# ERA Standard

***Environmental Protection Act 1994***

## Eligibility Criteria and Standard Conditions for Petroleum Activities on a Pipeline Licence

*This document provides eligibility criteria and standard conditions for petroleum pipeline activities.*

An environmentally relevant activity (ERA) standard is made up of two parts:

- **Eligibility criteria** are constraints set to ensure environmental risks associated with the operation of the ERA are able to be managed by the standard conditions.
- **Standard conditions** are the minimum operating requirements an environmental authority holder must comply with.

For requirements for the surrender of an environmental authority refer to the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.*

## Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for a standard or variation application for an environmental authority, the activity (the relevant activity) must consist of undertaking petroleum pipeline activities to which the tenure applies, where the relevant activity meets the following eligibility criteria:

| Eligibility criteria category | Eligibility criteria |
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| **ERA** | Petroleum activity on a pipeline licence |
| **Activity description** | Construction and operation of a petroleum pipeline |
| **Tenure Description** | Legislation: *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*<br>Tenement Type: Pipeline Licence |
| **Activity location** | No eligibility criteria location constraints apply |
| **Activity operations** | The petroleum activity will not:<br>a) involve the injection of a waste fluid or gas for gas storage into a natural underground reservoir or aquifer;<br>b) include a regulated structure;<br>c) include extending an existing pipeline by more than 150 kilometres under a petroleum authority;<br>d) include constructing a new pipeline of more than 150 kilometres under a petroleum authority;<br>e) occur in coastal waters of Queensland;<br>f) include carrying out of the following environmentally relevant activities (ERAs):<br>i. ERA 8 – Chemical Storage;<br>ii. ERA 60(1a) – (1d) – Regulated waste disposal; |



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| | iii. ERA 60(2d) – (2h) – General waste disposal > 10,000t/year;<br>iv. ERA 63(1a)(ii) – (1b)(ii), (1c) – (1g) – Sewage treatment with a total daily peak design capacity of greater than 21 equivalent persons (EP) which releases to other than an infiltration trench or irrigation scheme or where the sewage treatment activities have a total combined daily peak design capacity exceeding 1500 EP<br>v. ERA 64(2a) and (2b) and (4a) and (4b) – Water treatment where desalination of more than 0.5ML of water is treated, allowing the release of waste to waters other than seawater; or carrying out, in a day, advanced treatment of 5ML or more of water, allowing the release of waste only to seawater; or to waters other than seawater. |

# Which conditions apply

- All Conditions apply to activities authorised under the environmental authority.

Note: Defined terms in this document are underlined the first time they appear, and their definitions are provided in Appendix 1.

# Standard conditions

**Schedule A – Authorised activities**

*Explanatory note: Conditions in Schedule A apply in addition to those in all other schedules. The purpose of Schedule A is to outline that while certain activities are authorised under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004, a number of activities are not authorised or are otherwise restricted under the standard conditions in Schedule A (i.e. the 'PPSCA' conditions). This is because the process followed for a standard application does not require a formal assessment by the administering authority. An environmental authority for petroleum activities is not an authority to negatively impact on water levels or pressure heads in groundwater aquifers in or surrounding formations. There are obligations to minimise or mitigate any such negative impact under other Queensland Government and Commonwealth Government legislation.*

| Condition Number | Condition |
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| **PPSCA 1.** | The following types of petroleum activities are not authorised:<br>a) processing or storing petroleum or petroleum by-products that are not necessarily associated with pipeline construction or operation<br>b) extracting earthen materials (other than drilling waste rock or trench spoil) of more than 100,000t/year<br>c) extracting by dredging more than 1000t/year of material from the bed of naturally occurring surface waters<br>d) construction of power lines (either above or below ground) outside the right of way necessary for the pipeline. |
| ***Explanatory Note:*** *Standard Condition (PPSCA 1(d)) does not authorise additional significant disturbance to land. The construction of power lines must be within the pipeline's right of way* | |

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| **PPSCA 2.** | Only low impact petroleum activities can be undertaken within:<br>a) a protected area under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*;<br>b) a marine park under the *Marine Parks Act 2004* that is classified under that Act as a conservation park zone, buffer zone, scientific research zone, marine national park zone, or preservation zone;<br>c) an endangered regional ecosystem;<br>d) an of concern regional ecosystem;<br>e) habitat for threatened wildlife;<br>*f)* a legally secured offset area under the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014;*<br>*g)* a declared fish habitat area under the *Fisheries Act 1994*<br>h) a wetland of significant environmental values;<br>i) a designated precinct of a Strategic Environmental Area;<br>j) a feature protection area, State forest park or scientific area under the *Forestry Act 1959;*<br>k) an area to the seaward side of the highest astronomical tide;<br>l) a watercourse of significant environmental values; and<br>m) an area where marine plants are located |
| **PPSCA 3.** | Activities within a waterway providing for the passage of fish must maintain a flow path and fish passage. |
| **PPSCA 4.** | Records demonstrating compliance with standard condition (PPSCA 1, 2 and 3) must be kept. |

