

Environmental Protection (Water) Amendment Policy (No. 2) 2013

Explanatory Notes for SL 2013 No. 272

made under the

Environmental Protection Act 1994

General outline

Short title

Environmental Protection (Water) Amendment Policy (No. 2) 2013

Authorising law

Sections 26 and 33 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the amendment policy is to amend the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009* (Environmental Protection Water Policy) to remove the requirement for local government environmental plans about total water cycle management and trade waste management.

Achievement of policy objectives

The *Environmental Protection (Water) Amendment Policy (No. 2) 2013* (Amendment Policy) enables the achievement of the policy objectives. It removes the requirement for local government prescribed plan preparation and review under the Environmental Protection Water Policy.

The Amendment Policy facilitates the transformation to future key performance indicator reporting on water cycle and trade waste management and annual comparative performance reporting by Queensland's water sector, resulting in improved industry and sector-wide environmental oversight.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The amendment policy is consistent with the objectives of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The Amendment Policy is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

In addition to reducing the regulatory burden on local governments, whilst maintaining environmental oversight, the Amendment Policy supports the government's Governing for Growth commitment and advances local governments' self-determination, accountability and transparency.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The Amendment Policy is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

Local Governments have been consulted on the proposed changes to the environmental planning requirements under the Environmental Protection Water Policy, and generally support the approach.