

# Decision on licence amendment (WL3)

15 August 2014

**Economic Regulation Authority**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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## Decision

1. In accordance with section 18 of the *Water Services Act 2012* (the **Act**), the Economic Regulation Authority (**Authority**) has approved an amendment to Busselton Water Corporation's (t/a Busselton Water) water services licence 3 (**WL3**) to cover the Busselton-Capel and Blackwood groundwater areas, including a two kilometre offshore zone.
2. Accordingly, Schedule 1 of WL3 has been amended to include the expanded operating area map (OWR-OA-085/2 (E)).
3. The Authority has also made one administrative amendment. Clause 1 of Schedule 2, which provided for transitional arrangements until the establishment of the Water Ombudsman, has been deleted.
4. As required under section 47(2)(a) of the Act, the Authority will publish a notice of its approval of the licence amendment in the Government Gazette as soon as is practicable.

## REASONS

5. On 9 June 2014 Busselton Water applied for an amendment to WL3. The proposed amendment was to expand the water services operating area to cover the Busselton-Capel and Blackwood groundwater areas, including a two kilometre offshore zone.
6. The licence amendment application was made in accordance with section 18 of the Act.
7. Section 18 of the Act states that the Authority may amend a licence in accordance with an application if the Authority is satisfied that it would not be contrary to the public interest to do so.
8. On 20 June 2014, the Authority called for public submissions on the proposed licence amendment by 11 July 2014. No submissions were received.
9. The Authority notes Busselton Water's extensive experience in the provision of potable water services.
10. In its assessment of the application, the Authority considered the public interest as required by section 18 of the Act. This includes the matters set out in section 46 of the Act. The Authority is satisfied that approving the amendment to WL3 would not be contrary to the public interest.