| **Schedule B – Protection Environmental Values**<br>*Explanatory Note: Conditions in Schedule B apply in addition to those in all other schedules. The purpose of the conditions in Schedule B is to outline the environmental values to be protected or enhanced to minimise environmental harm resulting from the petroleum activities. Negative impacts to these environmental values beyond the authorisations in the standard conditions in Schedule B (i.e. the 'PPSCB' conditions) are considered unlawful environmental harm.* | |
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| **PPSCB 1.** | Petroleum activities must not cause environmental nuisance from dust, odour, light, smoke or noise at a sensitive place, other than where an alternative arrangement is in place. |
| **PPSCB 2.** | Contaminants must not be directly or indirectly released to waters, land or air except for those releases authorised by standard conditions (PPSCC 7), (PPSCC 10), (PPSCC 18), (PPSCC 19), (PPSCC 21), (PPSCC 22), (PPSCC 23), (PPSCC 24), (PPSCE 2), and (PPSCF 3). |
| **Site planning** | |
| **PPSCB 3.** | Prior to carrying out petroleum activities, the location of petroleum activities must be selected to:<br>a) firstly, avoid, then minimise, then mitigate any negative impacts on areas of vegetation or other areas of ecological value |

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| | b) minimise disturbance to land that may otherwise result in land degradation<br>c) minimise isolation, fragmentation or dissection of tracts of vegetation that would lead to a reduction in the current level of ecosystem functioning or ecological connectivity<br>d) minimise clearing of mature or hollow bearing trees. |
| **PPSCB 4.** | Prior to any significant disturbance to land, a suitably qualified person must undertake:<br>a) an ecological assessment of areas with native vegetation that are to be significantly disturbed, with the assessment conducted in accordance with the Queensland Government's *Biocondition, a Condition Assessment Framework for Terrestrial Biodiversity in Queensland, Assessment Manual*;<br>b) an assessment of the impacts that will occur as a result of significant disturbance to land must be undertaken; and<br>c) an assessment of the likely presence of native fauna and/or relevant habitat features (e.g., logs, hollows, burrows, nests etc.) that may support native fauna in the disturbance area. |
| **PPSCB 5.** | Significant disturbance to land with potential to result in impacts to native fauna as identified by condition PPSCB 4 c) must be undertaken under the direction of a fauna spotter-catcher that is a suitably qualified person. The fauna spotter must be actively engaged to identify, relocate and minimise impacts to native fauna. |
| **PPSCB 6.** | Records must be kept to demonstrate compliance with standard condition, PPSCB 3 and PPSCB 4. |

| **Schedule C – Operating standards**<br>*Explanatory Note: Schedule C outlines the operating requirements considered by the administering authority to be acceptable performance standards. In complying with the standard conditions in Schedule C (i.e. the 'PPSCC' conditions), the holder will be carrying out the petroleum activities in a way that reduces the risk of environmental harm. Industry is encouraged to exceed these performance standards.* | |
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| **PPSCC 1.** | All plans, procedures and reports must:<br>a) be certified by a suitably qualified person<br>b) be kept on record for a minimum of 5 years. |
| **PPSCC 2.** | All plans and procedures required to be developed must be implemented. |
| **Plant and equipment** | |
| **PPSCC 3.** | All plant and equipment reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with the standard conditions must be installed, maintained and operated in their proper and effective condition. |
| **PPSCC 4.** | Fauna must not become entrapped during the construction and operation of well infrastructure and dams |
| **Activities in watercourses, wetlands, lakes and springs** | |

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| **PPSCC 5.** | Petroleum activities that require earthworks, vegetation clearing and/or placing fill, other than that associated with the construction of linear infrastructure, are not permitted in or within:<br>a) 200 metres of any wetland, lake or spring; or<br>b) 100 metres of the outer bank of any other watercourse. |
| **PPSCC 6.** | The construction and/or maintenance of linear infrastructure that will result in significant disturbance to a wetland, lake, spring or watercourse must be conducted in accordance with the following order of preference. Conducting works:<br>a) Firstly, in times where there is no water present.<br>b) Secondly, in times of no flow.<br>c) Thirdly, in times of flow, but in a way that does not impede low flow. |
| **PPSCC 7.** | Petroleum activities must not result in water turbidity increases of more than 10% in high ecological value waters outside contained construction or maintenance areas. |
| **PPSCC 8.** | The construction and/or maintenance of linear infrastructure that will result in significant disturbance to a lake, spring, watercourse or wetland must be designed and undertaken by a suitably qualified person in accordance with the *Riverine protection permit exemption requirements (WSS/2013/726)*. |
| **Erosion and sediment control** | |
| **PPSCC 9.** | Measures must be implemented and maintained to minimise stormwater entry onto significantly disturbed land. |
| **PPSCC 10.** | For petroleum activities involving significant disturbance to land, control measures that are commensurate to the site-specific risk of erosion, and risk of sediment release to waters must be implemented to:<br>a) allow stormwater to pass through the site in a controlled manner and at non-erosive flow velocities<br>b) minimise soil erosion resulting from wind, rain, and flowing water<br>c) minimise the duration that disturbed soils are exposed to the erosive forces of wind, rain, and flowing water<br>d) minimise work-related soil erosion and sediment runoff; and<br>e) minimise negative impacts to land or properties adjacent to the activities (including roads). |
| **PPSCC 11.** | The measures required by standard conditions, PPSCC 10 and PPSCC 11 must be in accordance with the International Erosion Control Association (IECA) *Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control (BPESC) document* and/or the Australian Pipelines and Gas Association (APGA) *Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines* (2022). |
| **Chemical storage** | |
| **PPSCC 12.** | Chemicals and fuels on the relevant tenures must be stored in, or serviced by, an effective containment system that meets Australian Standards, where such a standard is relevant. |

