means liquid, restricted solid waste, general solid waste (putrescible), general solid waste (non-putrescible), special waste or hazardous waste
Wellhead	Has the same meaning as in Schedule 1 to the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2021.

Mr Mitchell Bennett

Environment Protection Authority

(By Delegation)

Date of this edition: 07-March-2000

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End Notes

- 1 Licence varied by notice V/M upgrade, issued on 07-Jul-2000, which came into effect on 07-Jul-2000.
- 2 Licence varied by notice 1003149, issued on 14-Dec-2000, which came into effect on 08-Jan-2001.
- 3 Licence varied by notice 1011340, issued on 23-May-2002, which came into effect on 17-Jun-2002.
- 4 Licence varied by notice 1033714, issued on 15-Apr-2004, which came into effect on 10-May-2004.
- 5 Licence varied by notice 1038445, issued on 27-Jan-2005, which came into effect on 21-Feb-2005.
- 6 Licence varied by notice 1045513, issued on 26-Jul-2005, which came into effect on 20-Aug-2005.
- 7 Licence varied by notice 1051109, issued on 06-Sep-2005, which came into effect on 01-Oct-2005.
- 8 Licence varied by notice 1054190, issued on 23-Jan-2006, which came into effect on 17-Feb-2006.
- 9 Licence varied by notice 1057829, issued on 30-Jun-2006, which came into effect on 30-Jun-2006.
- 10 Licence varied by notice 1062789, issued on 24-Aug-2006, which came into effect on 24-Aug-2006.
- 11 Licence varied by notice 1068642, issued on 28-May-2007, which came into effect on 28-May-2007.
- 12 Licence varied by notice 1087264, issued on 23-May-2008, which came into effect on 23-May-2008.
- 13 Condition A1.3 Not applicable varied by notice issued on <issue date> which came into effect on <effective date>
- 14 Licence varied by notice 1103973, issued on 06-Jan-2010, which came into effect on 06-Jan-2010.
- 15 Licence varied by notice 1510275 issued on 27-Nov-2012
- 16 Licence varied by notice 1521348 issued on 01-Apr-2015
- 17 Licence varied by notice 1537087 issued on 19-Feb-2016
- 18 Licence varied by notice 1543863 issued on 22-Aug-2016
- 19 Licence varied by notice 1548550 issued on 06-Feb-2017
- 20 Licence varied by notice 1549153 issued on 09-Feb-2017

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21	Licence varied by notice	1568843 issued on 03-Oct-2018
22	Licence varied by notice	1633584 issued on 26-Oct-2023