

# **Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2020**

Explanatory notes for SL 2020 No. 157

made under the

*Water Act 2000*

## **General Outline**

### **Short title**

*Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2020*

### **Authorising law**

Section 54 of the *Water Act 2000*

### **Policy objectives and the reasons for them**

The objective of this subordinate legislation is to postpone the expiry of the *Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan 2010*.

The *Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan 2010* continues to be appropriate for the plan area and the water plan outcomes in general, are being achieved. Postponing the expiry of the water plan until 1 December 2025 will ensure that sustainable water management arrangements remain in place for the plan area's water users, including the Proserpine River Water Supply Scheme. It will also allow the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (the department) to undertake additional assessment of the plan outcomes and where appropriate, address identified current and emerging issues as part of future plan review process prior to the plan's expiry in 1 December 2025.

There are no expected adverse impacts of the postponement of plan expiry on water users or the environment.

## **Achievement of policy objectives**

The policy objectives are achieved through the notice, which is declared to be subordinate legislation under section 56(2) of the *Water Act 2000*.

## **Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law**

The notice is consistent with the objectives of the *Water Act 2000*.

## **Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation**

The notice is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation. The subordinate legislation is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

## **Benefits and costs of implementation**

There are no costs associated with implementation of this notice.

## **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The notice is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

## **Consultation**

A notice outlining the proposed new expiry date for the plan and the reasons for the proposed postponement was published on the department's website and advertised in the Mackay Daily Mercury and Whitsunday Coast Guardian. Public submissions received were considered in making a final decision to postpone the expiry of the *Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan 2010*.

The Office of Best Practice Regulation has previously been consulted in relation to this type of notice and has confirmed that a Regulatory Impact Statement is not required.