

Water (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021

Explanatory notes for SL 2021 No. 70

made under the

Water Act 2000

General Outline

Water (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021

Authorising law

Section 1014 of the *Water Act 2000* (the Act)

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the Water (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021 (amendment regulation) is to index regulatory fees and makes minor amendments and correction of errors relating to fees and charges, in the Water Regulation 2016. Regulatory fees are reviewed annually in accordance with government policy.

Achievement of policy objectives

The amendment regulation will achieve its objective by increasing fees and charges under the Act administered by the department. An index figure of 1.70 per cent has been applied (with rounding for coinable amounts), in accordance with the Government Indexation Rate for 2021–22.

The amendment regulation will adjust fees and charges levied accordingly, commencing 1 July 2021.

The minor amendments and corrections will achieve consistency and currency of the department's legislation in line with government objectives.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The amendment regulation is consistent with the objective of the Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The amendment regulation is not inconsistent with any policy objectives of any legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The indexation of fees provides a mechanism understood by the community and industry to maintain price relativity, aiding the government in formulating the state and departmental budgets.

There are no additional costs associated with implementing the amendment regulation.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The amendment regulation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

In accordance with the *Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation*, the Office of Best Practice Regulation was not consulted in relation to the regulatory proposal. The department applied self-assessable exclusions from undertaking further regulatory impact analysis (Category (h) - Regulatory proposals that put forward standard annual fee variations in line with or below a government endorsed indexation factor and Category (f) - Regulatory proposals that correct technical errors or amend legislation to take account of current Queensland drafting practice).

No stakeholder consultation was undertaken as the amendment regulation implements annual fee increases by the government indexation rate approved by the Cabinet Budget Review Committee and advised by Queensland Treasury.