



Enquiries: Richard Theobald (08) 9222 2000

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Economic Regulation Authority
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469 Wellington Street
PERTH WA 6000

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Dear Ms Forrest

INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES – APPLICATION FOR A WATER SERVICE LICENCE

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application submitted by the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts for a water services licence to operate potable water and wastewater services in the Indian Ocean Territories.

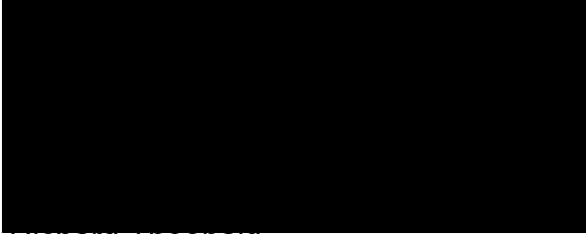
The Department of Health (DOH) does not object to this licence application, provided that any drinking water supply licence that is granted incorporates provisions requiring the licensee to enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the DOH about drinking water, and that those provisions are consistent with the content of other drinking water supply licenses previously granted by the Economic Regulation Authority.

The MOU will include provisions relating to monitoring, catchment to tap risk management, periodic reporting of water quality data to DOH (including an annual water quality report and reporting of fluoridation plant performance) and drinking water quality related incident reporting to DOH. It will also require compliance with any source protection plan agreed to between the applicant (or its related entities) and the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

In assessing the licence application, DOH recommends that the Economic Regulation Authority also clarifies the status under the *Water Services Act 2012* of any other water supply service provided on the Indian Ocean Territories that is not referred to in the licence application.

Should you have any queries or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on (08) 9222 2000.

Yours sincerely



Richard Theobald
MANAGING SCIENTIST
WATER

29 January 2026