



NSW non-urban water metering framework

New requirements from
1 April 2019

Fact sheet | April 2019

A new metering framework to improve the standard and coverage of non-urban water meters across NSW commenced on 1 December 2018.

Some new requirements came into force on 1 April 2019. This fact sheet describes what these requirements mean for you.

New and replacement meters installed from 1 April 2019 must comply with new standards

This requirement applies to you if:

- you are already legally required to have a meter installed before the **rollout date**, and
- you have not yet installed a meter or need to install a replacement meter.

The meter you install must:

- be **pattern-approved** - an alternative option for open channel meters is available
- be **installed and validated by a duly qualified person** in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standard for non-urban meters AS4747
- have a **data logger** and **tamper-evident seals** on the meter and the data logger.

If your work is a surface water work and is greater than 200 mm in diameter or an open channel, we recommend you install a meter that has a telemetry-capable data logger. You must ensure that meters for these works have telemetry by 1 December 2019.

Even if you do not need to comply with the new requirements until your roll-out date, water users are encouraged to take steps to comply well in advance of that date.

The **roll-out date** is the date by when all other works that meet the metering thresholds need to meet the new metering standards.

For additional information about the new metering requirements, including the thresholds for needing a meter and the roll-out dates, see the 'Overview of new requirements—fact sheet' on the department's website www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water-reform/metering-framework.

A duly qualified person must install and validate your meter

A duly qualified person must install and validate metering equipment, and provide you with a validation certificate.

Duly qualified persons must use the following forms from 1 April:

- 'Non-urban water meter validation certificate'
- 'Non-urban water meter—design certificate for open-channel metering equipment'

These forms are available on the department's website www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water-reform/metering-framework.

You must submit certificates to the NSW Department of Industry within 28 days. You must also keep certificates for at least five years.

A duly qualified person is someone who has the required qualifications, skills and experience to work on metering equipment.

Currently, certified meter installers, certified practising hydrographers and telemetry technicians are duly qualified persons for working on metering equipment.

- To find a certified meter installer, visit the Irrigation Australia webpage www.irrigationaustralia.com.au.
- To find a certified practising hydrographer, visit the Australian Hydrographers Association webpage aha.net.au/recognition/certified-professionals.

Meters must comply with datalogging and telemetry specifications

If you require a meter with a data logger or telemetry, you must comply with the new data logging and telemetry specifications.

The [specifications](#) set out the requirements for collecting, recording storing and transmitting data. They make the necessary capabilities of metering equipment clear for you, meter and telemetry providers, and duly qualified persons.

While you will not need to have telemetry until the relevant rollout date, reading the specifications now gives you time to decide on the best metering equipment to suit your circumstances.

For more information on telemetry go to www.industry.nsw.gov.au/telemetry.

There is a new streamlined process for water users to report faulty meters

From 1 April 2019, if your meter is not working properly or stops working, you need to report it within 24 hours to [WaterNSW](#).

- Once you become aware your meter is faulty or not working properly, you have 24 hours to report it to WaterNSW through its website: <https://www.watnsw.com.au/customer-service/service-and-help/forms/s91i-application-for-an-authority-to-take-water>.
- While your meter is faulty, you must manually record water take information.
- You need to arrange for your meter to be repaired or replaced within 21 days. If it cannot be completed within that timeframe, you must request an extension from WaterNSW.

- Once the meter is repaired or replaced, you must inform WaterNSW within 28 days through its website.
- You must submit all documents relating to the replacement or repairs to WaterNSW through its website.

This procedure applies to all faulty meters on works installed in regulated, unregulated and groundwater sources.

You do not need a meter if your work is marked as inactive

From 1 April 2019, surface water works marked on the approval as 'inactive' do not require a meter.

To have your surface water works marked as inactive, you must demonstrate the work is not capable of taking water from a water source and have your approval amended.

To apply to amend your approval, contact:

- WaterNSW at <https://www.watnsw.com.au/customer-service/water-licensing/approvals/inactive-and-withdraw-an-inactive-works-for-surface-water-approvals>
- Natural Resources Access Regulator at www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/licensing-trade/approvals/applications-fees.

Note that your billing regime may change as a result. Contact WaterNSW for more information: www.watnsw.com.au/about/contact.

If you reactivate your work, you must comply with all new metering requirements.

More information

More information about the NSW Non-Urban Water Metering Framework, including the relevant legislation, is available on the department's website at www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water-reform/metering-framework

WaterNSW: www.watnsw.com.au

Natural Resources Access Regulator: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/natural-resources-access-regulator



NSW Department of Industry



industry.nsw.gov.au/water-reform



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