



Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW)
Name of the proposal	Plumbing and Drainage Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2025
Submission type	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>Plumbing and Drainage Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2025</i>
Date of issue	May 2025

For proposals noted in table below

Proposal type	Details
Regulatory proposals where no RIA is required	The <i>Plumbing and Drainage Act 2018</i> (the PDA) and <i>Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2019</i> (the PDR) and the Queensland Plumbing and Wastewater Code (QPWC) provide the overarching legislative framework for plumbing and drainage in Queensland. These legislative instruments protect public health and the environment and meet industry and community expectations for plumbing and drainage work. The PDA and the PDR call up the National Construction Code (NCC), published by the Australian Building Codes Board. The NCC Volume 3, also known as the Plumbing Code of Australia, sets out the minimum requirements for plumbing and drainage across Australia. The PDA requires that all plumbing products must be certified under the WaterMark certification standard. Adoption of WaterMark ensures that minimum levels of health and safety are maintained. Importantly the PDA provides a head of power for non-WaterMark products to be installed as prescribed through the PDR. A urine diverting toilet (UDT) is a type of toilet that separates urine from solid waste. This separation allows for more efficient waste management and reduces odours. The Australian Research Council (ARC) Hub for Nutrients in a Circular Economy (NiCE Hub) is a research partnership aimed at advancing nutrient recovery technologies from waste. Urban Utilities, a partner of the NiCE Hub, has identified an opportunity to harvest an under-utilised nitrogen resource and a mechanism to reduce downstream waste processing.

	The research partnership has sought approval to be able to install UDTs as a part of a research trial. Approval of the UDT research trial could support the development of measures to advance a circular economy. These measures may foster the design of resilient wastewater infrastructure to address challenges such as urban intensification, waterway pollution, and climate change, while also providing an alternative fertiliser source for the agricultural sector. <i>Regulatory proposals that are deregulatory (remove regulation), and do not increase costs or regulatory burden on business or the community.</i> The proposed amendment will facilitate the UDT trial project by allowing the installation of UDTs that do not have WaterMark certification. The proposed amendment regulation will lessen the regulatory burden by removing legal barriers preventing the UDT trial from proceeding. The amendment regulation will safeguard public health and safety by adopting an installation standard in the QPWC that aligns with the standard outlined in the NCC for conventional toilets.
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*Refer to [The Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy](#) for regulatory proposals not requiring regulatory impact analysis (for example, public sector management, changes to existing criminal laws, taxation).

Signed



Mark Cridland
Director-General
Department of Housing and Public Works

Date: 13 / 06 / 2025



Sam O'Connor MP
Minister for Housing and Public Works and
Minister for Youth

Date: 16 / 06 / 2025