

# Policy

## Environmental Policy

### Purpose

This policy will help guide strategic decisions, investment, and prioritisation of environmental and sustainability initiatives, aligning with our vision to become environmental leaders.

### Applicability of the Policy

This is a strategic policy intended for internal and external use and will be made available on our external website.

This policy commences on the date of approval by the Urban Utilities Board.

### Scope

This policy applies to all Urban Utilities employees and contractors and covers Urban Utilities' operations, products and services.

### Related Legislation

With regards to environmental management, Urban Utilities is subject to over 70 pieces of Commonwealth and State legislation and regulations. For the purposes of this policy, the primary legislation that establishes the organisation's rights and responsibilities includes the:

- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* (Qld);
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Qld);
- *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth);
- *Planning Act 2016* (Qld); and
- *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld).

### Policy Statement

Urban Utilities is committed to protecting the environmental values of the natural and built environments in which we operate. We strive to be environmental leaders, embedding sustainable practices into our business activities and management systems with a view to improving the environment now and for future generations.

Urban Utilities will achieve this commitment through:

- ensuring the protection of the environment through prevention of pollution and reducing our environmental footprint including:
  - designing out waste and pollution, keeping products in use and regenerating natural and heritage assets;
  - pursuing opportunities to reduce our carbon emissions;

- increasing our knowledge and management capability to maximise longevity of our existing assets with consideration to social and environmental impacts; and
- supporting consolidation of development and minimising urban footprint;
- ensuring environmental costs and benefits are considered in our planning and investment decisions with consideration at a relevant system view and asset lifecycle management based on the best understanding of science, community perceptions and technology;
- improving our presence in community landscapes through aesthetic yet functional design, and sustainable land management of our sites and infrastructure;
- proactively engaging and partnering with our shareholders, stakeholders, customers, and communities to incorporate environmental values in business decisions;
- preserving indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage through engagement about matters affecting the environment including with key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and organisations within and connected to our service territory;
- designing, implementing, and embedding sustainable practices across our business including consideration of economic, environmental and social objectives through our supply chains and alignment with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals;
- increasing the resilience of the community, the economy, and our built and natural assets to climate change and environmental hazards, including emerging contaminants of concern;
- comply with all applicable legal, and other environmental obligations through ensuring our employees, suppliers and contractors are aware of and able to respond to environmental responsibilities;
- progress our environmental performance through establishing, maintaining, and continually improving the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of our Environmental Management System; and
- regularly assessing our environmental performance through setting and reviewing measurable objectives and targets that drive continual improvement towards excellence.

## Definitions

Nil.

## Related Documents

### Internal Documents

- Urban Utilities Annual Operational Plan
- Urban Utilities Corporate Compliance Policy and Management System
- Urban Utilities Environmental Aspects & Impacts: Risk Assessment Methodology
- Urban Utilities ESG Procurement Strategy
- Urban Utilities Reconciliation Action Plan
- Urban Utilities Risk Management Procedure
- Urban Utilities Statement of Strategic Intent
- Urban Utilities Water Netserv Plan

## Review Date

This policy will be reviewed every two years or in accordance with changes to relevant legislation or business objectives.

## Authorising Officer

Urban Utilities Board