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| **Structures that are dams or levees** | |
| **PPSCC 13.** | The hazard category of any structure to be used in carrying out petroleum activities must be assessed in accordance with the Queensland Government *Manual for assessing consequence categories and hydraulic performance of structures ESR/2016/1933.* |
| **PPSCC 14.** | Low hazard structures must be:<br>a) constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with accepted engineering standards currently appropriate for the purpose for which the structure is intended to be used; and<br>b) designed and constructed with a floor and sides made of material that will contain the wetting front and any entrained contaminants within the bounds of the containment system during both its operational life and including any period of decommissioning and rehabilitation. |
| **PPSCC 15.** | All low hazard structures must be monitored for early signs of loss of structural or hydraulic integrity as specified in the initial hazard assessment. |
| **PPSCC 16.** | When no longer required all low hazard structures must be decommissioned to no longer accept inflow from the petroleum activities and be either:<br>a) rehabilitated; or<br>b) agreed to in writing by the administering authority and the landholder to remain in situ following the cessation of the petroleum activity(ies) associated with the structure, with the contained water of a quality suitable for the intended ongoing uses(s) by that landholder. |
| **Blasting** | |
| **PPSCC 17.** | A Blast Management Plan must be developed for each blasting activity in accordance with Australian Standard 2187. |
| **PPSCC 18.** | Blasting operations must not exceed an airblast overpressure level of 120 dB (linear peak) at any time at a sensitive place. |
| **PPSCC 19.** | Blasting operations must not exceed a ground-borne vibration peak particle velocity of 10mm/s at any time at a sensitive place. |
| **Waste management** | |
| **PPSCC 20.** | Measures must be implemented so that waste is managed in accordance with the waste and resource management hierarchy and the waste and resource management principles. |
| **PPSCC 21.** | For waste fluids that can be stored in a container that is other than a low hazard structure, the container must either be an above ground container or a structure which contains the wetting front. |
| **PPSCC 22.** | Waste, including waste fluids, must be transported off-site for lawful re-use, remediation, recycling or disposal unless the waste is specifically authorised by standard conditions (PPSCC 23), (PPSCC 24), (PPSCE 2) and (PPSCF 3) to be disposed of or used on-site. |

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| **PPSCC 23.** | Green waste may be used on-site for rehabilitation and/or sediment and erosion control purposes. |
| **Treated sewage effluent** | |
| **PPSCC 24.** | Treated sewage effluent or greywater can be released to land provided it:<br>a) meets or exceeds secondary treated class B standards for a treatment system with a daily peak design capacity of between 150 EP and 1500 EP; or<br>b) meets or exceeds secondary treated class C standards for a treatment system with a daily peak design capacity of less than 150 EP; and<br>c) is released within fenced and signed contaminant release area(s) and does not result in pooling or run-off or aerosols or spray drift or vegetation die-off. |
| **Produced water** | |
| **PPSCC 25.** | Produced water may be used for dust suppression and construction activities provided that it does not result in adverse effects on the composition and structure of soil or subsoils; does not result in runoff or release to waters and can be demonstrated to meet the following standards:<br>a) pH between 6–9<br>b) electrical conductivity (EC) not exceeding 3000µS/cm<br>c) sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) not exceeding 8<br>d) bicarbonate ion concentration not exceeding 100mg/L. |

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| **Schedule D – Pipeline planning**<br>*Explanatory Note: The conditions in Schedule D apply in addition to those in Schedules A, B, C and G and apply to the pipeline planning phase. In complying with the standard conditions in Schedule D (i.e. the 'PPSCD' conditions), the holder will be carrying out the petroleum activities in a way that reduces the risk of environmental harm. Industry is encouraged to exceed these performance standards.* | |
| **Site Planning** | |
| **PPSCD 1.** | Pipeline planning must be in accordance, to the greatest practicable extent, with the relevant section of the APGA *Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines* (2022) and/or AS 2885.1 and AS 2885.6. |
| **Planning for land disturbance** | |
| **PPSCD 2.** | Notwithstanding condition (PPSCD 1), pipeline construction corridors must:<br>a) be minimised in width to the greatest practicable extent<br>b) not exceed 40m in width<br>c) not include turn around and work areas associated with pipeline construction that exceed 50m in width; and<br>d) be preferentially located alongside existing linear infrastructure. |

