



South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) Act 2007

Reprinted as in force on 5 December 2012

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The reprint includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made—see list of legislation and list of annotations in endnotes. Also see list of legislation for any uncommenced amendments.

This page is specific to this reprint. See previous reprints for information about earlier changes made under the Reprints Act 1992. A table of reprints is included in the endnotes.

Also see endnotes for information about when provisions commenced.

Spelling

The spelling of certain words or phrases may be inconsistent in this reprint or with other reprints because of changes made in various editions of the Macquarie Dictionary (for example, in the dictionary, ‘lodgement’ has replaced ‘lodgment’). Variations of spelling will be updated in the next authorised reprint.

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Queensland

South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) Act 2007

Contents

		Page
Chapter 1	Preliminary	
1	Short title	5
2	Commencement	5
3	Purpose	5
4	Extraterritorial application of Act	6
5	Dictionary	6
Chapter 2	Water grid manager and bulk water supply authorities	
Part 1	Establishment, powers and functions	
6	Establishment of new water entities	6
7	Powers of new water entities	7
8	Authentication of documents	7
9	Functions of new water entities other than the water grid manager	8
10	Functions of the water grid manager	10
11	Functions to be carried out commercially	10
12	Powers and functions in or out of Queensland	10
13	Delegation	10
Part 2	Boards	
Division 1	Establishment, membership and related matters	
14	Establishment and status of boards	11
15	Role of boards	11
16	Appointment of members	12
17	Chairperson	12
18	Deputy chairperson	12
19	Terms and ending of appointments	13

Contents

Division 2	Business	
20	Conduct of business	14
21	Time and place of meetings	14
22	Quorum	14
23	Presiding at meetings	14
24	Conduct of meetings	15
25	Minutes	15
26	Disclosure of interests	16
Part 3	Senior employees	
Division 1	Chief executive officer	
27	Appointment of chief executive officer	17
28	Term of appointment.	17
29	Conditions of appointment	18
30	Qualifications for appointment	18
31	Chief executive officer's responsibilities	18
32	Things done by chief executive officer	19
Division 2	Senior executives	
33	Appointment of senior executives.	19
Part 4	Reporting and accountability	
Division 1	Application of other Acts	
34	Application of financial Acts	19
35	Application of Crime and Misconduct Act 2001	20
Division 2	Reporting generally	
36	Quarterly reports	20
37	Board to keep responsible Ministers informed	20
38	Reporting to department	21
39	Other reporting requirements.	21
Division 3	Annual reports	
40	Definition for div 3.	22
41	Deletion of commercially sensitive matters from annual report	22
42	Annual report may include a summary of a matter.	22
43	Matters to be included in annual report	22
Division 4	Strategic and operational plans	
44	Interaction with the Financial Accountability Act 2009	23
45	Draft strategic and operational plans	23
46	Procedures.	23

47	Strategic or operational plan pending agreement	24
48	Strategic or operational plan on agreement	24
49	Compliance with strategic and operational plans	25
50	Modifications of strategic or operational plan	25
51	Content of operational plan	25
Part 5	Annual returns	
52	Non-application to water grid manager	26
53	Requirement to pay annual return	26
54	Amount of annual return	26
Part 6	Community service obligations	
55	Non-application to water grid manager	27
56	Meaning of community service obligations	27
57	Community service obligations to be stated in operational plan	27
Part 7	Acquisition and disposal of assets and subsidiaries	
58	Direction not to dispose of stated asset	28
59	Disposal of main undertakings	28
60	Acquiring and disposing of subsidiaries	29
Part 8	Other government direction	
61	Responsible Ministers may give directions in public interest	29
62	Liability for Commonwealth tax equivalents	30
63	New water entity and board not otherwise subject to government direction	31
Part 9	Expiry	
64	Expiry of new water entities	31
Chapter 5	Restructuring relevant water entities	
104	Relevant water entities	32
105	Transfer of shares, assets, liabilities etc. to relevant water entity	33
106	Effect on legal relationships	36
107	Ministerial direction	37
108	Registering authority to register or record transfer or other dealing	38
109	Regulation dissolving new water entity	38
110	Non-liability for State taxes	39
111	Rights of transferred employees etc.	39
113	Things done under this chapter	40
114	Excluded matter for Corporations Act	41

Contents

115	Severability	41
Chapter 6	Miscellaneous provisions	
116	Delegation by Minister	41
116A	Entry to, and use of, water entity's land after transfer of asset attached to the land	41
116B	Things done by, or given to, responsible Ministers	44
117	Regulation-making power	44
Chapter 7	Transitional provisions for South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012	
118	Application of former ss 111 and 112 to employees transferred from WaterSecure to Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority .	45
119	Continuation of repealed evidentiary provision relating to the project	46
Schedule 3	Dictionary	47
 Endnotes		
1	Index to endnotes	50
2	Date to which amendments incorporated	50
3	Key	51
4	Table of reprints	51
5	List of legislation	52
6	List of annotations	53
7	Forms notified or published in the gazette	60

South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) Act 2007

[as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before 5 December 2012]

An Act to facilitate a restructure of the water industry in south east Queensland, and for other purposes

Chapter 1 Preliminary

1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the *South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) Act 2007*.

2 Commencement

The following provisions of this Act commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation—

- section 6(1)(c) and (d)
- schedule 2, amendment of the *Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997*.

3 Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to facilitate a restructure of the water industry in south east Queensland to deliver significant benefits to the community, including—

- (a) improved regional coordination and management of water supply; and
- (b) more efficient delivery of water services; and

[s 4]

- (c) enhanced customer service for water consumers; and
- (d) a clearer accountability framework for water supply security.

4 Extraterritorial application of Act

- (1) This Act applies both within and outside Queensland.
- (2) This Act applies outside Queensland to the full extent of the extraterritorial legislative power of the Parliament.

5 Dictionary

The dictionary in schedule 3 defines particular words used in this Act.

Chapter 2 Water grid manager and bulk water supply authorities

Part 1 Establishment, powers and functions

6 Establishment of new water entities

- (1) The following entities (the *new water entities*) are established—
 - (a) the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority;
 - (b) the Queensland Bulk Water Transport Authority;
 - (c) the SEQ Water Grid Manager.
- (2) A new water entity is not a body corporate.

Note—

A new water entity does not have perpetual succession. See section 64.

- (3) A new water entity does not represent the State.

7 Powers of new water entities

- (1) A new water entity has all the powers of an individual and may, for example—
- (a) enter into contracts; and
 - (b) acquire, hold, dispose of, and deal with property; and
 - (c) employ staff; and
 - (d) appoint agents and attorneys; and
 - (e) engage consultants; and
 - (f) fix charges, and other terms, for services and other facilities it supplies; and
 - (g) do anything else necessary or convenient to be done for its functions.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a new water entity has the powers given to it under an Act.
- (3) However, a new water entity's powers are subject to any limitations under an Act.
- (4) A new water entity may sue and be sued in the name it is given under section 6(1).

8 Authentication of documents

- (1) A document made by a new water entity, other than a document required to be sealed, is sufficiently made if it is signed by the entity's chief executive officer, the chairperson of the entity's board or another person authorised by the entity's board.

Example of a document—

an instrument under section 13 delegating a function of the entity

[s 9]

- (2) A document made by a new water entity that is required to be sealed is sufficiently made if it is sealed in the way authorised by its board and signed by the entity's chief executive officer, the chairperson of the entity's board or another person authorised by the entity's board.

