



Our ref: DWERDT215951
Enquiries: Clint Roberts, Ph 9726 4166

Mr Paul Reid
Assistant Director – Utility Services Regulation
Economic Regulation Authority
PO Box 8469
PERTH BC WA 6849

Via email to: publicsubmissions@era.com.au

Dear Mr Reid

CONSULTATION ON DRAFT DECISION – WATER LICENCE REVIEW 2019

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation made a submission to the Economic Regulation Authority's issues paper as part of the *Water Licence Review* on 20 May 2019. The department maintains its position concerning that submission and requests the authority's consideration of additional advice as part of its submission on the *draft decision – water licence review*.

The department requests that 'public drinking water source area' is added as a definition within *section 1.1.1* of the water service licence template.

Public drinking water source areas are defined as 'catchment areas, water reserves or underground water pollution control areas constituted under the *Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage, and Drainage Act 1909* or the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947*'.

The department understands that this review is limited to the format and terms and conditions of the water licence template and does not cover the water licensing framework. However, the addition of this definition will achieve the following:

- support the Authority's assessment of an application that includes a potable water service or change in class to a potable water service to be in the public interest
- support the application process to define the area consistent with the *Water Services Act 2012*, (Act) section 10 Application for licence (2)(b)(i) *the area or areas of the State in which it is proposed to provide the service*
- support the Authority in its deliberation under the Act, section 11 Grant of Licence (2) *For each class of water service authorised by a licence, the licence authorises the provision of the service — (a) in the operating area or areas of the licence specified for the service*

- allow the applicant to identify if the source of 'potable water' is within a 'public drinking water source area' or not
- allow the applicant to identify the area where 'potable water' is supplied from, in terms of a 'potable water supply service', and if it is within a 'public drinking water source area' or not

The department trusts that the Authority will consider this additional information. Should you have any queries, please contact Clint Roberts on 9726 4166.

Yours sincerely

Nygarie Goyal
Executive Director, Science and Planning
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
23 / 10 / 2019