

Amendments to the Water Regulation 2016

Changes apply from 22 July 2024

What certified meter installers and validators need to know

The recent changes to the water regulation strengthen water measurement and help us to manage our precious resources fairly and sustainably.

As well as meters, the water regulation now applies to a broader range of measurement devices including telemetry and water level stations.

Many of the changes don't require your immediate action and will be implemented gradually over the next 6 months. We will keep you informed about what you need to do as changes are rolled out so you can meet your obligations as a duly qualified person (DQP).

You can continue to operate as you have in the past, whereby a water user will engage your services to validate and certify their device.

Transitional arrangements are in place to allow new meter validations, and revalidations of existing meters that are already underway prior to [commencement date], to continue with no changes.

The amended regulation now uses the term 'certification' when referring to the process where a duly qualified person inspects and certifies whether a device meets the measurement standards. You will continue to conduct meter validation inspections as these are part of the meter certification process.

From 22 July 2024

- You will be required to submit Module A – Water meter validation (Form W2F119A) directly to the department and provide a copy of the form to the water user.
- If you have been engaged to repair or replace a faulty meter – note that the timeframe water users have for repairing or replacing a faulty meter has changed from 60 business days to 30 business days (about 6 weeks).
- Measurement devices such as meters will continue to be certified by a duly qualified person. The type of duly qualified person will differ depending on the type of measurement device.
 - For a closed conduit meter and modular meter – Certified meter installer and validator issued by Irrigation Australia
 - For a storage meter – Certified storage meter installer and validator issued by Irrigation Australia
 - For a telemetry device – certification as a telemetry installer and validator issued by Irrigation Australia.
- The certification of a closed conduit meter, modular meter and storage meter will expire 5 years from the date of certification (the date the certificate is signed by the DQP).

The amended regulation establishes the types of **duly qualified persons** required to perform specific functions for certifying a measurement device.

'Certified meter installers and validators' and 'certified storage meter installers and validators' are types of duly qualified persons.

- Minor updates to the [Queensland interim water meter standard for non-urban metering](#) have been made, including:
 - Removing the departmental requirement to undertake additional training by meter manufacturers prior to certifying an Accusonic 85010+; Flexim Fluxus F501; MACE XCi; McCrometer FPI MAG; Siemens SONOKIT8000 and Siemens SONO self-contained meters.

Note: The department will work with Irrigation Australia on how to incorporate this specialist training into DQP training and continuing professional development.
 - Updating tamper evident seal requirements to align with the *Irrigation Australia Guidelines – For the use of tamper evident seals on non-urban water meters*.

Other changes that will progressively occur

- Later this year the department is seeking to release an online portal to enable DQPs to simplify the way meter certifications are submitted to the department, removing the need to use the paper form.
- To coincide with this release -
 - the [Queensland interim water meter standard for non-urban metering](#) will be replaced by the Queensland non-urban water measurement standards. This new set of standards will include the meter standards that DQPs are familiar with using. The department will also streamline and improve the readability of these standards.
 - An updated Module A – Water meter validation form will be released and will align with the data entry requirements of the online portal.
 - Water users will be required to notify the department of the works they are using to take water under an authorisation via a separate form. Therefore, works information will be removed from the Module A – Water meter validation form.

We have sought feedback from a sample of DQPs about form design for the online portal and user experience.

Information and support

Information and support to help you understand the regulation changes and what the changes mean for DQPs, will be provided as the changes are progressively implemented.

Useful links

- Access the amended [water regulation](#).
- Access [Schedule 11 of the water regulation](#).
- Find out about [faulty meter](#) requirements.
- Read about [water meter approval and validation](#)

Contact your [local business centre](#).