



Amendment of the metering rules in the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018

Presenters:

Dan Connor Director, Metering and Licensing

Mark Harris Manager, Water Policy and Legislation

November 2024

Acknowledgement of Country



Agenda

Introduction

Purpose of the Regulation amendments

Non-urban metering amendments

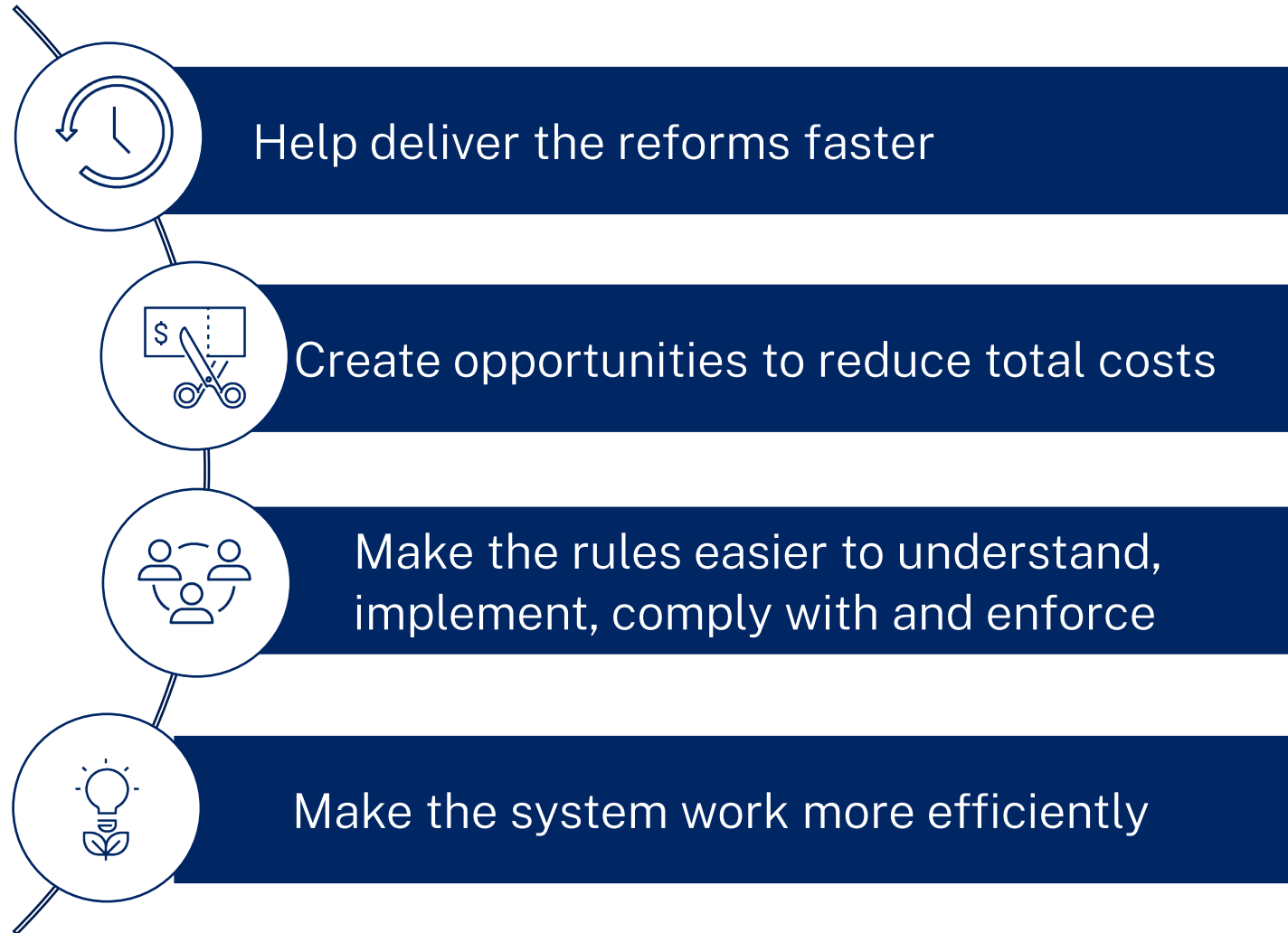
Floodplain Harvesting amendments

Questions

21 November 2024

Purpose of the Non-urban metering review

To accelerate implementation of the reforms by identifying practical changes that would:



