

# Proclamation – Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023

Explanatory notes for SL 2024 No 120

made under the

*Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023*

## General Outline

### Short title

Proclamation commencing certain provisions of the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023*.

### Authorising law

Section 2 of the *Water Amendment Legislation Act 2023*.

### Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the Proclamation is to commence sections 35 to 39, 44 to 52, 53 to the extent it inserts 1309B, 54 and Schedule 1, Part 2 of the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023*. These sections specify measurement requirements to enhance the existing operational and administrative framework to manage the take of water in Queensland under the *Water Act 2000*. It also includes provisions to update terminology regarding measurement and measurement devices in the *Water Act 2000*.

### Achievement of policy objectives

The policy objective is achieved by fixing 22 July 2024 as the commencement date for sections 35 to 39, 44 to 52, 53 to the extent it inserts 1309B, 54 and Schedule 1, Part 2 of the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023*.

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

The Proclamation is consistent with the policy objectives of the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* which are to amend the *Water Act 2000* to:

- establish a regulatory framework for implementing Queensland's strengthened policy for measuring the take of non-urban water; and
- improve operational efficiency.

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

The Proclamation is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

## **Benefits and costs of implementation**

Commencing provisions 35 to 39, 44 to 52, 53 to the extent it inserts 1309B, 54 and Schedule 1, Part 2 of the *Water Legislation Amendment Act 2023* will allow administrative and operational arrangements to be developed to ensure water take can be appropriately measured and the receipt of information about water take can be improved.

The commencement of these provisions does not present any additional costs for government. The Queensland non-urban water measurement policy implementation plan approved by Queensland Government sets out how the strengthened measurement policy will be implemented, including priorities and timeframes for new water metering and measurement requirements.

## **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The Proclamation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

## **Consultation**

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet and Queensland Treasury have been consulted.

The Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water has self-assessed the Proclamation to be excluded from further regulatory impact analysis under Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy on the basis that it is a regulatory proposal of a machinery nature.