



Victoria Government Gazette

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Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF DECISION

Water (Estimation, Supply and Sewerage) Regulations 2014

I, Peter Walsh, Minister for Water and Minister responsible for administering the **Water Act 1989**, give notice under section 12 of the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994** as follows:

A Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) was prepared in relation to the proposed Water (Estimation, Supply and Sewerage) Regulations 2014 (proposed Regulations). The objective of the proposed Regulations is to prescribe responsibilities for the custody of water meters; the testing of water meters; the estimation of water supply; the maintenance obligations of water corporations and property owners; the installation and testing of backflow prevention devices; the lodging of sanitary drainage plans and other matters required or permitted by the **Water Act 1989** necessary to be prescribed.

The RIS was advertised on 20 February 2014 in the Government Gazette and 22 February 2014 in the Herald Sun seeking public comment and four submissions were received. After considering the submissions, and after further considering the proposed Regulations, I have decided that the proposed Regulations should be made with the following amendments:

- minor technical amendments for accuracy and readability of the proposed Regulations;
- the definition of 'sewerage works' has been broadened to capture circumstances where the edge of a building is near the boundary of a serviced property;
- a definition of 'road' has been included as a consequence of the new requirement for maintenance of sanitary works within a road;
- a new definition of 'extended sanitary works' has been included to clarify maintenance obligations where an individual has agreed to provide for and maintain sanitary drains outside the boundary of their property boundary;
- the ability of requests to test a water meter to be made to the water corporation verbally (regulation 8);
- the inclusion of a requirement that a water corporation must install a new water meter at the time a water meter is removed for testing (regulation 8);
- provision for a water corporation to be responsible for maintaining extended sanitary works within a road. This is to ensure that customers are not responsible for maintaining works that are installed under a road or road reserve (regulation 20);
- clarification that Part 3 of the regulations do not apply to extended sanitary works except where the regulations identify the responsibility of water corporations. This is to ensure that the regulations do not override existing arrangements between the water corporation and its customer.

Dated 9 June 2014

PETER WALSH MLA
Minister for Water

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