**WaterNSW standard general terms of approval (GTAs)**

Please note: These are standard WaterNSW GTAs which must be imposed in addition to any DPIE recommended GTAs upon hydrogeological assessment. The standard WaterNSW GTAs not be impose without the benefit of DPIE recommended GTAs.

The following GTAs are imposed by WaterNSW under s 4.47 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 with respect to proposed aquifer interference activities to be conducted on site for the purposes of construction.

These GTAs are provided having regard to WaterNSW's functions to consider relevant impacts on the groundwater source and its dependent ecosystems. They do not consider the impacts of any dewatering or the development generally on structural or other matters concerning the proposed development or surrounding buildings, which will be addressed by the council or other bodies as part of their statutory functions.

These terms do not represent any form of authorisation for the taking of groundwater or for the works required to do so. Such an authorisation must be obtained separately from WaterNSW.

**General terms**

1. Groundwater shall not be pumped or extracted for any purpose other than temporary construction dewatering at the site identified in the development application.

2. An authorisation under the relevant water legislation, such as a water access licence (WAL), shall be obtained for the take of groundwater as part of the activity. For avoidance of doubt, these terms do not represent any authorisation for the take of groundwater, nor do they constitute the grant, or the indication of an intention to grant, any required WAL.

3. An authorisation under the relevant water legislation, such as an approval, is also required for the works involved in extracting the groundwater. For avoidance of doubt, these terms do not represent any authorisation for the construction or installation of such works.

4. The relevant works must not be carried out, installed or operated until a specialist hydrogeological assessment has been completed by the Department of Planning Industry and Environment, which concludes that adequate arrangements are in force to ensure that no more than minimal harm will be done to any water source, or its dependent ecosystems, as a consequence of the construction or use of the proposed water management work.

**Term 4 ONLY if applies if WaterNSW approves a recommendation to issue GTAs without first obtaining a DPIE hydrogeological report.**

5. The design and construction of the building must prevent any take of groundwater after the authorisation has lapsed by making any below-ground levels that may be impacted by any water table fully watertight for the anticipated life of the building. Waterproofing of below-ground levels must be sufficiently extensive to incorporate adequate provision for unforeseen high water table elevations to prevent potential future inundation.

**Specific terms**

5. The design and construction of the building must prevent any take of groundwater after the authorisation has lapsed by making any below-ground levels that may be impacted by any water table fully watertight for the anticipated life of the building. Waterproofing of below-ground levels must be sufficiently extensive to incorporate adequate provision for unforeseen high water table elevations to prevent potential future inundation.
6. Sufficient permanent drainage shall be provided beneath and around the outside of the
watertight structure to ensure that natural groundwater flow is not impeded and:
   a. any groundwater mounding at the edge of the structure shall be at a level not
greater than 10 % above the level to which the water table might naturally rise in
the location immediately prior to the construction of the structure
   b. any elevated water table is more than 1.0 m below the natural ground surface
      existent at the location immediately prior to the construction of the structure
   c. where the habitable part of the structure (not being footings or foundations) is
      founded in bedrock or impermeable natural soil then the requirement to maintain
groundwater flows beneath the structure is not applicable.

7. Construction methods and material used in and for construction shall be designed to account
for the likely range of salinity and pollutants which may be dissolved in groundwater, and shall
not themselves cause pollution of the groundwater.

8. The applicant is bound by the above terms and any other terms and conditions of the
subsequent authorisation(s) required for the extraction of groundwater and the associated
works under the relevant water legislation.

9. Measurement and monitoring arrangements to the satisfaction of WaterNSW are to be
implemented. Weekly records of the volumes of all groundwater pumped and the quality of
any water discharged are to be kept and a completion report provided after dewatering has
ceased. Records of groundwater levels are to be kept and a summary showing daily or weekly
levels in all monitoring bores provided in the completion report.

10. Following cessation of the dewatering operations and prior to the surrender of any associated
authorisation, the applicant shall submit to WaterNSW the completion report which shall include:
   a. detail of the volume of water taken, the precise periods and location of water
taken, the details of water level monitoring in all of the relevant bores
   b. The location and construction of groundwater extraction works that are
decommissioned
   c. a water table map depicting the aquifer’s settled groundwater condition and a
      comparison to the baseline conditions
   d. a detailed interpreted hydrogeological report identifying all actual resource and
      third party impacts, including an assessment of altered groundwater flows and an
      assessment of any subsidence or excessive settlement induced in nearby buildings
      and property and infrastructure.

Disclaimer:
This fact sheet is provided for general information purposes only and may not cover the precise circumstances of your development. It is only
relevant to the particular matters identified in this fact sheet. There may be other processes and relevant fact sheets that are also relevant to your
development. Links to all fact sheets related to construction dewatering may be found at waternsw.com.au/dewatering. This fact sheet is not legal
advice and should not be relied upon as such. Interested persons should obtain their own advice. This fact sheet does not represent the views of
any council or the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment or Natural Resources Access Regulator. This fact sheet represents an interim
position and may be updated at any time. Please check the WaterNSW website for the current version. WaterNSW is not liable for consequences of
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