9 Functions of new water entities other than the water grid manager

- (1) This section applies to a new water entity other than the water grid manager.
- (2) A new water entity has the following functions to the extent they are consistent with its operational and strategic plans—

- (a) carrying out water activities and other ancillary activities;
- (b) supplying water services and other ancillary services;

Example of an ancillary service—

delivering a community education program relating to the entity's functions

- (c) supplying other services relating to the water industry, including—
- (i) engineering services; and
- (ii) services for operating or maintaining infrastructure; and
- (iii) business management services; and

Example—

services for managing government or business initiatives to save water

- (iv) energy generation; and
- (v) scientific services;
- (d) developing water supply works;
- (e) improving the supply, delivery and quality of water, including by way of—

- (i) riverine area protection; and
 - (ii) soil erosion control; and
 - (iii) land degradation treatment and prevention; and
 - (iv) nutrient management; and
 - (v) vegetation management;
- (f) using or managing the entity's land in ways that benefit the community, including for recreational purposes;
- (g) undertaking, with the State and service providers, collaborative planning activities with a view to doing each of the following and having regard to supply and demand—
- (i) supporting cost-effective operations;
 - (ii) promoting efficient use of and investment in water infrastructure and other ancillary infrastructure;
 - (iii) ensuring the safe, secure and reliable supply of water;
- (h) anything else likely to complement or enhance a function mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (g);
- (i) another function conferred under an Act.
- (3) Also, if requested by the water chief executive, the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority has the function of advising the water chief executive about its activities to assist in the performance of the water chief executive's functions under the *Water Act 2000*, chapter 2, part 2, division 4.
- (4) In this section—
- service provider** see the *Water Act 2000*, schedule 4.
- water infrastructure** see the *Water Act 2000*, schedule 4.

[s 10]

10 Functions of the water grid manager

The water grid manager has the following functions to the extent they are consistent with its operational and strategic plans—

- (a) purchasing water services;
- (b) selling water;
- (c) anything else likely to complement or enhance a function mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b);
- (d) if requested by the water chief executive, advising the water chief executive about its activities to assist in the performance of the water chief executive's functions under the *Water Act 2000*, chapter 2, part 2, division 4;
- (e) another function conferred under an Act.

11 Functions to be carried out commercially

- (1) The water grid manager must, as far as practicable, carry out its functions in a way that is consistent with sound commercial principles.
- (2) A new water entity other than the water grid manager must carry out its functions as a commercial enterprise.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a new water entity to the extent it is required under this Act to perform a community service obligation other than as a commercial enterprise.

12 Powers and functions in or out of Queensland

A new water entity may exercise its powers and perform its functions inside or outside Queensland.

13 Delegation

- (1) A new water entity may delegate a function to the chief executive officer of the entity or an appropriately qualified employee of the entity.

(2) In this section—

appropriately qualified includes having qualifications, experience or standing appropriate for the function.

function includes power.

Part 2 Boards

Division 1 Establishment, membership and related matters

14 Establishment and status of boards

- (1) Each new water entity must have a board.
- (2) However, a new water entity is not constituted by the members of its board.

15 Role of boards

- (1) A new water entity's board is responsible for the way the entity performs its functions and exercises its powers.
- (2) The board's role includes—
 - (a) deciding the strategies and the operational, administrative and financial policies to be followed by the entity; and
 - (b) ensuring the entity performs its functions and exercises its powers in a proper, effective and efficient way; and
 - (c) ensuring that, so far as practicable, the entity acts under, and achieves the objects in, its strategic and operational plans; and
 - (d) accounting to the responsible Ministers, as required by an Act, for the entity's performance; and

[s 16]

- (e) reviewing annually the performance of the entity's chief executive officer.

16 Appointment of members

- (1) A board is to consist of not less than 2 members appointed by the responsible Ministers.
- (2) In deciding whether to appoint a person as a member, the responsible Ministers must have regard to the person's ability to contribute to the implementation of the entity's strategic and operational plans.
- (3) A person may not be appointed as a member if the person—
 - (a) is a public service employee; or
 - (b) is a councillor or employee of a local government; or
 - (c) is a member of the Queensland Water Commission; or
 - (d) is an insolvent under administration; or
 - (e) has a conviction, other than a spent conviction, for an indictable offence.
- (4) Subject to section 19, a member holds office for the term, not more than 3 years, stated in the member's appointment.
- (5) If otherwise qualified, a member is eligible for reappointment.

17 Chairperson

- (1) For each board, the responsible Ministers must appoint 1 of the members as its chairperson.
- (2) Subject to section 19, the chairperson holds office for the term, ending not later than his or her term of appointment as a member, stated in his or her appointment as chairperson.

18 Deputy chairperson

- (1) For each board, the responsible Ministers may appoint 1 of the members as its deputy chairperson.

- (2) Subject to section 19, the deputy chairperson holds office for the term, ending not later than his or her term of appointment as a member, stated in his or her appointment as deputy chairperson.
- (3) The deputy chairperson is to act as chairperson—
 - (a) during a vacancy in the office of chairperson; and
 - (b) during all periods when the chairperson is absent from duty or is, for another reason, unable to perform the functions of the office.

19 Terms and ending of appointments

- (1) This section applies to a person's appointment to the office of member of a board or chairperson or deputy chairperson of a board.
- (2) For matters not provided for under this Act, the person holds the office on the terms of appointment decided by the responsible Ministers.
- (3) Except as decided by the responsible Ministers, the person is not entitled to receive any payment, any interest in property or other valuable consideration or benefit—
 - (a) by way of remuneration as holder of the office; or
 - (b) in connection with retirement from the office or other ending of the office.
- (4) The responsible Ministers may, at any time, end the appointment for any reason or none.
- (5) The person may resign the office by giving a signed notice of resignation to the responsible Ministers at least the required period before the notice is to take effect.
- (6) The appointment ends if the person becomes someone who, under section 16(3), may not be appointed as a member.
- (7) A person's appointment as member of a board does not end only because the person's appointment as chairperson or deputy chairperson of the board has ended.

[s 20]

(8) In this section—

required period means the period stated in the appointment or otherwise agreed with the responsible Ministers.

Division 2 Business

20 Conduct of business

Subject to this division, a board may conduct its business, including its meetings, in the way it considers appropriate.

21 Time and place of meetings

- (1) Board meetings are to be held at the times and places the board decides.
- (2) A board must meet at least once every 3 months.
- (3) The chairperson of a board may, at any time, call a meeting of the board.
- (4) The chairperson of a board must call a meeting of the board if asked, in writing, to do so by at least 2 members of the board.

22 Quorum

A quorum for a board is—

- (a) for a board with 2 members—both members; or
- (b) for a board with 3 or more members—3 members.

23 Presiding at meetings

- (1) The chairperson of a board is to preside at all meetings of the board at which the chairperson is present.
- (2) If the chairperson is absent from a board meeting and the deputy chairperson is present, the deputy chairperson is to preside.

- (3) If the chairperson and deputy chairperson are both absent from a board meeting (including because of a vacancy in the office), a member chosen by the members present is to preside at the meeting.

24 Conduct of meetings

- (1) A question at a board meeting is decided by a majority of the votes of the members present.
- (2) Each member present at the meeting has a vote on each question to be decided and, if the votes are equal, the member presiding also has a casting vote.
- (3) A member present at the meeting who abstains from voting is taken to have voted for the negative.
- (4) A board may hold meetings, or allow members to take part in its meetings, by using any technology that reasonably allows members to hear and take part in discussions as they happen.

Example of use of technology—

teleconferencing

- (5) A member who takes part in a meeting under subsection (4) is taken to be present at the meeting.
- (6) A resolution is validly made by a board, even if it is not passed at a board meeting, if—
 - (a) notice of the resolution is given under procedures approved by the board; and
 - (b) a majority of the board members give written agreement to the resolution.

25 Minutes

- (1) A board must keep minutes of its meetings.
- (2) A board must keep a record of any resolutions made under section 24(6).