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| Schedule E – Construction conditions | |
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| *Explanatory Note: The conditions in Schedule E apply in addition to those in Schedules A, B, C and G and apply to the construction phase of the pipeline. Under the* Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*, a holder of a pipeline licence must comply with Australian Standard 2885 which requires that a construction environmental management plan (CEMP) be developed and implemented. In complying with the CEMP and the standard conditions in Schedule E (i.e. the 'PPSCE' conditions), the holder will be carrying out the petroleum activities in a way that reduces the risk of environmental harm. Industry is encouraged to exceed these performance standards.* | |
| **PPSCE 1.** | Pipeline construction must be in accordance, to the greatest practicable extent, with the relevant section of the APGA *Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines* (2022) and/or AS 2885.1 and AS 2885.6. |
| **Waste** | |
| **PPSCE 2.** | Trench water, hydrostatic testing water or water from low point drains, may be released to land provided that it:<br>a) can be demonstrated to meet the acceptable standards for release to land<br>b) is released in a way that does not cause visible scouring or erosion. |
| **PPSCE 3.** | If hydrostatic testing water quality does not or can not be treated to meet the requirements of standard condition, PPSCE 2, it must be managed in accordance with standard conditions, PPSCC 21 or PPSCC 22. |
| **PPSCE 4.** | Records must be kept to demonstrate compliance with standard condition, PPSCE 2 and PPSCE 3. |
| **Pipeline reinstatement and revegetation** | |
| **PPSCE 5.** | Pipeline trenches must be backfilled and topsoils reinstated within 3 months after pipe laying. |
| **PPSCE 6.** | Reinstatement and revegetation of the pipeline right of way must commence within 6 months after completion of petroleum activities for the purpose of pipeline construction. |
| **PPSCE 7.** | Backfilled, reinstated and revegetated pipeline trenches and right of way must be:<br>a) a stable landform<br>b) re-profiled to a level consistent with surrounding soils<br>c) re-profiled to original contours and established drainage lines<br>d) vegetated with groundcover which is not an invasive plant species, and which is established and self-sustaining. |

| Schedule F – Post-construction including operations, maintenance and decommissioning |
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| *Explanatory Note: The conditions in Schedule F apply in addition to those in Schedules A, B, C and G and apply to the post- construction phase of the pipeline. The post construction phase includes operations, maintenance and decommissioning. Under the* Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*, a holder of a pipeline licence must comply with Australian Standard 2885.3 and 2885.6 which requires that an operations environmental management plan (OEMP) be developed and implemented. In complying with the OEMP and the standard conditions in Schedule F (i.e. the 'PPSCF' conditions), the holder will be carrying out the petroleum activities in a way that reduces the risk of environmental harm. Industry is encouraged to exceed these performance standards.* | |
| **PPSCF 1.** | Pipeline operation and maintenance must be in accordance, to the greatest practicable extent, with the relevant section of the APGA *Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines* (2022) and/or AS 2885.3 and AS 2885.6. |
| **PPSCF 2.** | Written procedures must be developed to ensure operations and maintenance of the pipeline complies with the conditions of the environmental authority. |
| **PPSCF 3.** | Flush water may be released to land provided that it meets the requirements of standard condition, PPSCE 2. |
| **Rehabilitation**<br>***Explanatory note****: Rehabilitation activities should be completed prior to the tenure expiring. A surrender application must be supported by sufficient information to decide the application.* | |
| **PPSCF 4.** | After decommissioning, all significantly disturbed land caused by the carrying out of the petroleum activity(ies) must be rehabilitated to meet the following final acceptance criteria:<br>a) any contaminated land (e.g. contaminated soils) is remediated and rehabilitated<br>b) rehabilitation is undertaken in a manner such that any actual or potential acid sulfate soils on the area of significant disturbance are treated to prevent or minimise environmental harm in accordance with the *Queensland Acid Sulfate Soil Technical Manual: Soil Management Guidelines.*<br>c) for land that is not being cultivated by the landholder:<br>i. groundcover, that is not an invasive plant species is established and self-sustaining<br>ii. vegetation of similar species richness and species diversity to pre-selected analogue sites is established and self-sustaining<br>d) for land that is to be cultivated by the landholder, cover crop is revegetated, unless the landholder will be preparing the site for cropping within 3 months of petroleum activities being completed. |
| **PPSCF 5.** | Monitoring of performance indicators must be carried out on rehabilitation activities until final acceptance criteria in standard condition (PPSCF 4) have been met for the rehabilitated area. |
| **Pipeline reinstatement and revegetation** | |
| **PPSCE 5.** | Pipeline trenches must be backfilled and topsoils reinstated within 3 months after pipe laying. |

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| **PPSCE 6.** | Reinstatement and revegetation of the pipeline right of way must commence within 6 months after completion of petroleum activities for the purpose of pipeline construction. |

| **Schedule G – Monitoring and reporting conditions**<br>*Schedule G outlines the monitoring and reporting requirements (i.e. the 'PPSCG' conditions) which are necessary and desirable to ensure the activities are being undertaken in compliance with the standard conditions under Schedule B, Schedule C, Schedule D and Schedule E.* | |
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| **Monitoring and sampling** | |
| **PPSCG 1.** | In addition to the requirements under section 319 of the Environmental Protection Act 1994, if requested by the administering authority in relation to investigating a complaint or incident involving contamination of the environment and/or environmental nuisance, monitoring and sampling must be undertaken by a suitably qualified person, in the way and within the timeframe required by the administering authority. |
| **PPSCG 2.** | All documents and records required to be developed under this environmental authority must be kept for five years. |

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# General Obligations

In addition to the requirements found in the conditions of this ERA standard, you must also meet your obligations under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, and the regulations made under the Act. For example, you must comply with the following provisions of the Act:

- the general environmental duty (section 319), including special provision for activities involving industrial chemicals (section 319A).
- duty to notify environmental harm (section 320-320G), and
- duty to restore the environment (section 319C).