Non-urban metering - implementation progress

Track Progress | Report Quarterly | Ready for further interventions

Adjust the rules

Support DQPs

Support water
users

Improve systems



Draft regulation amendments developed and exhibited



DQP 'concierge' established



DQP Portal enhancements commenced



Planning underway for 'unintended works' and coastal water user engagement

Non-urban metering amendments

Key changes to metering requirements

Measurement requirements	Works	When
AS4747 compliant meter • DQP validation • LID & telemetry	All surface water pumps ≥ 500 mm Works nominated by ≥ 100 ML of total entitlement, unless exempt¹	Now Inland – now Coastal – 1 Dec 2026
Pattern-approved meter • <i>DQP & LID/telemetry optional</i> • Mandatory recording & reporting	Works nominated by >15 and <100 ML of total entitlement, unless exempt¹	By the later of 1 December 2027 or next approval renewal date
No meter , unless trading allocations • Mandatory recording & reporting	Works nominated by total entitlement ≤ 15 ML (unless a surface water pump ≥ 500 mm)	

¹ Groundwater bores less than 200mm in diameter are exempt along with surface water pumps less than 100mm

(See amendment 11 in Schedule 3 of the amending regulation)

Remove metering requirements for 'unintended' and inactive works

Introducing a classification system will accurately identify water supply works as:

- constructed
- not constructed
- decommissioned
- taking water for basic landholder rights only
- not taking water from a water source
- declared by the landholder to be not taking water.

Only works classified as 'constructed' will require compliant metering.

(See amendment 2 in Schedule 1, amendment 13 in Schedule 2 and amendment 5 in Schedule 3 of the amending regulation)

Support and expand the duly qualified person workforce

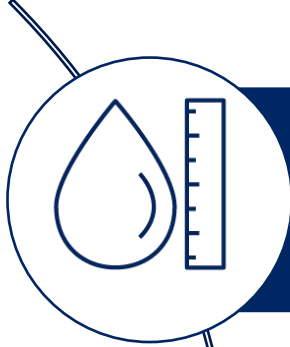


Under the proposed amendments the definition of DQPs will be broadened to recognise individuals with relevant skills to qualify such as plumbers & electricians

The initial meter revalidation requirement will be extended to 10 years & every 5 years thereafter

(See Schedule 4 of the amending regulation)

Changes to faulty metering provisions



Notification requirements



Recording requirements



Repair or replacement

(See amendments 3 to 14 in Schedule 1 of the amending regulation)

Work size changes and notification requirements



Under the proposed amendments approval holders will be required to notify the department if:

they demolish a work that is smaller than authorised on their work approval and construct a different sized work.

(See amendment 27 in Schedule 1 of the amending regulation)

At-risk water sources

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- Currently in an 'at-risk' water source, all works, regardless of size are required to install an AS4747 meter
 - It is proposed to remove 'at-risk' water sources (Schedule 9) from the regulation
 - Once improved data on metered and non-metered extraction has been obtained, the department will consider whether it needs to develop criteria identifying at-risk water sources
 - If this proposed amendment is made, approval holders with low-risk works in the 53 groundwater sources currently listed in Schedule 9 of the regulation will no longer be required to install a meter, but will continue to be required to report and record their take
 - Approval holders who have already installed a meter can continue to use it to meet recording and reporting obligations

Floodplain harvesting amendments

Measurement options for unregulated river access licences taking overland flow



Under the proposed amendments unregulated river access licence holders will be able to use storage metering to measure overland flow

This aligns their metering options with floodplain harvesting access licence holders

(See Schedule 2 in the amending regulation)

Permitting the use of water during a floodplain harvesting measurement period



Under the proposed amendments stored or buffer zone water can be used during a measurement period if the infrastructure that moves the water out of storage or the buffer zone is metered.

This aims to address the impracticalities of current options without compromising measurement requirements.

(See amendment 13 in Schedule 2)

Clarifying the start of a floodplain harvesting measurement period

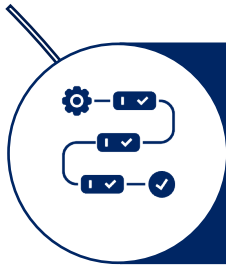


The proposed amendments specify the measurement period for overland flow will start when either of the following occurs:

- overland flow is taken from the floodplain or brought under control of a work listed on the approval
- if overland flow cannot be separate from water taken under another licence, exemption or basic landholder right

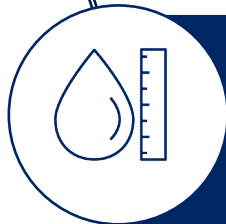
(See amendments 13 and 14 in Schedule 2 of the amending regulation)

Other floodplain harvesting amendments



Buffer zone definition

amendment 5 in Schedule 2 of the amending regulation



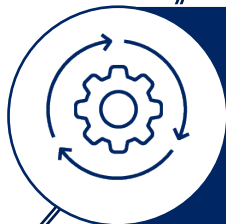
DQP criteria for point-of-intake

amendment 5 in Schedule 4 of the amending regulation



Clarify that rules apply to all works

amendment 13 in Schedule 2 of the amending regulation



Controlling infrastructure

amendment 13 in Schedule 2 of the amending regulation

How to have your say

- Complete the survey on our website
www.water.nsw.gov.au/metering-review
- scan the QR code
- email
water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au



Public consultation period runs until 8 December