[s 26]

26 Disclosure of interests

- (1) This section applies to a member of a board (the *interested member*) if—
 - (a) the interested member has a direct or indirect interest in an issue being considered, or about to be considered, by the board; and
 - (b) the interest could conflict with the proper performance of the interested member's duties about the consideration of the issue.
- (2) After the relevant facts come to the interested member's knowledge, the member must disclose the nature of the interest to a board meeting.
- (3) Unless the board otherwise directs, the interested member must not—
 - (a) be present when the board considers the issue; or
 - (b) take part in a decision of the board about the issue.
- (4) The interested member must not be present when the board is considering whether to give a direction under subsection (3).
- (5) If there is another person who must, under subsection (2), also disclose an interest in the issue, the other person must not—
 - (a) be present when the board is considering whether to give a direction under subsection (3) about the interested member; or
 - (b) take part in making the decision about giving the direction.
- (6) If—
 - (a) because of this section, a board member is not present at a board meeting for considering or deciding an issue, or for considering or deciding whether to give a direction under subsection (3); and
 - (b) there would be a quorum if the member were present;

the remaining members present are a quorum of the board for considering or deciding the issue, or for considering or deciding whether to give the direction, at the meeting.

- (7) If there are no members who may remain present for considering or deciding an issue, the responsible Ministers may, by each signing consent to a proposed resolution, consider and decide the issue.
- (8) A disclosure under subsection (2) must be recorded in the board's minutes.

Part 3 Senior employees

Division 1 Chief executive officer

27 Appointment of chief executive officer

- (1) Each new water entity must have a chief executive officer.
- (2) The chief executive officer is to be appointed by the entity's board with the prior written approval of the responsible Ministers.
- (3) The chief executive officer is an employee of the entity.

28 Term of appointment

- (1) Subject to this section, the chief executive officer holds office for the term, not more than 5 years, stated in his or her contract of employment.
- (2) If otherwise qualified, the chief executive officer is eligible for reappointment.
- (3) The board may, at any time, end the appointment for any reason or none.

[s 29]

- (4) The ending of the appointment under subsection (3) does not affect any rights to compensation to which the chief executive officer is entitled under the contract of employment.
- (5) The chief executive officer may resign by giving a signed notice of resignation to the board at least the required period before the notice is to take effect.
- (6) The chief executive officer's appointment ends if he or she stops being qualified to be the chief executive officer.
- (7) In this section—
required period means the period stated in the chief executive's contract of employment or otherwise agreed with the board.

29 Conditions of appointment

For matters not provided for under this Act or stated in the contract of employment, the chief executive officer holds office on the terms of appointment decided by the board.

30 Qualifications for appointment

A person may not be appointed, or continue in office, as the chief executive officer if the person—

- (a) is an insolvent under administration; or
- (b) has a conviction, other than a spent conviction, for an indictable offence; or
- (c) is not able to manage a corporation because of the Corporations Act, part 2D.6; or
- (d) is named in the register held by ASIC under the Corporations Act, section 1274AA.

31 Chief executive officer's responsibilities

The chief executive officer of a new water entity is, under the entity's board, responsible for managing the entity's affairs

under this Act and other relevant legislation and the board's policies.

32 Things done by chief executive officer

Anything done in the name of, or for, a new water entity by its chief executive officer is taken to have been done by the entity.

Division 2 Senior executives

33 Appointment of senior executives

The senior executives of a new water entity are to be appointed by the new water entity's board.

Part 4 Reporting and accountability

Division 1 Application of other Acts

34 Application of financial Acts

- (1) A new water entity is—
 - (a) a statutory body under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*; and
 - (b) a statutory body under the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*.
- (2) The *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*, part 2B, sets out the way in which a new water entity's powers under this Act are affected by the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*.

[s 35]

35 Application of Crime and Misconduct Act 2001

A new water entity is a unit of public administration under the *Crime and Misconduct Act 2001*.

Division 2 Reporting generally

36 Quarterly reports

- (1) A new water entity's board must give the responsible Ministers a report on the entity's operations for each quarter in a financial year.
- (2) A quarterly report must be given to the responsible Ministers—
 - (a) within 6 weeks after the end of the quarter; or
 - (b) if another period after the end of the quarter is agreed between the board and the responsible Ministers—within the agreed period.
- (3) A quarterly report must contain the information required to be given in the report under the entity's operational plan.
- (4) In this section—

quarter, in a financial year, means the following periods in the year—

 - (a) 1 July to 30 September;
 - (b) 1 October to 31 December;
 - (c) 1 January to 31 March;
 - (d) 1 April to 30 June.

37 Board to keep responsible Ministers informed

A new water entity's board must—

- (a) keep the responsible Ministers reasonably informed of the entity's operations, financial performance and

financial position and its achievement of the objectives in its strategic and operational plans; and

- (b) give to the responsible Ministers reports and information that they need to enable them to make informed assessments of matters mentioned in paragraph (a); and
- (c) immediately inform the relevant Ministers of any matters that arise that, in the board's opinion, may—
 - (i) prevent, or significantly affect, achievement of the objectives in the entity's strategic and operational plans; or
 - (ii) significantly affect the entity's performance in delivering the outputs under its operational plan.

38 Reporting to department

- (1) The responsible Ministers may act under this section for the purpose of monitoring, assessing or reporting on a new water entity's performance of its functions.
- (2) The responsible Ministers may require the entity or its board to report to a department administered by a responsible Minister by, for example, giving stated information at stated times to the chief executive of that department.
- (3) The entity or board must comply with the requirement.

39 Other reporting requirements

Sections 37 and 38 do not limit the matters of which the board is required to keep the responsible Ministers informed, or limit the reports or information that the board is required, or may be required, to give under another Act.

[s 40]

Division 3 Annual reports

40 Definition for div 3

In this division—

annual report, of a new water entity, means its annual report under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*.

41 Deletion of commercially sensitive matters from annual report

- (1) This section applies if a new water entity's board asks the responsible Ministers to delete from the copies of an annual report of the entity (and accompanying documents) that are to be made public a matter that is of a commercially sensitive nature.
- (2) The responsible Ministers may delete the matter from the copies of the annual report (and accompanying documents) that are laid before the Legislative Assembly or otherwise made public.

42 Annual report may include a summary of a matter

An annual report of a new water entity may include a summary of a matter required to be included in the annual report, rather than a full statement of the matter, if—

- (a) the summary indicates that is a summary only; and
- (b) a full statement of the matter is laid before the Legislative Assembly at the same time as a copy of the annual report is laid before the Legislative Assembly.

43 Matters to be included in annual report

A new water entity's annual report for a financial year must include copies of all directions given to the entity by the

responsible Ministers under this chapter during the financial year.

Division 4 Strategic and operational plans

44 Interaction with the Financial Accountability Act 2009

- (1) If something is required to be done under this division and the same thing, or something to the same effect, is required to be done under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, compliance with this division is sufficient compliance with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*.
- (2) Otherwise, the requirements under this division are in addition to the requirements under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*.
- (3) If there is an inconsistency between this division and the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, this division prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

45 Draft strategic and operational plans

- (1) Before 31 March each year, a new water entity's board must prepare, and submit to the responsible Ministers for their agreement, a draft strategic plan and a draft operational plan for the entity for the next financial year.
- (2) The board and the responsible Ministers must try to reach agreement on the draft plans as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than the start of the financial year.

