



Plumbing newsflash

Requirements for owners of large greywater treatment plants under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* and the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*

Purpose

To inform owners, plumbers and councils of new legislative requirements for large greywater treatment plants (i.e. plants capable of treating 50 kilolitres [kL] or more of greywater per day).

Background

Previously the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* (PDA) regulated the installation of greywater treatment plants where the premises generated less than 50 kL of greywater per day.

The PDA did not allow for the installation of greywater treatment plants in premises which generated 50 kL or more of greywater per day.

However on 1 July 2008, the PDA was amended to permit the installation of greywater treatment plants regardless of the volume of greywater generated by those premises. The emphasis is now on the volume of greywater the plant is capable of treating, rather than the volume of greywater generated by the premises.

The amendments to the PDA permit the installation and connection of large greywater treatment plants and are linked to the new *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (WSSRA) which places obligations on the owners of those plants. The WSSRA is administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Water (NRW) through the Office of the Water Supply Regulator (OWSR).

Large greywater treatment plants are typically installed in very large buildings such as multi-storey units or hotels, care facilities and large/commercial laundries.

Under the PDA, permission must be sought from local governments to both install and connect a large greywater plant. Under the WSSRA, the owner of a large greywater plant must seek approval of a recycled water management plan by OWSR before they can connect the plant and use the treated greywater.

Plants capable of treating less than 50 kL of greywater per day continue to require chief executive approval under the PDA. The PDA is administered by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP).



Two or more small greywater treatment plants that are located on a single premise and capable of treating more than 50 kL per day (e.g. 2 x 30 kL plants capable of producing a total of 60 kL per day) also remain under the jurisdiction of DIP and the PDA.

An information sheet prepared by NRW outlining requirements for the installation, connection and management of large greywater treatment plants under the WSSRA will be available from NRW in the near future.

Legislation

Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008

Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002

Contact officer

For single greywater treatment plants capable of treating >50 kL per day:

Office of the Water Supply Regulator

tel +61 7 3405 3535 (8.30 am–5.00 pm, Monday to Friday)

www.nrw.qld.gov.au

For greywater treatment plants capable of treating <50kL per day:

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