Unless specially authorised by a condition of this ERA Standard, this ERA Standard does not authorise:

- an act that causes serious or material environmental harm (sections 437 - 439) or an environmental nuisance (section 440)
- an act that contravenes a noise standard (section 440Q)
- a deposit of a contaminant, or release of stormwater run-off, mentioned in section 440ZG of the EP Act, or
- placing a contaminant where environmental harm or nuisance may be caused (section 443).

For more information search 'ERA standard' on the Business Queensland webpage (www.business.qld.gov.au).

# Relationship with other legislation

This Standard does not remove, replace, or limit the need to comply with the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004* or any other applicable legislation.

This Standard does not authorise the take of water and does not remove the requirement to obtain any approvals required under the *Water Act 2000*.

# References to other documents

References in this document to laws, regulations, standards, policies, programs, guidelines and similar documents and instruments are to the current version of those documents and instruments, as amended or replaced from time to time.

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# Appendix 1: Definitions

***Explanatory note:*** Where a term is not defined in this document, the definition in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994,* its regulations and environmental protection policies, then the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* then the Macquarie Dictionary should be used in that order.

| Term | Definition |
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| acceptable standards for release to land | is defined as:<br>(a) electrical conductivity (EC) not exceeding 3000µS/cm<br>(b) sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) not exceeding 8<br>(c) and for hydrostatic testing water, water from low point drains and flush water, total heavy metals for each element listed meets the respective short term trigger value in Table 4.2.6. – Heavy metals and metalloids in Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZECC) 2000. |
| accepted engineering standards | in relation to dams, means those standards of design, construction, operation and maintenance that are broadly accepted within the profession of engineering as being good practice for the purpose and application being considered. In the case of dams, the most relevant documents would be publications of the *Australian National Committee on Large Dams* (ANCOLD), guidelines published by Queensland government departments and relevant Australian and New Zealand Standards. |
| acid sulfate soil(s) | means a soil or soil horizon which contains sulfides or an acid soil horizon affected by oxidation of sulfides. |
| administering authority | has the meaning in Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. |
| alternative arrangement | means a written agreement about the way in which a particular nuisance impact will be dealt with at a sensitive place, and may include an agreed period of time for which the arrangement is in place. An alternative arrangement may include, but is not limited to, a range of nuisance abatement measures to be installed at the sensitive place, or provision of alternative accommodation for the duration of the relevant nuisance impact. |
| analogue site(s) | means an area of land which contains values and characteristics representative of an area to be rehabilitated prior to disturbance. Such values must encompass land use, topographic, soil, vegetation and other ecological characteristics. Analogue sites can be the pre-disturbed site of interest where significant surveying effort has been undertaken to establish benchmark parameters. |
| aquifer | means an identifiable stratigraphic formation that has the potential to produce useful flows of water. |
| Australian Standard 2187 | means Australian Standard 2187.0:1998 Explosives—Storage, transport and use, Part 0, Australian Standard 2187.1:1998 Explosives—Storage, transport and use Part 1 and Australian Standard 2187.2:2006 Explosives—Storage and use, Part 2 or any updated versions that becomes available from time to time. |
| Australian Standard 2885 | means Australian Standard 2885.0:2018 Pipelines – General Requirements, Australian Standard 2885.1:2018 Pipelines –Design and Construction, Australian |

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| | Standard 2885.3:2018 Pipelines –Operation and Maintenance, and Australian Standard 2885.6 2018 Pipelines – Pipeline Safety Management or any updated versions that become available from time to time. |
| bed | of any waters, has the meaning in Schedule 19 Part 2 of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2019. |
| business day | has the meaning in section 36 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*. |
| certified | in relation to any matter other than a design plan, 'as constructed' drawings or an annual report regarding dams means, a Statutory<br>Declaration by a suitably qualified person or suitably qualified third party accompanying the written document stating:<br>• the person's qualifications and experience relevant to the function that the person has not knowingly included false, misleading or incomplete information in the document<br>• that the person has not knowingly failed to reveal any relevant information or document to the administering authority<br>• that the document addresses the relevant matters for the function and is factually correct; and<br>• that the opinions expressed in the document are honestly and reasonably held. |
| clearing | has the meaning in the dictionary of the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*. |
| cultivated | means used for cropping or gardening. |
| coastal waters | has the meaning in section 13 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995* and means the coastal waters of the state, and includes other waters within the limits of the state that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide. |
| dam(s) | means a land-based structure or a void that is designed to contain, divert or control flowable substances, and includes any substances that are thereby contained, diverted or controlled by that land-based structure or void and associated works. A dam does not mean a fabricated or manufactured tank or container, designed and constructed to an Australian Standard that deals with strength and structural integrity of that tank or container. |
| daily peak design capacity | for sewage treatment works, has the meaning in Schedule 2, section 63(4) of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2019 as the higher equivalent person (EP) for the works calculated using each of the formulae found in the definition for EP. |
| decommissioning | in relation to pipelines means the actions undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standard 2885, as amended from time to time, to prepare the pipeline and peripheral facilities for pending suspension or abandonment. |
| designated precinct | has the meaning in Schedule 2 Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014:<br>• for a strategic environmental area mentioned in section 4(1)—the area identified as a designated precinct on the strategic environmental area map for the strategic environmental area; or<br>• for a strategic environmental area shown on a map in a regional plan – the area identified on the map as a designated precinct for the strategic environmental area. |
| documents | has the meaning in section 36 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954.* |