46 Procedures

- (1) The responsible Ministers may return the draft strategic or operational plan to the board and ask the board—
 - (a) to consider, or further consider, a stated thing and deal with the thing in the draft plan; and

[s 47]

- (b) to revise the draft plan in the light of its consideration or further consideration.
- (2) The board must comply with the request as a matter of urgency.
- (3) If the draft plan has not been agreed to by the responsible Ministers by 1 month before the start of the financial year, the responsible Ministers may, by written notice, direct the board—
 - (a) to take stated steps in relation to the draft plan; or
 - (b) to make stated modifications of the draft plan.
- (4) The board must immediately comply with the direction and include a copy of the direction in the plan.

47 Strategic or operational plan pending agreement

- (1) This section applies if the responsible Ministers and the board have not agreed to the draft strategic or operational plan before the start of the relevant financial year.
- (2) The draft plan submitted, or last submitted, by the board to the responsible Ministers before the start of the financial year, with any modifications made by the board, whether before or after that time, at the direction of the responsible Ministers, is taken to be the entity's strategic or operational plan.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies until a draft strategic or operational plan becomes the entity's strategic or operational plan under section 48.

48 Strategic or operational plan on agreement

When the draft strategic or operational plan has been agreed to in writing by the responsible Ministers, it becomes the entity's strategic or operational plan for the relevant financial year.

49 Compliance with strategic and operational plans

A new water entity must comply with its strategic and operational plans for a financial year.

50 Modifications of strategic or operational plan

- (1) The board of a new water entity may modify the entity's strategic or operational plan only with the written agreement of the responsible Ministers.
- (2) The responsible Ministers may, by written notice, direct the board of a new water entity to modify the entity's strategic or operational plan.

51 Content of operational plan

A new water entity's operational plan for a financial year must include—

- (a) the entity's objectives; and
- (b) the entity's capital structure; and
- (c) an outline of the following matters—
 - (i) the nature and scope of the activities proposed to be undertaken by the entity during the financial year;
 - (ii) the entity's main undertakings for the financial year;
 - (iii) an outline of the borrowings made or proposed to be made by the entity;
 - (iv) an outline of the entity's policies for minimising or managing any risk of investments and borrowings that may adversely affect its financial stability; and
- (d) for a new water entity other than the water grid manager, an outline of the following matters—
 - (i) the major infrastructure investments proposed to be undertaken by the entity during the financial year;

[s 52]

- (ii) an outline of the entity's policies relating to the recreational use of the entity's premises and other infrastructure; and
- (e) the matters required under section 57.

Part 5 Annual returns

52 Non-application to water grid manager

This part does not apply to the water grid manager.

53 Requirement to pay annual return

- (1) A new water entity must pay to the State, for each financial year, an annual return of the amount decided under this part.
- (2) The return must be paid within 6 months after the end of the financial year for which it is payable or a longer period allowed by the responsible Ministers.

54 Amount of annual return

- (1) During the period from 1 to 15 May in each financial year a new water entity must give to the responsible Ministers—
 - (a) an estimate of the entity's net profit for the financial year; and
 - (b) a recommendation about the amount of the annual return to be paid for the financial year.
- (2) Before the end of the financial year, the responsible Ministers must either approve the recommendation or give the entity a direction to pay an annual return of a different stated amount.
- (3) The amount of the annual return must not be more than the amount of the estimated net profit given to the responsible Ministers under subsection (1)(a).

(4) In this section—

net profit, of a new water entity for a financial year, means the entity's total profit for the financial year after—

- (a) providing for income tax or its equivalent; and
- (b) excluding any unrealised capital gains from upwards revaluation of non-current assets.

profit has the meaning given by the accounting standards that apply to the entity under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*.

Part 6 Community service obligations

55 Non-application to water grid manager

This part does not apply to the water grid manager.

56 Meaning of *community service obligations*

The *community service obligations* of a new water entity are the obligations to perform activities that the entity's board establishes to the satisfaction of the responsible Ministers—

- (a) are not in the entity's commercial interests to perform; and
- (b) arise because of a request or direction under section 46 or a direction under section 50, 58 or 61.

57 Community service obligations to be stated in operational plan

- (1) The community service obligations that a new water entity is to perform are to be stated in its operational plan.

main undertakings, of a new water entity, means the undertakings stated to be its main undertakings in its strategic or operational plan.

60 Acquiring and disposing of subsidiaries

A new water entity may not, without the prior written approval of the responsible Ministers—

- (a) form, or participate in the formation of, a company that will become a subsidiary of the entity; or
- (b) acquire shares or participate in any other transaction that will result in a body corporate becoming or ceasing to be a subsidiary of the entity.

Part 8 Other government direction

61 Responsible Ministers may give directions in public interest

- (1) The responsible Ministers may give a new water entity's board a written direction in relation to the entity and its subsidiaries if the responsible Ministers are satisfied that, because of exceptional circumstances, it is necessary to give the direction in the public interest.
- (2) The board must ensure the direction is complied with in relation to the entity and must, as far as practicable, ensure it is complied with in relation to its subsidiaries.
- (3) Before giving the direction, the responsible Ministers must—
 - (a) consult with the board; and
 - (b) for a new water entity other than the water grid manager, ask the board to advise them whether, in its opinion, complying with the direction would not be in the

[s 62]

commercial interests of the entity or any of its subsidiaries.

- (4) The responsible Ministers must publish a copy of the direction in the gazette within 21 days after it is given.

62 Liability for Commonwealth tax equivalents

- (1) The responsible Ministers may issue a manual (the *tax equivalents manual*) about deciding the tax equivalents to be paid by a new water entity.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the tax equivalents manual may provide for—
 - (a) rulings by the tax assessor appointed under subsection (3) on issues about tax equivalents, including the application of rulings under a Commonwealth Act about Commonwealth tax; and
 - (b) the lodging of returns by new water entities; and
 - (c) assessing returns; and
 - (d) the functions and powers of the tax assessor appointed under subsection (3); and
 - (e) objections and appeals against assessments and rulings.
- (3) The responsible Ministers may appoint a person to be the tax assessor under the tax equivalents manual.
- (4) A new water entity must, as required under the tax equivalents manual, pay tax equivalents to the responsible Ministers for payment into the consolidated fund.
- (5) The responsible Ministers must table a copy of the tax equivalents manual, and each amendment of the manual, in the Legislative Assembly within 14 sitting days after the manual is issued or the amendment made.
- (6) In this section—

Commonwealth tax means tax imposed under a Commonwealth Act.

tax equivalents means amounts paid by a new water entity to the responsible Ministers, for payment into the consolidated fund, as the value of benefits derived by the entity because it is not liable to pay Commonwealth tax that would be payable by it if it were not a new water entity.

63 New water entity and board not otherwise subject to government direction

Except as otherwise provided by an Act, a new water entity and its board are not subject to direction by or on behalf of the government.

Part 9 Expiry

64 Expiry of new water entities

- (1) A new water entity expires at the end of 99 years after it is established.
- (2) The State is the successor in law of a new water entity that has expired.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), on the expiry of a new water entity—
 - (a) an asset or liability of the entity immediately before the expiry becomes an asset or liability of the State; and
 - (b) an employee of the entity immediately before the expiry becomes an employee of the State; and
 - (c) an agreement in force immediately before the expiry between the entity and another entity becomes an agreement between the State and the other entity; and
 - (d) a legal proceeding that, before the expiry, may be taken or was being taken by or against the entity may be taken or continued by or against the State.

[s 104]

- (4) A regulation may make provision about any matter necessary or convenient for giving effect to this section, including provision about—
 - (a) the transfer of an employee of the entity to a government entity, and the employee's rights; or
 - (b) the application of instruments relating to the entity; or
 - (c) the entity's records.
- (5) This section applies subject to section 109.
- (6) In this section—

record includes any document.

