

UNDERSTANDING *WATER MANAGEMENT ACT: SECTION 91i* IF YOUR METER IS NOT WORKING

November 2010

On 1 January 2009, under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000* it became an offence to take water while your metering equipment is not operating or not operating properly.

What this means for you:

Each time you turn your pump on, check to make sure your meter is working properly.

If your meter is not operating or is not operating properly, you must:

1. Stop taking water until the meter is operable, or a written authorisation is provided
2. Complete the attached form, which can also be downloaded from the State Water website www.statewater.com.au/customer+service/forms
3. Submit your completed form to:

Post	Compliance Officer State Water PO Box 1018, Dubbo NSW 2830
Fax	1300 871 447
Email	compliance@statewater.com.au

Some frequently asked questions about Section 91i.

Can I take water if my meter has stopped working?

No. If your metering equipment is not working you must stop taking water immediately.

How can I start taking water again?

You must complete the application to take water while metering equipment is not operating (copy attached). You must obtain written authorisation from either State Water or the NSW Office of Water and comply with the conditions of the authorisation. An approved authorisation will allow you to take water for a short time until your metering equipment has been repaired or replaced.

What is a written authorisation?

A written authorisation issued by State Water or the NSW Office of Water will allow you to take water for a short time until your metering equipment has been repaired or replaced. The authorisation will impose conditions which must be complied with. These conditions will usually relate to how water use is to be measured.

When can I take water again if my meter is not working?

You cannot take water again until you have repaired or replaced your metering equipment and it is working properly, or you have received written authorisation to take water from State Water or the NSW Office of Water.

What will happen if I continue to take water when the meter is not working?

If you do not have a written authorisation, or you do not comply with the conditions of an authorisation, then it is an offence to take water when the meter is not working and severe penalties may apply.

Corporations can be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$2,200,000 and individuals to a penalty of imprisonment and/or \$1,100,000. Further penalties apply for each day the offence continues.

For more information call:

1300 662 077 or visit

www.statewater.com.au/customer+service