

Water Plan (Georgina and Diamantina) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2024

Human Rights Certificate for SL 2024 No 116

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

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Glenn Butcher, Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water provide this human rights certificate with respect to the Water Plan (Georgina and Diamantina) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2024 made under the *Water Act 2000*.

In my opinion, the Water Plan (Georgina and Diamantina) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2024, 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 Postponement of Expiry Notice is subordinate legislation and must be published in the gazette. It is published under section 56(1) of the *Water Act 2000* and the new expiry date for the Water Plan (Georgina and Diamantina) 2004 (Water Plan) is 5 August 2027. This will ensure that sustainable water management arrangements remain in place for the Water Plan area's water users after the current expiry date of 5 August 2024.

The Postponement of Expiry Notice is made under section 55 of the *Water Act 2000* where the expiry date of a water plan can be postponed while the water plan is being replaced, but it is not subject to a public consultation process.

The process to replace the Water Plan commenced on 24 April 2024 with the publishing of the Preliminary Public Consultation notice.

Human Rights Issues

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

The decision of the Minister to postpone the expiry of the Water Plan until 5 August 2027 to prepare a new water plan to replace the existing water plan does not engage any human rights.

The postponement of the expiry of the Water Plan until 5 August 2027 stated under the Water Plan (Georgina and Diamantina) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2024 will preserve the existing water management framework under the Water Plan while providing more time to prepare the new water plan under the *Water Act 2000*.

Conclusion

I consider that the Water Plan (Georgina and Diamantina) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2024 is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it does not limit human rights.

GLENN BUTCHER MP
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING AND
MINISTER FOR WATER

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