Chapter 5 Restructuring relevant water entities

104 Relevant water entities

- (1) Each of the following entities is a *relevant water entity*—
 - (a) a new water entity;
 - (b) Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd ACN 119 634 427;
 - (c) Southern Regional Water Pipeline Company Pty Ltd ACN 117 898 174;
 - (ca) the Queensland Water Commission;
 - (d) an entity prescribed under a regulation for this section.
- (2) A regulation made under subsection (1)(d) may only prescribe—
 - (a) an entity established under an Act; or
 - (b) a corporation ultimately owned by a relevant water entity or the State.

105 Transfer of shares, assets, liabilities etc. to relevant water entity

- (1) A regulation may make provision about any of the following for a relevant water entity—
- (a) the transfer of shares in the relevant water entity to another relevant water entity;
 - (b) the transfer of a business, asset or liability of the relevant water entity to another relevant water entity;
 - (c) the consideration for a share, business, asset or liability transferred under paragraph (a) or (b);
 - (d) the grant of a lease, easement or other right from the relevant water entity to another relevant water entity;
 - (e) the variation or extinguishment of a lease, easement or other right held by the relevant water entity;
 - (f) in relation to a lease held by the relevant water entity under the *Land Act 1994*—
 - (i) transferring the lease; or
 - (ii) changing a purpose for which the lease is issued; or
 - (iii) changing a condition imposed on the lease; or
 - (iv) granting a sublease;
 - (g) for trust land for which the relevant water entity is the trustee—
 - (i) removing the relevant water entity as trustee; or
 - (ii) appointing another relevant water entity as trustee; or
 - (iii) changing the purpose for which the trust land was reserved or granted in trust, including to a purpose other than a community purpose;
 - (h) whether and, if so, the extent to which the relevant water entity is the successor in law of another relevant water entity;

[s 105]

- (i) a legal proceeding that is being, or may be, taken by or against the relevant water entity to be continued or taken by or against another relevant water entity;
- (j) the transfer or application of an instrument to the relevant water entity, including—
 - (i) whether the relevant water entity is a party to an instrument; and
 - (ii) whether an instrument, or a benefit or right provided by an instrument, is taken to have been given to, by or in favour of the relevant water entity; and
 - (iii) whether a reference to an entity in an instrument is a reference to the relevant water entity; and
 - (iv) whether, under an instrument, an amount is or may become payable to or by the relevant water entity or other property is, or may be, transferred to or by the relevant water entity; and
 - (v) whether a right or entitlement under an instrument is held by the relevant water entity;
- (k) the transfer of an employee of the relevant water entity to another relevant water entity;
- (l) the employees of the relevant water entity transferred under paragraph (k), and their terms and conditions of employment, rights and entitlements;
- (m) the application of a particular industrial instrument to—
 - (i) the employees mentioned in paragraph (l); or
 - (ii) the relevant water entity to which the employees mentioned in paragraph (l) are transferred; or
 - (iii) other employees of the relevant water entity mentioned in subparagraph (ii);
- (n) the records of the relevant water entity;
- (o) anything incidental, consequential or supplemental to the restructure of the relevant water entity.

-
- (2) A regulation made under subsection (1)—
- (a) may transfer an asset attached to land without transferring the land, even though the asset would otherwise be a part of the land; and
 - (b) has effect despite any other law or instrument; and
 - (c) may provide for a matter by reference to a document held by an entity.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), to remove any doubt it is declared that a regulation made under section 105(1)(m) applies despite—
- (a) the *Industrial Relations Act 1999*; and
 - (b) any industrial instrument.
- (4) Subsection (2)(c) does not by implication limit the *Statutory Instruments Act 1992*, section 26.
- (5) Without limiting subsection (1), a regulation providing for a matter mentioned in subsection (1)(c) may make provision about—
- (a) how the consideration is to be decided; and
 - (b) the changing of the consideration.
- (6) Without limiting subsection (1), a regulation may make provision about accounting treatment in relation to a matter mentioned in subsection (1).
- (7) Unless the context otherwise requires, a reference in this section to a relevant water entity includes the State and the Coordinator-General.
- (8) In this section—
- employee**, of a relevant water entity, does not include a director of the entity.
- industrial instrument** see the *Public Service Act 2008*, schedule 4.
- record** includes any document.

[s 106]

106 Effect on legal relationships

- (1) Nothing done under this chapter—
 - (a) makes a relevant entity liable for a civil wrong or a contravention of a law or for a breach of a contract or confidence; or
 - (b) makes a relevant entity in breach of any instrument, including an instrument prohibiting, restricting or regulating the assignment, novation or transfer of a right or liability or the disclosure of information; or
 - (c) except as provided for under a regulation made under section 105, is taken to fulfil a condition that—
 - (i) terminates, or allows a person to terminate, an instrument or obligation; or
 - (ii) modifies, or allows a person to modify, the operation or effect of an instrument or obligation; or
 - (iii) allows a person to avoid or enforce an obligation or liability contained in an instrument or requires a person to perform an obligation contained in an instrument; or
 - (iv) requires any money to be paid before its stated maturity; or
 - (d) releases a surety or other obligee, wholly or partly, from an obligation.
- (2) If, apart from this subsection, the advice, consent or approval of a person would be necessary to do something under this chapter, the advice is taken to have been obtained or the consent or approval is taken to have been given unconditionally.
- (3) If, apart from this Act, giving notice to a person would be necessary to do something under this chapter, the notice is taken to have been given.
- (4) In this section—

relevant entity means—

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- (a) the State or an employee or agent of the State; or
 - (b) the Coordinator-General or an employee or agent of the Coordinator-General; or
 - (c) a relevant water entity, a member of a relevant water entity's board or an employee or agent of a relevant water entity.

107 Ministerial direction

- (1) The Minister may give a direction (a *transfer direction*) to a relevant water entity or its board requiring the entity or board to do something the Minister considers necessary or convenient for effectively restructuring a relevant water entity under this chapter.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), a transfer direction may be about—
 - (a) the timing of transfers of particular businesses, assets and liabilities, instruments and employees; or
 - (b) executing an instrument; or
 - (c) disclosing information.
- (3) A transfer direction must be in writing, signed by the Minister.
- (4) A relevant water entity must comply with a transfer direction given to it.
- (5) A relevant water entity's board must—
 - (a) if a transfer direction is given to the board—comply with the direction; or
 - (b) if a transfer direction is given to the entity—take the action necessary to ensure the entity complies with the direction.
- (6) A relevant water entity's employees must help the entity or its board to comply with a transfer direction given to the entity or board.

[s 108]

108 Registering authority to register or record transfer or other dealing

- (1) A registering authority must, on written application by a relevant water entity, register or record in the appropriate way a transfer of, or other dealing affecting, an asset, liability or instrument provided for under a regulation made under section 105.
- (2) The relevant water entity must comply with any relevant procedures required by the registering authority for the purpose of registering or recording the transfer or other dealing.

Example—

The registering authority may require the relevant water entity to complete and submit a particular form.

- (3) In this section—
registering authority means the registrar of titles or another entity required or authorised by law to register or record transactions affecting assets, liabilities or instruments.

109 Regulation dissolving new water entity

- (1) This section applies if all the assets and liabilities of a new water entity (the *first entity*) have become the assets and liabilities of a relevant water entity or have been otherwise disposed of by the first entity.
- (2) A regulation may dissolve the first entity and make provision about any matter for which it is necessary or convenient to make provision about the first entity's dissolution and the preparation of its final statements and report.
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), the regulation may make provision about—
 - (a) access to information and documents for preparing the first entity's final statements and report; and
 - (b) the entity that is to prepare the first entity's final statements and report.

(4) Subsection (3)(b) applies despite the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009*, sections 48(1) and 53.

(5) In this section—

final statements and report, of a relevant water entity, means the entity's final financial statements and final report under the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, sections 62 and 63.

