



CHECK FOR COMPLETENESS GUIDELINE

WATER APPROVAL APPLICATION

CHECK FOR COMPLETENESS

This guideline explains the initial check for completeness step in Urban Utilities' water and/or wastewater connection application process for a Water Approval. This process ensures lawful application lodgement and can reduce further time and assessment costs for applicants.

It is a statutory requirement that an application for a Water Approval is made in the way outlined in the legislation and Water Netserv Plan and must be accompanied by the owner/s written consent if the applicant is not the owner of the land related to the connection or traversed by proposed works. An application is considered 'not properly made' if it does not satisfy the initial check for completeness, and it cannot progress to detailed assessment by Urban Utilities.

1 Check for Completeness overview

Water Approval Process

Urban Utilities is the assessment authority for the water supply and wastewater servicing-related aspects of development within our service area. Assessments are undertaken in accordance with a legislated Water Approval process. A Water Approval is the authority given to a developer or landowner to make a connection, disconnection or alteration to our water or sewer network. Water Approvals are managed by Developer Services. Water Approval applications for connections, disconnections and alterations are assessed against Urban Utilities' requirements, including (but not limited to) the following standards and guidelines:

- *South East Queensland Water and Sewerage Design and Construction Code (SEQ Code)*
- *Water Netserv Plan (Part A) - Connections Policy*
- *Urban Utilities Customer Service Standards in our Customer Charters.*

For more information on how to apply, including the forms and documentation required, visit <https://urbanutilities.com.au/development>.

Check for Completeness

Urban Utilities require certain information about a proposed development (or proposed works) to assess an application for a Water Approval. This information includes statutory information (including the consent of affected property owners and details of the proposed land use) and technical information.

When an application for a Water Approval is received, our team will review the information provided to ensure that the minimum basic information has been provided to enable the application can be assessed. When all required information has been received by our team and all associated fees have been paid within the legislated timeframe, Urban Utilities formally deems the application to be 'properly made' and our formal assessment period begins. This initial review of information is referred to as the 'check for completeness'.

Ensuring correct and complete information is provided on lodging helps to avoid delays in undertaking assessment.

Information requirements

The minimum information required for every Water Approval application is outlined below.

- A completed **Property Owner's Consent form** for all land where access is required for the connection (including where the applicant is not the property owner) and evidence of ownership of all property, including one of the following:
 - a title search; or
 - a purchase contract where the contract provides the applicant an unconditional right to make the application.
- A completed **Property Information form** including any related local or State Government development application/approval documentation:*
 - decision notice; or
 - lodged or pending application form.

**For works not requiring a Development Approval, for example, a road widening or building works which require modification of Urban Utilities' assets, the applicant may submit alternative explanatory documentation.*

- A **preliminary design** (proposed layout) of the water and/or wastewater servicing arrangements proposed including identification of service required:
 - connection – a new connection where there is currently no connection; or
 - disconnection – disconnecting current connection to the lot; or
 - alteration – changing the connection, for example change in size, location or use.

These information requirements are detailed in the following sections of this guideline.

2 Property owner/s consent form

Submission of a completed Property Owner/s Consent form is a legal requirement of any application for a Water Approval. Section 99BRAAF of the *South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009* states that when applying for a Water Approval, 'the owner's written consent must accompany the application'. This requirement applies to both:

- the land subject of the Water Approval; and,
- any land for where access is required for the works.

Purpose of the form

This form is required to demonstrate that the owner of property affected by the application for a Water Approval

provides their consent. This form also allows a property owner to nominate a third party to act on their behalf, typically an engineering or planning consultancy.

Check for Completeness requirements

For a Water Approval application to achieve 'properly made' status, the Property Owner's Consent form must meet the following requirements.

- **Current form:** The Property Owner's Consent form submitted must be the current form (all forms are periodically updated and published on the Developer Services website).
- **Correct owner:** The property owner identified on the form must be the legal property owner.
- **Correct lots:** The form must correctly identify current properties within the Urban Utilities service area.
- **Consistent lots:** Where a development has been approved by a local or State Government, the Property Owner's Consent form must correctly identify the same lots identified in the Development Approval.
- **Signed:** The form must be dated and signed either by hand or by using a formal digital signature. This is a legal requirement which evidences owner's consent.