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| ecological connectivity | is a measure of ecological condition and means the flow or connection of organisms and ecological processes across landscapes at multiple scales. Ecological connectivity has a positive relationship with landscape connectivity and habitat connectivity and effects vary between species. It includes connectivity by stepping stone or contiguous bioregional/local corridor networks. |
| ecosystem functioning | means the interactions between and within living and nonliving components of an ecosystem and generally correlates with the size, shape and location of the vegetation community. |
| eligibility criteria | for an environmentally relevant activity, has the meaning in section 112 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. |
| Endangered regional ecosystem | means an endangered regional ecosystem identified in the database known as the 'Regional ecosystem description database' published on the department's website.<br>PROVIDED FOR CONSULTATION – MAY BE REMOVED WITH AMENDMENT OF EP REG |
| environmental attribute | has the meaning in section 11(2) of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* |
| environmental harm | has the meaning in section 14 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. |
| environmental value(s) | has the meaning in section 9 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. |
| environmental nuisance | has the meaning in section 15 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.* |
| equivalent person or EP | has the meaning under section 3 of the Planning Guidelines For Water Supply and Sewerage, 2010, published by the Queensland Government. It is calculated in accordance with Schedule 2, Section 63(4) of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2019 where:<br>• EP = V/200 where V is the volume, in litres, of the average dry weather flow of sewage that can be treated at the works in a day; or<br>• EP = M/2.5 where M is the mass, in grams, of phosphorus in the influent that the works are designed to treat as the inlet load in a day. |
| environmentally relevant activity or ERA | has the meaning in section 18 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.* |
| essential habitat | For threatened wildlife, means essential habitat for the wildlife within the meaning of the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*, section 20AC(2).<br>PROVIDED FOR CONSULTATION – MAY BE REMOVED WITH AMENDMENT OF EP REG |
| essential habitat map | has the meaning in section 20AC(1) of the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*.<br>PROVIDED FOR CONSULTATION – MAY BE REMOVED WITH AMENDMENT OF EP REG |
| estimated rehabilitation cost | has the meaning in section 300(2) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.* |
| fish passage | means the ability for fish to move upstream and downstream through a watercourse and between connected habitats without undue obstruction. |

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| flow path | means a continuous route by which water moves through a watercourse, including any channel, depression, culvert, crossing or other structure, that maintains hydraulic connectivity within the watercourse. |
| gas storage | means activities authorised under the *Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2009.* |
| green waste | means waste that is grass cuttings, trees, bushes, shrubs, material lopped from trees, untreated timber or other waste that is similar in nature but does not include invasive plant species. |
| greywater | means wastewater generated from domestic activities such as laundry, dishwashing, and bathing. Greywater does not include sewage. |
| habitat for threatened wildlife | means habitat that –<br>a) an area validated from ground-truthing surveys as 'essential habitat' on the Queensland Government Essential Habitat Map in accordance with section 20AC of the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* for a species of wildlife listed as critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable under the Nature Conservation Act 1992;<br>b) an area validated from ground-truthing surveys as 'protected wildlife habitat' that is category A, B or C on the Regulated Vegetation Management Map, in accordance with section 20A of the Vegetation Management Act 1999, for a species of wildlife listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under the Nature Conservation Act 1992<br>c) is in a koala habitat area under the Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017, section 7B. |
| hazard category | means a category, either low, significant or high, into which a structure is assessed as a result of the application of tables and other criteria in *Manual for assessing consequence categories and hydraulic performance of structures ESR/2016/1933* published by the Queensland Government, as amended from time to time. |
| high ecological value waters | means Queensland waters that are scheduled waters under the Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019 as high value ecological waters. |
| invasive plant species | means a species that is an invasive plant under Schedule 4 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. |
| lake | means:<br>• a lagoon, swamp or other natural collection of water, whether permanent or intermittent; and<br>• the bed and banks and any other element confining or containing the water. |
| levee | means an embankment that only provides for the containment and diversion of stormwater or flood flows from a contributing catchment, or containment and diversion of flowable materials resulting from releases from other works, during the progress of those stormwater or flood flows or those releases; and does not store any significant volume of water or flowable substances at any other times. |
| linear infrastructure | means powerlines, pipelines, roads and access tracks. |