110 Non-liability for State taxes

(1) A relevant water entity is not liable to pay a State tax in relation to—

(a) a transfer of a share, business, asset, liability or instrument, or any other thing done, under a regulation made under section 105; or

(b) another dealing affecting a share, business, asset, liability or instrument as part of a restructure of a relevant water entity under a regulation made under section 105.

(2) In this section—

State tax means a fee, levy or charge imposed under an Act, including—

(a) duty under the *Duties Act 2001*; and

(b) a fee or charge under the *Land Act 1994*, the *Land Title Act 1994* or the *Water Act 2000*.

111 Rights of transferred employees etc.

(1) This section applies if there is a transfer of an employee (a ***transferred employee***) from a relevant water entity (the ***transferor***) to another relevant water entity (the ***transferee***) under a regulation made under section 105.

(2) The transfer does not—

(a) reduce the transferred employee's total remuneration; or

[s 113]

- (b) prejudice the transferred employee's existing or accruing rights to superannuation or recreation, sick, long service or other leave; or
 - (c) interrupt continuity of service, except that the transferred employee is not entitled to claim the benefit of a right or entitlement more than once in relation to the same period of service; or
 - (d) constitute a termination, retrenchment or redundancy of the transferred employee's employment by the transferor; or
 - (e) entitle the transferred employee to a payment or other benefit merely because he or she is no longer employed by the transferor; or
 - (f) require the transferor to make any payment in relation to the transferred employee's accrued rights to recreation, sick, long service or other leave irrespective of any arrangement between the transferor and the transferred employee.
- (3) The transfer has effect despite any other contract, law or instrument.
- (4) If the regulation mentioned in subsection (1) provides for the application of a particular industrial instrument to an employee of the transferee other than a transferred employee, the provision does not reduce the other employee's total remuneration.

113 Things done under this chapter

- (1) A thing may be done under this chapter despite any other law or instrument.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that a thing is taken to be done under this chapter if it is done by, or in compliance with, a regulation made under section 105 or direction given under section 107, even if the thing includes taking steps under another Act.

114 Excluded matter for Corporations Act

Anything done by the Minister under section 107 is an excluded matter for the Corporations Act, section 5F, in relation to the Corporations Act, chapter 2D.

115 Severability

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if a provision of—
 - (a) this chapter; or
 - (b) a regulation made under section 105;is held by a court or judge to be beyond power, invalid or unenforceable.
- (2) The provision is to be disregarded or severed and the court's or judge's decision does not affect the remaining provisions of this chapter or the regulation which continue to have effect.
- (3) This section does not affect the operation of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*, section 9 in any way.

Chapter 6 Miscellaneous provisions

116 Delegation by Minister

- (1) The Minister may delegate the Minister's functions under this Act, except functions as a responsible Minister or under section 67, to the chief executive of the department.
- (2) In this section—

functions includes powers.

116A Entry to, and use of, water entity's land after transfer of asset attached to the land

- (1) This section applies if—

[s 116A]

- (a) a water entity owns land, or is the trustee of trust land, to which an asset is attached; and
 - (b) the land or asset is transferred, or the water entity is removed as trustee for the trust land and another water entity is appointed as trustee, under a transfer notice; and
 - (c) after the transfer or change in the trusteeship, a water entity (the *asset owner*) owns the asset and another water entity (the *land owner*) owns or occupies the land to which the asset is attached.
- (2) An employee or agent of the asset owner may enter the land or a structure on the land, at all reasonable times, if the entry is—
- (a) necessary to do something relating to the asset for the exercise of the asset owner's functions as a water entity; or
 - (b) necessary for the continued use of the asset in a way it was lawfully used before the transfer.

Examples of things for which entry may be necessary—

- carrying facilities into, through, across or under the land
 - performing work in the land
 - inspecting, operating, changing, maintaining, removing, repairing or replacing the asset
- (3) Also, the asset owner may allow other persons to enter the land or a structure on the land at the times stated, and as otherwise provided for, in the transfer notice.
- (4) Subsections (2) and (3) do not apply to the entry of a structure, or the part of a structure, used for residential purposes.
- (5) Subsections (2) and (3) do not limit the making of other agreements between the asset owner and land owner about entry to, or use of, the land.
- (6) The land owner may not, without the asset owner's written consent—
- (a) interfere with the asset; or

-
- (b) take any step to change the use of the land; or
 - (c) carry out material works or make material improvements to the land; or
 - (d) transfer the land to someone else; or
 - (e) grant rights to anyone else in relation to the land that are inconsistent with the land owner's use of the land at the time of the transfer.
- (7) The asset owner may give a written request to the registrar of titles to record the following information (the *prescribed information*)—
- (a) that this section applies to the land;
 - (b) a description of the asset;
 - (c) the name of the asset owner.
- (8) On receiving the request, the registrar of titles must make a record in a way that a search of the register kept by the registrar under any Act relating to the land will show the prescribed information.
- (9) On written request from the asset owner, the registrar of titles must cancel a record made under subsection (8).
- (10) If the land owner incurs loss or damage because of the asset owner's exercise of a power under this section, the land owner is entitled to be paid compensation by the asset owner as worked out under the transfer notice or otherwise agreed between them.
- (11) A reference in this section to land to which an asset is attached is a reference to—
- (a) the parcel of land, for which there is an instrument of title, that includes the particular area covered by the asset; and
 - (b) for subsections (2) and (3), other contiguous land owned or occupied by the land owner.
- (12) In this section—

[s 116B]

repealed, in relation to a provision of this Act, means the provision as it was in force immediately before its repeal by the *South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012*.

transfer notice has the meaning given under repealed section 67.

water entity has the meaning given under repealed section 65.

116B Things done by, or given to, responsible Ministers

- (1) If, under this Act, a thing is required to be done or may be done by the responsible Ministers, the thing is to be done by the Ministers jointly.
- (2) If, under this Act, a thing is required to be given or may be given to the responsible Ministers, the thing is to be given to each of the Ministers.
- (3) However, if the responsible Ministers' offices are held, or the functions of the offices are being performed, by 1 person, the thing may be done by, or given to, that person alone.

117 Regulation-making power

The Governor in Council may make regulations under this Act.

Chapter 7 Transitional provisions for South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012

118 Application of former ss 111 and 112 to employees transferred from WaterSecure to Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority

- (1) This section applies to employees transferred from WaterSecure to the Authority under a regulation made under section 105.
- (2) On the commencement of this section—
 - (a) former sections 111 and 112 stop applying for the transferred employees; and
 - (b) any requirement in a document for the Authority to act in accordance with former section 112 no longer applies.
- (3) In this section—

Authority means the Queensland Bulk Water Supply Authority.

former, in relation to a provision, means as in force immediately before the replacement or repeal of the provision by the *South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012*.

WaterSecure means the Queensland Manufactured Water Authority previously established under former section 6.

119 Continuation of repealed evidentiary provision relating to the project

- (1) Repealed section 95, as it was in force immediately before the commencement of this section, continues to apply despite its repeal.
- (2) For subsection (1), a term used in repealed section 95 has the meaning given under this Act as it was in force immediately before the commencement of this section.

Note—

Repealed section 95 provided for—

- a certificate signed by the Minister to be evidence of particular matters relating to the project; and
- a copy of a project direction certified by the Minister to be evidence of the direction.

Schedule 3 Dictionary

section 5

agent, of an entity, includes a person engaged by the entity.

annual report, of a new water entity, for chapter 2, part 4, division 3, see section 40.

annual return means the annual return payable under chapter 2, part 5.

asset includes a right.

board—

- (a) generally, means a new water entity's board; and
- (b) in relation to a chief executive officer, means the board of the new water entity of which he or she is the chief executive officer.

community service obligations see section 56.