3 Property information form

The Property Information form provides critical information for assessment of an application for a Water Approval. This includes a technical assessment of the water supply and sewerage networks, assessment of any potential design complexities or adverse impacts on our infrastructure and assessment against the Urban Utilities Water Netserv Plan.

Purpose of the form

The information in this form is required for the technical analysis of water supply and wastewater services undertaken by Urban Utilities. It also provides critical information for the calculation of infrastructure charges. The form must therefore be accurate and complete.

Check for Completeness requirements

For a Water Approval application to achieve 'properly made' status, each section of the Property Information form must be filled in completely and correctly, including the following information.

- **Development staging:** Staged developments are generally large developments completed over a period of time. Development staging must be identified to ensure the Water Approval correctly reflects the Development Approval and the intentions of the developer.
- **Property owner details:** The property owner identified on the form must be the legal property owner.
- **Property details:** The property details identified must accurately record all properties subject to the development approval or proposed works. Where a local or State Government Development Application/Approval has been lodged/issued, the

property details should match the Development Application/Approval.

- **Proposed development:** The development type and development units must be accurately recorded. Where a local or State Government Development Application/Approval has been lodged/issued, the development type and development units should match the Development Application/Approval. This information is also used to calculate infrastructure charges payable for the development.
- **Number of storeys:** The maximum number of storeys for buildings within the Development Application/Approval should be identified. This information is required for Urban Utilities to determine the corresponding fire-fighting requirements in the water supply network.
- **Technical requirements:** A series of technical issues regarding the intended water supply and wastewater servicing of the development must be addressed.
- **Current form:** The Property Information form submitted must be the current form (all forms are periodically updated and published on the Urban Utilities' website).

4 Preliminary designs

To assess an application for a Water Approval, Urban Utilities needs to know where and how a development or building works will connect to, disconnect from or alter, our water supply and sewerage infrastructure.

Purpose of the preliminary designs

The information in the preliminary designs allows Urban Utilities to:

- assess the feasibility of the proposed connection (including any required adjustments to the proposed point(s) of connection);
- assess the capacity of the existing networks to service development;
- impose necessary conditions of connection/disconnection/alteration within the Water Approval; and
- minimise the costs of a new service connection, disconnection or alteration where possible.

Check for Completeness requirements

The applicant should submit a conceptual services layout (as many as required) or equivalent*, which includes the following:

- A to-scale **site plan** in aerial view, typically also showing details such as cadastral information (lot boundaries), aerial imagery, road layouts or a combination of all three. This plan also typically includes **existing water supply and sewerage infrastructure** owned by Urban Utilities.
- An indicative **point of connection** and any associated disconnections, to the Urban Utilities networks for water supply and/or wastewater services as applicable.
- A sketch/drawing with **title, date** and **author**. Typically, these designs are authored by an engineering or hydraulic consultant.

**This preliminary design may be a sketch (i.e. it does not need to be a formal or computer-aided design) but it should be to scale and provide sufficient information for Urban Utilities to assess proposal feasibility.*

5 Properly made application

Where an application for a Water Approval is received with any of the necessary information incomplete or unclear, Urban Utilities will notify the applicant that the application is **Not Properly Made** and assessment will not be undertaken.

The following numbered list provides a summary of the Check for Completeness process.

1. Application for Water Approval submitted.
2. Paid application reviewed by Urban Utilities and either:
 - a. the application is considered 'not properly made' whereby an Action Notice will be issued within five business days. Where a response to the Action Notice is not received within 10 business days, the application is rejected, the

application fees are retained, and a new application and new fees are required for a new Water Approval application.

- b. Where the application is deemed 'properly made' – the Water Approval assessment period begins (20 business days).
3. During the assessment period the Developer Services team may issue an Information Request where technical clarification of the proposed servicing arrangement is required. The applicant has 20 business days to respond to the specified request. Where a response to the Information Request is not received within 20 business days, the application will be assessed on the information provided.
 4. Following the assessment period, Urban Utilities will issue a Decision Notice and either:
 - a. approve the Water Approval application with conditions; or
 - b. refuse the Water Approval application.