



Licence




Water Industry Retail Licence

Wattle Range Council

ABN 48 797 441 024

This licence was issued by the **Commission** on 11 December 2012 and last varied on the date specified below.



.....
Adam Wilson
Chief Executive Officer and Commission authorised signatory

19 November 2021

.....
Date

Variation history

Amendment number	Variation date	Reason
ESCOSA01	October 2021	Variation to include Beachport CWMS and addition of Hardship Policy

1 Definitions and interpretation

- 1.1 Words appearing in bold like **this** are defined in Part 1 of the Schedule.
- 1.2 This licence must be interpreted in accordance with the rules set out in Part 2 of the Schedule.

2 Grant of licence

- 2.1 Subject to the conditions set out in this licence, the **licensee** is licensed under Part 4 of the **Act** to provide the **retail services** specified in Part A of the Annexure to the **customers** specified in Part B of the Annexure.

3 Term

- 3.1 This licence commences on the date it is issued and continues until it is:
- (a) surrendered by the **licensee** under section 32 of the **Act** or
 - (b) suspended or cancelled by the **Commission** under section 33 of the **Act**.

4 Fees

- 4.1 The **licensee** must pay the applicable licence fees in accordance with section 24 of the **Act**.

5 Sale and supply of retail services to customers

- 5.1 At the request of a **customer** that owns or occupies land situated within an area proclaimed under the Local Government Act 1999 to be the area of the licensee, the **licensee** must make an offer to provide the **retail services** set out in Part A of the Annexure to this licence to that customer on terms and conditions which are consistent with this licence, the **Act**, applicable **industry codes** and any other applicable laws.
- 5.2 When the **licensee** sells and supplies **retail services** to a **customer** under this clause, it must comply with any terms and conditions set out in any applicable **industry code** made by the Commission relating to contractual terms and conditions.

6 Compliance with laws and industry codes

- 6.1 The **licensee** must comply with all applicable laws and any technical or safety requirements or standards in regulations under the **Act**.
- 6.2 The **licensee** must notify the **Commission** if it commits a material breach of the **Act** within 3 days of becoming aware of that breach.
- 6.3 The **licensee** must:
- (a) comply with any applicable **industry code** or **industry rule** made by the **Commission** under the **ESC Act** as in force from time to time
 - (b) comply with any applicable minimum service standards imposed under any applicable **industry code, industry rule** or other regulatory instrument made by the **Commission** from time to time and any specified technical or safety requirements or standards
 - (c) monitor and report to the **Commission** on its levels of compliance with any applicable **industry code** or **industry rule** provisions or minimum service standards, and

- (d) notify the **Commission** in accordance with any applicable guideline if it commits a material breach of any applicable **industry code** or **industry rule** made by the **Commission** within 3 days of becoming aware of that breach.

7 Provision of information to customers

7.1 When the **licensee** provides **retail services** to a **customer**, the **licensee** must:

- (a) comply with all applicable provisions of any **industry code** made by the **Commission** relating to the provision of pricing information, and
- (b) include the information prescribed by regulation under the **Act** in each account for **retail services** provided to a **customer**.

8 Restriction, discontinuance & disconnection

8.1 The **licensee** must not restrict, discontinue or disconnect, or take any action which may lead to the restriction, discontinuance or disconnection of supply of **retail services**, except in accordance with the restriction, discontinuance and disconnection procedures set out in the **Act**, any applicable **industry code** or, otherwise, in accordance with the customer's **customer sale contract**.

9 Ombudsman and disputes

9.1 The licensee must develop and implement procedures to resolve customer complaints and disputes in accordance with any applicable **industry code** for **customers** covered by that **industry code** and, for all other **customers**, in accordance with the basic procedures set out in AS ISO 10002-2006 (as amended from time to time).

9.2 In addition to clause 9.1 the **licensee** must, if notified in writing by the **Commission**, participate in an **Ombudsman Scheme**.

10 Accounts and separate businesses

10.1 The **licensee** must, if required by the **Commission**:

- (a) establish and maintain accounts exclusively in respect of the operations authorised by this licence;
- (b) establish and maintain separate consolidated accounts in respect of the operations authorised by this licence and any other activity which requires authorisation by licence under the **Act**, and
- (c) allocate any costs shared between the operations authorised by this licence and any other activity undertaken by the **licensee** according to a methodology that is well accepted, fair and reasonable, and transparent.

11 Information to the Commission

11.1 The **licensee** must, from time to time if required by the **Commission** and in a manner and form determined by the **Commission**, provide to the **Commission**:

- (a) details of the **licensee's** financial, technical and other capacity to continue its operations authorised by this **licence**, and
- (b) such other information as the **Commission** may require.

- 11.2 The **licensee** must notify the **Commission** in writing of any changes to its officers or major shareholders (if applicable) within 20 **business days** of that change occurring.
- 11.3 The **licensee** must promptly notify the **Commission** of any significant reduction in its financial capacity which has potential to impact upon the **licensee's** ability to carry on the operations authorised by this licence.

12 Operational and compliance audits

- 12.1 The **licensee** must undertake periodic audits of the operations authorised by this licence and of its compliance with its obligations under this licence and any applicable **industry codes** in accordance with the requirements of any applicable guideline issued by the **Commission** for this purpose.
- 12.2 The **licensee** must also conduct any further audits at a frequency and in a manner approved by the **Commission**.
- 12.3 The results of audits conducted under this clause 12 must be reported to the **Commission** in a manner approved by the **Commission**.
- 12.4 The **Commission** may require the **licensee** to use an independent expert approved by the **Commission** to conduct audits under this clause 12.
- 12.5 The **Commission** may require the costs of using an independent expert approved by the **Commission** to conduct audits under this clause 12 to be met by the **licensee**.