Coordinator-General means the Coordinator-General under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*.

government entity see the *Public Service Act 2008*, section 24.

indictable offence includes an indictable offence dealt with summarily, whether or not the Criminal Code, section 659 applies to the indictable offence.

information includes a document.

insolvent under administration see the Corporations Act, section 9.

instrument means any document, and includes—

- (a) an oral agreement; and
- (b) an application; and

- (c) an accreditation, allocation, approval, certificate, entitlement, exemption, licence, manual, notice, permit, plan and any other authority.

new water entities see section 6(1).

operational plan, of a new water entity, means the entity's operational plan in force under chapter 2, part 4, division 4.

relevant water entity see section 104.

responsible Ministers, in relation to a new water entity, means—

- (a) the Minister administering this Act; and
- (b) the Minister administering the entity.

restructure, of a relevant water entity, includes the transfer of a share, business, asset, liability, instrument or employee of the relevant water entity to another relevant water entity.

right includes power, privilege and immunity.

senior executive, of a new water entity, includes the holder of an office in the entity that reports directly to the entity's chief executive officer and that is commensurate with an office held by a senior executive under the *Public Service Act 2008*.

spent conviction means a conviction—

- (a) for which the rehabilitation period under the *Criminal Law (Rehabilitation of Offenders) Act 1986* has expired under that Act; and
- (b) that is not revived as prescribed by section 11 of that Act.

strategic plan, of a new water entity, means the entity's strategic plan in force under chapter 2, part 4, division 4.

subsidiary, of a new water entity, means a body corporate that would be a subsidiary of the new water entity under the Corporations Act, part 1.2, division 6 if the new water entity were a body corporate.

trust land means land dedicated as a reserve, or granted in fee simple in trust, under the *Land Act 1994*, chapter 3, part 1.

water chief executive means the chief executive under the *Water Act 2000*.

water grid manager means the SEQ Water Grid Manager established under section 6.

water service see the Water Supply Act, schedule 3.

Water Supply Act means the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

water supply works see the *Water Act 2000*, schedule 4.

Endnotes

1 Index to endnotes

	Page
2 Date to which amendments incorporated	50
3 Key	51
4 Table of reprints	51
5 List of legislation	52
6 List of annotations	53
7 Forms notified or published in the gazette	60

2 Date to which amendments incorporated

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). Accordingly, this reprint includes all amendments that commenced operation on or before 5 December 2012. Future amendments of the South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) Act 2007 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

3 Key

Key to abbreviations in list of legislation and annotations

Key	Explanation	Key	Explanation
AIA	= Acts Interpretation Act 1954	(prev)	= previously
amd	= amended	proc	= proclamation
amdt	= amendment	prov	= provision
ch	= chapter	pt	= part
def	= definition	pubd	= published
div	= division	R[X]	= Reprint No. [X]
exp	= expires/expired	RA	= Reprints Act 1992
gaz	= gazette	reloc	= relocated
hdg	= heading	renum	= renumbered
ins	= inserted	rep	= repealed
lap	= lapsed	(retro)	= retrospectively
notfd	= notified	rv	= revised edition
num	= numbered	s	= section
o in c	= order in council	sch	= schedule
om	= omitted	sdiv	= subdivision
orig	= original	SIA	= Statutory Instruments Act 1992
p	= page	SIR	= Statutory Instruments Regulation 2002
para	= paragraph	SL	= subordinate legislation
prec	= preceding	sub	= substituted
pres	= present	unnum	= unnumbered
prev	= previous		

4 Table of reprints

Reprints are issued for both future and past effective dates. For the most up-to-date table of reprints, see the reprint with the latest effective date.

If a reprint number includes a letter of the alphabet, the reprint was released in unauthorised, electronic form only.

Reprint No.	Amendments included	Effective	Notes
1	none	16 November 2007	
1A	none	2 May 2008	s 6(1)(c)–(d) commenced
1B	2008 Act No. 34	21 May 2008	
1C	2008 Act No. 34	1 July 2008	
1D	2008 Act No. 75	11 December 2008	
1E	2009 Act No. 9	1 July 2009	
1F	2009 Act No. 25	2 November 2009	
1G	2009 Act No. 46	3 November 2009	
1H	2009 Act No. 36	18 December 2009	
1I	2009 Act No. 17	1 July 2010	R1I withdrawn, see R2
2	—	1 July 2010	
2A	2011 Act No. 4	4 April 2011	
2B	2011 Act No. 8	8 April 2011	

Endnotes

Reprint No.	Amendments included	Effective	Notes
2C	2011 Act No. 33	28 October 2011	
2D	2012 Act No. 39	5 December 2012	

5 List of legislation

South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) Act 2007 No. 58

date of assent 16 November 2007

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

s 6(1)(c)–(d) commenced 2 May 2008 (2008 SL No. 106)

sch 2 (amdt of the Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997) commenced 1 July 2008 (2008 SL No. 178)

remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

amending legislation—

Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 No. 34 ss 1, 2(2), ch 10 pt 3, s 751 sch 2

date of assent 21 May 2008

ss 1–2, 751 commenced on date of assent

s 663, sch 2 commenced 1 July 2008 (2008 SL No. 202)

remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 2008 No. 75 s 1, pt 16

date of assent 11 December 2008

commenced on date of assent

Financial Accountability Act 2009 No. 9 ss 1, 2(2), 136 sch 1

date of assent 28 May 2009

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 July 2009 (2009 SL No. 80)

Local Government Act 2009 No. 17 ss 1, 2(4), 331 sch 1

date of assent 12 June 2009

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 July 2010 (2010 SL No. 122)

Criminal Code and Other Legislation (Misconduct, Breaches of Discipline and Public Sector Ethics) Amendment Act 2009 No. 25 pt 1, s 83 sch

date of assent 11 August 2009

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 2 November 2009 (2009 SL No. 241)

Sustainable Planning Act 2009 No. 36 ss 1–2, 872 sch 2

date of assent 22 September 2009

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 18 December 2009 (2009 SL No. 281)

South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) and Natural Resources Provisions Act 2009 No. 46 s 1, ch 7 pt 4

date of assent 3 November 2009
commenced on date of assent

Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2011 No. 4 ss 1, 69 sch pt 1

date of assent 4 April 2011
commenced on date of assent

Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2011 No. 8 s 1, pt 11

date of assent 8 April 2011
commenced on date of assent

Disaster Readiness Amendment Act 2011 No. 33 pts 1, 3

date of assent 28 October 2011
commenced on date of assent

South East Queensland Water (Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012 No. 39 pts 1, 3, s 102 sch pt 2

date of assent 5 December 2012
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent
pt 3 div 3, sch pt 2 not yet proclaimed into force (see s 2)
remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

6 List of annotations

CHAPTER 2—WATER GRID MANAGER AND BULK WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITIES

ch hdg sub 2009 No. 46 s 119

Establishment of new water entities

s 6 amd 2012 No. 39 s 23

Functions of new water entities other than the water grid manager

s 9 amd 2011 No. 33 s 16; 2012 No. 39 s 24

Functions of the water grid manager

s 10 amd 2011 No. 33 s 17

Functions to be carried out commercially

s 11 amd 2012 No. 39 s 25

Appointment of members

s 16 amd 2011 No. 8 s 94

Disclosure of interests

s 26 amd 2008 No. 75 s 98

Appointment of senior executives

s 33 sub 2008 No. 75 s 99

Application of financial Acts

s 34 amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1

Definition for div 3

s 40 def “annual report” amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1

