

CASSOWARY COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL



USAGE OF METERED STANDPIPES POLICY

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1. Authority

Under section 145(1) of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*, a person may not take water from a fire fighting system or Council's hydrant without permission, unless the water is taken for fire fighting purposes.

Under section 195(1) of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* a person must not take water from Council's infrastructure without approval, unless the water is taken for fire fighting purposes or the water is supplied for general public use.

Metered standpipes will be owned by and remain the property of Council.

Fire Brigade and Emergency Services are exempt.

2. Policy Objective

Council is committed to protecting the environment and reducing water consumption. To help us save one of the world's most precious resources, Council has introduced metered standpipes.

Standpipes are used to obtain water directly from hydrants on Council mains for activities such as road works, water carting and concrete sawing.

Council believes that the use of a metered standpipe is fairer and more equitable in ensuring charges reflect actual usage and endorses Council's commitment to reducing water consumption.

The use of unmetered standpipes to draw water from Council's water supply system or hydrants on a water main owned by Council is not permitted.

Only metered standpipes hired from Council may be used to draw water from Council's water supply system or hydrants on a water main owned by Council.

3. Intended Use

The treated water product for Council's water supply system is intended for the highest use ie uses requiring potable quality and intended for the general population. The water is not intended to be used for special industrial, commercial or other uses, such as aquaculture, pharmaceuticals, medical uses and other uses that need water of a different quality from potable water.

There are people (such as the old, young, pregnant or immunocompromised) who are advised to provide additional point-of-use treatment before drinking the water based on specific medical advice as such patients are not necessarily the intended users.

Council takes no responsibility for the quality of water after it has left the Council reticulation system. Domestic delivery vessels supplying clients with water for drinking purposes must have a current registered health inspection certificate from Council.

4. Conditions to be Imposed

The conditions of a permission or approval issued under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* will:

- (a) require the water to be taken from Council infrastructure via the use of a metered standpipe hired from Council or a standpipe management system operated by Council; and
- (b) require the holder of the permission or approval to comply with the conditions of use for the metered standpipe; and
- (c) prohibit the holder of the permission or approval from hiring the metered standpipe to another person; and
- (d) require filling to be carried out using an appropriate backflow prevention system; and
- (e) define the location for the taking of water.

5. Standpipe Hire System and adoption of documents

Council will implement a standpipe hire system and adopt the attached documents ie:

- Short Term Metered Standpipe Hire Application Form;
- Long Term Metered Standpipe Hire Application Form;
- Metered Standpipe Conditions of Hire and Use (Short Term);
- Metered Standpipe Conditions of Hire and Use (Long Term);
- Metered Standpipe Self Read Form.

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Minute number: 0803

Policy review: 3 years or as determined by Council.