13 Insurance

- 13.1 The **licensee** must undertake and maintain, during the term of this licence, appropriate and adequate insurance of kinds and levels reflective of the nature of the operations carried on under this licence and the risks associated with those operations.
- 13.2 The **licensee** must annually provide to the **Commission** evidence that it holds appropriate insurance to an acceptable level in a form approved by the **Commission**.

14 Customer concessions and community service obligations

- 14.1 The **licensee** must comply with the requirements of any scheme approved and funded by the **Minister**:
- (a) for the provision by the State of customer concessions or the performance of community service obligations by the **licensee**, and
 - (b) for the purposes of providing specified exemptions from the requirement to pay for the specified services.

15 Confidentiality

- 15.1 The **licensee** must, unless otherwise required or permitted by law, this licence or an **industry code**:
- (a) comply with any rules determined by the **Commission** from time to time relating to the use of information acquired by the **licensee** in the course of operating the business authorised by this licence, and
 - (b) ensure that information concerning **customers** is not disclosed without the explicit informed consent of those **customers**.

16 Variation

16.1 This licence may only be varied in accordance with section 28 of the **Act**.

17 Transfer

17.1 This licence may only be transferred in accordance with section 29 of the **Act**.

18 Hardship policy

18.1 The **licensee** must comply with the customer hardship policy applying in relation to the **licensee** under subsection 37(3) of the **Act**.

Schedule: Definitions and Interpretation

Part 1 – Definitions

In this licence:

Act means the *Water Industry Act 2012* (SA)

best endeavours means to act in good faith and use all reasonable efforts, skill and resources

business day means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in the State of South Australia

Commission means the Essential Services Commission as established under the **ESC Act**

consumer means a person supplied with **retail services** as a consumer or user of those services

customer has the meaning given to that term in the **Act**, namely a person who owns land in relation to which a **retail service** is provided and includes:

- (a) where the context requires, a person seeking the provision of a **retail service**
- (b) in prescribed circumstances, a person supplied with **retail services** as a **consumer** or user of those services (without limiting the application of this definition to owners of land), and
- (c) a person of a class declared by the regulations to be customers

customer sale contract means a contract between the **licensee** and a **customer** for the sale and supply of **retail services** to that **customer**

ESC Act means the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002* (SA)

industry code includes any **industry code** made by the **Commission** under section 28 of the **ESC Act**

industry rule includes any **industry rule** made by the **Commission** under section 28 of the **ESC Act**

licensee means Wattle Range Council (ABN 48 797 441 024)

Minister means the Minister responsible for the administration of the **Act**

non-residential customer means a **customer** other than a **residential customer**

Ombudsman Scheme means an ombudsman scheme, the terms and conditions of which are approved by the **Commission**

residential customer means a **customer** which acquires **retail services** primarily for domestic purposes

retail services has the meaning given to that term in the **Act**, namely a service constituted by:

- (a) the sale and supply of **water** to a person for use (and not for resale other than in prescribed circumstances (if any)) where the water is to be conveyed by a reticulated system, or
- (b) the sale and supply of **sewerage services** for the removal of **sewage**

(even if the service is not actually used) but does not include any service, or any service of a class, excluded from the ambit of this definition by the regulations

sewage includes any form of waste that may be appropriately removed or dealt with through the use of a **sewerage service**

sewerage service means:

- (a) a service constituted by the collection, storage, treatment or conveyance of **sewage** through the use of a reticulated system, or

- (b) any other service, or any service of a class, brought within the ambit of this definition by the regulations, and

water includes rainwater, stormwater, desalinated water, recycled water and water that may include any material or impurities, but does not include **sewage**.

Part 2 - Interpretation

In this licence, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) headings are for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this licence
- (b) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa
- (c) words importing a gender include any gender
- (d) an expression importing a natural person includes any company, partnership, trust, joint venture, association, corporation or other body corporate and any governmental agency
- (e) a reference to any statute, regulation, proclamation, order in council, ordinance or bylaw includes all statutes, regulations, proclamations, orders in council, ordinances or by-laws varying, consolidating, re-enacting, extending or replacing them and a reference to a statute includes all regulations, proclamations, orders in council, ordinances, by-laws and determinations issued under that statute
- (f) a reference to a person includes that person's executors, administrators, successors, substitutes (including, without limitation, persons taking by novation) and permitted assigns
- (g) a reference to a document or a provision of a document includes an amendment or supplement to, or replacement or novation of, that document or that provision of that document
- (h) an event which is required under this licence to occur on or by a stipulated day which is not a **business day** may occur on or by the next business day, and
- (i) a reference to a person includes that person's executors, administrators, successors, substitutes (including, without limitation, persons taking by novation) and permitted assigns.

ANNEXURE

Part A – Retail services

Provision of sewerage services at Kalangadoo, Penola, Southend and Beachport. Specifically, the operation of Community Wastewater Management Systems and associated infrastructure.

Part B – Customers

Non-residential customers and residential customers



The Essential Services Commission
Level 1, 151 Pirie Street Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 2605 Adelaide SA 5001
T 08 8463 4444

E escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au | W www.escosa.sa.gov.au