Interaction with the Financial Accountability Act 2009

prov hdg amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1

s 44 amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1

Amount of annual return

s 54 amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1

Expiry of new water entities

s 64 amd 2011 No. 8 s 95

CHAPTER 3—PROJECT FOR BULK WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITIES

ch hdg sub 2009 No. 46 s 120

om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 1—PRELIMINARY

pt hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Water entities

s 65 amd 2008 No. 75 s 100; 2009 No. 17 s 331 sch 1

om 2012 No. 39 s 28

The project

s 66 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 2—PARTICULAR MINISTERIAL POWERS

pt hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Transfer notice

s 67 amd 2008 No. 34 s 661

om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Project direction

s 68 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 3—MATTERS RELATING TO THE WATER ACT AND WATER SUPPLY ACT

pt hdg amd 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2

om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Division 1—Preliminary

div hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Definitions for pt 3

s 69 def “Water Supply Act” ins 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2

om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Words have meanings given by the Water Act

s 70 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Words have meanings given by the Water Supply Act

s 70A ins 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Division 2—Matters relating to new water entities

div hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Non-application to water grid manager

s 71 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

New water entities are service providers

s 72 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Entry into service provider register

s 73 amd 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Submission of plans

s 74 amd 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Application of pricing direction

s 75 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Division 3—Matters relating to water entities

div hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Automatic transfer of instruments relating to transferred works

s 76 amd 2011 No. 33 s 18
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

References to SEQ Water relating to particular transferred authority

s 77 amd 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Transfer of infrastructure

s 78 amd 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 4—APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS AND INSTRUMENTS

pt hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Constructing authority for particular land acquired under the Acquisition of Land Act 1967

s 79 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Coordinator-General is constructing authority for particular land to be taken under the Acquisition of Land Act

s 79A ins 2008 No. 34 s 662
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Matters relating to the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 or the repealed Integrated Planning Act 1997

prov hdg amd 2009 No. 36 s 872 sch 2
s 80 amd 2008 No. 34 s 663; 2009 No. 36 s 872 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Reconfiguring a lot after transfer notice takes effect

s 80A ins 2008 No. 34 s 664
amd 2009 No. 36 s 872 sch 2
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Terminating trust land and granting freehold interest under the Land Act

s 80B ins 2008 No. 34 s 664
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Granting lease under the Land Act

s 80C ins 2008 No. 34 s 664
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Non-liability for State taxes

s 81 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 5—OTHER MATTERS

pt hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Time within which Minister may act

s 82 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Chapter applies despite other laws and instruments

s 83 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Decisions not reviewable

s 84 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Effect on legal relationships

s 85 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Excluded matter for Corporations Act

s 86 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Disclosure and use of information for the project

s 87 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Registering authority to register or record transfer

s 88 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Preservation of rights of transferred employees

s 90 amd 2011 No. 4 s 69 sch pt 1
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Prohibition on retrenchment because of project

s 91 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

CHAPTER 4—OTHER MATTERS FOR THE PROJECT

ch hdg sub 2009 No. 46 s 121
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 1—MISCELLANEOUS

pt hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Staff support framework

s 92 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Evidentiary aids

s 95 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

PART 2—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

pt hdg om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Appointment of first chief executive officer

s 97 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Appointment of board members

s 98 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

New water entity's first strategic and operational plans

s 99 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

New water entity's first quarterly plan

s 100 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

New water entity's first plans under Financial Accountability Act 2009

prov hdg amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1

s 101 amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1
om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Annual return for a new water entity's first financial year

s 102 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

Amendment of regulation

s 103 om 2012 No. 39 s 28

CHAPTER 5—RESTRUCTURING RELEVANT WATER ENTITIES

ch hdg ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

PART 3—AMENDMENTS

pt hdg om R1C (see RA s 7(1)(k))

Division 1—Amendment of Superannuation (State Public Sector) Act 1990

div hdg om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))

Relevant water entities

s 104 prev s 104 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 104 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98
amd 2012 No. 39 s 29

Transfer of shares, assets, liabilities etc. to relevant water entity

s 105 prev s 105 om R1 (see RA s 40)

Endnotes

pres s 105 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98
amd 2012 No. 39 s 30

Effect on legal relationships

s 106 prev s 106 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 106 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

Ministerial direction

s 107 prev s 107 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 107 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

Registering authority to register or record transfer or other dealing

s 108 prev s 108 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 108 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

Regulation dissolving new water entity

s 109 prev s 109 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 109 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

Non-liability for State taxes

s 110 prev s 110 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 110 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98
amd 2012 No. 39 s 31

Rights of transferred employees etc.

s 111 prev s 111 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 111 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98
sub 2012 No. 39 s 32

Division 2—Amendment of State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971

div hdg om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))

Prohibition on retrenchment because of transfer of employee

s 112 orig s 112 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 112 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98
om 2012 No. 39 s 33

Things done under this chapter

s 113 prev s 113 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 113 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

Division 3—Amendment of Transport Infrastructure Act 1994

div hdg om R1 (see RA s 7(1)(k))

Excluded matter for Corporations Act

s 114 prev s 114 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 114 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

Severability

s 115 prev s 115 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 115 ins 2011 No. 8 s 98

CHAPTER 6—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**ch hdg** ins 2011 No. 8 s 98**Delegation by Minister****s 116** prev s 116 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 116 (prev s 94) renum and reloc 2011 No. 8 s 96**Entry to, and use of, water entity's land after transfer of asset attached to the land****s 116A** (prev s 89) amd 2008 No. 34 s 665; 2012 No. 39 s 26(1)
renum and reloc 2012 No. 39 s 26(2)**Things done by, or given to, responsible Ministers****s 116B** (prev s 93) renum and reloc 2012 No. 39 s 27**Division 4—Amendment of other laws****div hdg** om R1C (see RA s 7(1)(k))**Regulation-making power****s 117** prev s 117 om R1 (see RA s 40)
pres s 117 (prev s 96) renum and reloc 2011 No. 8 s 97**CHAPTER 7—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND WATER (RESTRUCTURING) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT ACT 2012****ch 7 (ss 118–119)** ins 2012 No. 39 s 34**SCHEDULE 1—LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE WATER ENTITIES**amd 2009 No. 17 s 331 sch 1
om 2012 No. 39 s 35**SCHEDULE 2—AMENDMENT OF OTHER LAWS**amd R1 (see RA s 40)
om R1C (see RA s 40)**SCHEDULE 3—DICTIONARY**def “**asset**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99def “**Caloundra–Maroochy Water Supply Board**” om 2009 No. 17 s 331
sch 1def “**certified agreement**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99
om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)def “**Coordinator-General**” reloc from s 67 2008 No. 34 s 661def “**Esk–Gatton–Laidley Water Board**” amd 2009 No. 17 s 331 sch 1
om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)def “**FAA Act**” om 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1def “**government entity**” amd 2009 No. 25 s 83 schdef “**infrastructure department**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)def “**instrument**” sub 2012 No. 39 s 36def “**person involved in the project**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)def “**project**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)def “**project direction**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)def “**relevant water entity**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99def “**restructure**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99

def “**right**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99
def “**senior executive**” amd 2009 No. 25 s 83 sch
def “**Seqwater**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99
om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**SunWater**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**transfer notice**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**treasury department**” amd 2009 No. 9 s 136 sch 1
om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**trust land**” reloc from s 67 2008 No. 34 s 661
def “**Water Act**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**water activity**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**water chief executive**” ins 2011 No. 33 s 19
def “**water entity**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**Water regulation**” om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**WaterSecure**” ins 2011 No. 8 s 99
om 2012 No. 39 s 36(1)
def “**water service**” amd 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
def “**Water Supply Act**” ins 2008 No. 34 s 751 sch 2
sub 2012 No. 39 s 36

7 Forms notified or published in the gazette

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