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| low hazard structure | means any structure that is not classified as high or significant as assessed using the *Manual for assessing consequence categories and hydraulic performance of structures ESR/2016/1933*, published by the Queensland Government and which contains contaminants in concentrations which exceed or will exceed, during the structure's operational life, the values or range shown in Table 3 of the manual. |
| low impact petroleum activities | means petroleum activities which do not:<br>- result in the clearing of native vegetation;<br>- removal, destruction or damage of a marine plant;<br>- cause disruption to soil profiles through earthworks or excavation or result in significant disturbance to land which cannot be rehabilitated immediately using hand tools after the activity is completed.<br>Examples of such activities include but are not necessarily limited to soil surveys (excluding test pits), topographic surveys, cadastral surveys and ecological surveys, may include installation of monitoring equipment provided that it is within the meaning of low impact and traversing land by car or foot via existing access tracks or routes or in such a way that does not result in permanent damage to vegetation |
| month | has the meaning in section 36 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954.* |
| non-linear infrastructure | means infrastructure that is other than a powerline, a pipeline, a road, an access track and includes only the following:<br>• workers camps<br>• maintenance facilities<br>• no-release sewage treatment plants<br>• laydown areas<br>• structures (i.e. dams or levees)<br>• tanks<br>• sediment and erosion control measures<br>• above ground containers and chemical / fuel storages<br>• water pumps and generators<br>• stockpiles. |
| of concern regional ecosystem | means an of concern regional ecosystem identified in the database known as the 'Regional ecosystem description database' published on the department's website.<br>PROVIDED FOR CONSULTATION – MAY BE REMOVED WITH AMENDMENT OF EP REG |
| outer bank | has the meaning in section 5A of the *Water Act 2000*. |
| performance indicator(s) | means a quantitative measure against which success can be assessed and audited in a consistent, objective and repeatable manner. |
| primary protection zone | means an area within 200 metres from the boundary of any Category A, B or C environmentally sensitive area. |
| Produced water | has the meaning in section 15A of the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004.* |
| regulated structure(s) | means any structure in the significant or high hazard category as assessed using the *Manual for assessing consequence categories and hydraulic performance of* |

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| | *structures ESR/2016/1933* published by the Queensland Government, as amended from time to time. |
| rehabilitation or rehabilitated | means the process of reshaping and revegetating land to restore it to a stable landform and in accordance with acceptance criteria and, where relevant, includes remediation of contaminated land. For the purposes of pipeline rehabilitation, rehabilitation includes reinstatement, revegetation and restoration. |
| reinstated or reinstatement | means the process of bulk earth works and structural replacement of pre-existing conditions of a site (i.e. soil surface typography, watercourses, culverts, fences and gates and other landscape(d) features) and is detailed in the APGA *Code of Environmental Practice: Onshore Pipelines.* |
| release, releases, released | has the meaning in Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.* |
| restoration | means the replacement of structural habitat complexity, ecosystem processes, services and function from a disturbed or degraded site to that of a pre-determined or analogue state. For the purposes of pipelines, restoration applies to final rehabilitation after pipeline decommissioning. |
| revegetation or revegetating or revegetate | means to actively re-establish vegetation through seeding or planting techniques in accordance with site specific management plans. |
| right of way | means the linear construction footprint required to install pipelines. |
| secondary protection zone | in relation to a Category A or Category B environmentally sensitive area means an area within 100 metres from the boundary of the primary protection zone. |
| secondary treated class B standards | means treated sewage effluent or greywater which meets the following standards:<br>• total phosphorous as P, maximum 20mg/L<br>• total nitrogen as N, maximum 30mg/L<br>• 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (inhibited) (e.g. release pipe from sewage treatment plant), maximum 20mg/L<br>• suspended solids, maximum 30mg/L<br>• pH, range 6.0 to 8.5<br>• e-coli, 80th percentile based on at least 5 samples with not less than 30 minutes between samples, 1000cfu per 100mL, maximum 10000cfu per 100mL. |
| secondary treated class C standards | means treated sewage effluent or greywater which meets the following standards:<br>• total Phosphorous as P, maximum 20mg/L<br>• total Nitrogen as N, maximum 30mg/L<br>• 5-day Biochemical oxygen demand (inhibited) (e.g. Release pipe from sewage treatment plant), maximum 20mg/L<br>• suspended solids, maximum 30mg/L<br>• pH, range 6.0 to 8.5<br>• e-Coli, 80th percentile based on at least 5 samples with not less than 30 minutes between samples, 10000cfu per 100mL, maximum 100000cfu per 100mL. |
| sensitive place | means:<br>• a dwelling (including residential allotment, mobile home or caravan park, residential marina or other residential premises, motel, hotel or hostel)<br>• a library, childcare centre, kindergarten, school, university or other educational institution<br>• a medical centre, surgery or hospital<br>• a protected area |

