

# Water (SEQ Bulk Suppliers and Bulk Water Customers) Amendment Regulation 2020

## Human Rights Certificate

### Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Dr Anthony Lynham MP, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy provide this human rights certificate with respect to the Water (SEQ Bulk Suppliers and Bulk Water Customers) Amendment Regulation 2020 made under the *Water Act 2000* (Water Act).

In my opinion, the Water (SEQ Bulk Suppliers and Bulk Water Customers) Amendment Regulation 2020, as tabled in the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

## Overview of the Subordinate Legislation

The feedwater supplied by Urban Utilities is considered to be a bulk service under the Water Act. Section 360V of the Water Act provides that the supply of bulk services may be made only under a bulk water supply agreement between a South East Queensland (SEQ) bulk supplier and a bulk water customer for the bulk services. Seqwater is the SEQ bulk supplier and Urban Utilities a bulk water customer for drinking water purposes. For the provision of feedwater, Urban Utilities must be declared an SEQ bulk supplier and Seqwater a bulk water customer.

Section 360C of the Water Act states that an entity may be declared under a regulation to be a bulk water customer or an SEQ bulk supplier.

The purpose of the Water (SEQ Bulk Suppliers and Bulk Water Customers) Amendment Regulation 2020 is to make the necessary definition declarations to enable the provision of feedwater from Urban Utilities six wastewater treatment plants to Seqwater's three advanced water treatment plants.

## Human Rights Issues

### Human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

No Human Rights are negatively affected or engaged by the amendments as the amendments relate only to two corporate entities.

In a broader sense, the proposed amendment supports the delivery of section 16 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*—the right to life—by delivering water security to the SEQ community by reducing pressure on current key bulk water storages. Achieving this will support the purposes of the Water Act as well as the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, to deliver safe

and reliable water sources to South East Queenslanders. As such, the amendment delivers positively to the protection of human rights for Queenslanders.

## **Conclusion**

I consider that the Water (SEQ Bulk Suppliers and Bulk Water Customers) Amendment Regulation 2020 is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because the amendments relate only to two corporate entities and do not impact upon individuals

**DR ANTHONY LYNHAM MP**  
MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY

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