

Ongerup Effluent System - Audit Response Plan 2023

Reference	Non-Compliance/Controls/ Improvements	Auditors Recommendation	Planned Action	Due Date	Progress
01/22	C3 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	<p>The replacement AMP should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> References to the Water Services Act 2012, the current ERA licence, Water Services Regulations 2013 and the Water Services Code of Conduct (Customer Service Standards) 2013 (now 2018) as listed in the Shire of Gnowangerup Water Services Manual – Ongerup Sewerage and Effluent Reuse Scheme – January 2019 Any requirements of the DoH or the DWER in respect of discharge from the scheme. A statement to the effect that due to health issues, disposal of assets previously in contact with sewage should be left in the ground or be disposed of to land fill. The customer service levels for the sewerage assets should be clearly documented. The latest dates of all reporting obligations should be listed and issued to responsible officers. <p>Status: Partially Completed</p> <p>The Ongerup Effluent Scheme - Asset Management Plan (Concise) has been developed and includes the expected information. The reporting obligations are included in the Corporate Compliance Calendar.</p> <p>With respect to the WWTP discharge, the Shire has included a plan in the AMP showing the discharge occurs to Shire owned land. The Shire also reported that the Environmental Health Officer (EHO)</p>	Continue and record correspondence with DoH and DWER to finalise requirements	June 2023	
	<p>There is no Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Department of Health (DoH) for the scheme. The discharge from the wastewater ponds to the environment has a potential for health and safety risks if public access to this area occurs. It is also a potential mosquito breeding area that the Shire has recognised as a potential hot spot. There is likely no need for formal licensing of the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) discharge due to the low scheme capacity but the requirements of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) for this discharge were not known by the staff interviewed. The 2013 Asset Management Plan (AMP) refers to the outdated Water Services Licencing Act 1995. As noted in the 2017 Review, this should refer to the updated requirements as listed in the Shire of Gnowangerup Water Services Manual – Ongerup Sewerage and Effluent Reuse Scheme – January 2019.</p>				

		<p>contacted the Department of Health (DoH) and Department of Water & Environmental Regulation (DWER) about the WWTP discharge requirements. At the time of the audit, the Shire was not able to provide copies of any of the correspondence with DoH or DWER (as the EHO was on leave) but advised on the basis of the contact, they concluded the current discharge was acceptable.</p> <p>The Shire plans to make improvements to the discharge to address the Mosquito breeding due to surface ponding of the discharge. The proposal is to increase infiltration of the discharge using subsoil drainage to reduce the surface ponding.</p>			
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