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| | • a public park or garden that is open to the public (whether or not on payment of money) for use other than for sport or organised entertainment<br>• a work place used as an office or for business or commercial purposes, which is not part of the petroleum activity(ies) and does not include employees accommodation or public roads<br>• for noise, a place defined as a sensitive receptor for the purposes of the Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2019. |
| significant environmental value | has the meaning in section 9A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994.* |
| significantly disturbed or significant disturbance or significant disturbance to land or areas | 1. Is land that:<br>(a) is contaminated land; or<br>(b) has been disturbed and human intervention is needed to rehabilitate it—<br>(i) to a condition required under the relevant environmental authority; or<br>(ii) if the environmental authority does not require the land to be rehabilitated to a particular condition—to the condition it was in immediately before the disturbance.<br>*Examples of a disturbance to land—*<br>• the covering, compaction, exposure, removal or stockpiling of soil or other material<br>• the destruction or removal of vegetation<br>• the construction and/or maintenance of linear infrastructure in a watercourse or wetland<br>• the submergence of an area with a hazardous contaminant, or water<br>2. Without limiting (b) above, land requires human intervention to rehabilitate it if—<br>(a) the disturbance has made the land more susceptible to erosion; or<br>(b) the land use capability or suitability of the land is diminished; or<br>(c) the quality of water in a watercourse downstream of the land has been significantly reduced.<br>3. If land is significantly disturbed land because it is contaminated land, it ceases to be significantly disturbed land if a suitability statement is issued for the land advising the land is suitable for any use.<br>4. If land is significantly disturbed land under subsection (1)(b), it ceases to be significantly disturbed land if the administering authority is satisfied the land has been rehabilitated—<br>(a) to the condition it was in immediately before the disturbance; or<br>to another condition decided by the administering authority. |
| species richness | means the number of different species in a given area. |
| species diversity | means the diversity within an ecological community that incorporates both species richness and the evenness of species' abundances. |
| spring(s) | has the meaning in Schedule 4 of the *Water Act 2000* |
| stable | in relation to land, means landform dimensions are or will be stable within tolerable limits now and in the foreseeable future. Stability includes consideration of geotechnical stability, settlement and consolidation allowances, bearing capacity (trafficability), erosion resistance and geochemical stability with respect to seepage, leachate and related contaminant generation. |
| strategic environmental area | has the meaning in section 11(1) of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* |
| structure | means a dam or levee. |

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| suitably qualified person | means a person who has the professional qualifications, training, skills and experience relevant to the nominated subject matter and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis about performance relative to the subject matter using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature. |
| threatened wildlife | Has the meaning provided in schedule (dictionary) of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*<br>PROVIDED FOR CONSULTATION – MAY BE REMOVED WITH AMENDMENT OF EP REG |
| top soil | means the surface (top) layer of a soil profile, which is more fertile, darker in colour, better structured and supports greater biological activity than underlying layers. The surface layer may vary in depth depending on soil forming factors, including parent material, location and slope, but generally is not greater than about 300mm in depth from the natural surface. |
| trench spoil | means soil from the pipeline trench. |
| waste and resource management hierarchy | has the meaning provided in section 9 of the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*. |
| waste and resource management principles | has the meaning provided in section 4(2)(b) of the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*. |
| waters | means all or any part of a creek, river, stream, lake, lagoon, swamp, wetland, spring, unconfined surface water, unconfined water in natural or artificial watercourses, bed and bank of any waters, non-tidal or tidal waters (including the sea), stormwater channel, stormwater drain, roadside gutter, stormwater run-off, and underground water. |
| watercourse | has the meaning provided in Schedule 4 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. |
| Watercourse of significant environmental values | *Watercourse of significant environmental values* means a watercourse in high ecological value waters within the meaning of the Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019<br>Definition may be removed pending inclusion in Environmental Protection Act 1994 or Environmental Protection Regulation 2019. |
| Waterway providing for fish passage | Means a waterway providing for the passage of fish as identified in the *Fisheries Act 1994*. |
| wetland | means a wetland as defined under the Queensland Wetlands Program and are areas of permanent or periodic/intermittent inundation, with water that is static or flowing fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water, the depth of which at low tide does not exceed 6 metres. To be classified as a wetland, the area must have one or more of the following attributes:<br>• at least periodically, the land supports plants or animals that are adapted to and dependent on living in wet conditions for at least part of their life cycle; or<br>• the substratum is predominantly undrained soils that are saturated, flooded or ponded long enough to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper layers; or<br>• the substratum is not soil and is saturated with water, or covered by water at some time. |

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| | For the purposes of petroleum activities, wetlands do not include springs and watercourses and those wetlands that are defined in the *Wetland Mapping and Classification Methodology* (2005) published by the Queensland Government as:<br>• H2M1 Riverine or ex-riverine (lacustrine) water bodies associated with dams and weirs located in a channel<br>• H2M3p Ponded pastures<br>• H2M5 Palustrine/lacustrine water bodies where ecological character has changed due to gross mechanical disturbance (e.g. cropping)<br>• H2M6 Palustrine/lacustrine water bodies that have been converted, completely or mostly, to a ring tank or other controlled storage<br>• H2M7 Riverine water bodies that have been converted mostly to canals or irrigation channels<br>• H3C1 Artificial stand-alone water storages not within a natural water body or channel; or<br>• H3C2 Artificial Channel drain/canal – bore drains, swales, bores and irrigation channel overflows/ponding.<br><br>*Explanatory note: This definition has been amended from the Queensland Wetlands Program definition so that low value wetlands and man-made water bodies are excluded.* |
| Wetland of significant environmental values | means<br>- a wetland in a wetland protection area shown on the map of Great Barrier Reef wetland protection areas<br>- a wetland of high ecological significance shown on the map of Queensland wetland environmental values<br>- wetland in high ecological value waters within the meaning of the Environmental Protection (Water and Wetland Biodiversity) Policy 2019<br>Definition may be removed pending inclusion in Environmental Protection Act 1994 or Environmental Protection Regulation 2019. |
| year(s) | has the meaning in s.36 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954.* |

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