



The Rights in Water and Irrigation (Approved Meters) Order 2009 was gazetted on 5 May 2009. This Order replaces the Rights in Water and Irrigation (Approved Meters) Order 2003. [To view where the Approved Meters Order is gazetted click here.](#)

Background

The National Water Initiative (NWI) Agreement sets out a strategy for state and territory governments to improve water resource management practices and outcomes across Australia, including the introduction of national water metering standards. A key issue in implementing the national standards is the requirement under the *National Measurement Act 1960* that all meters used for trade are verified to ensure performance within maximum permissible limits of error.

The Australian Technical Specification 4747 is applicable in all Australian states and territories.

Current situation

The specifications and standards for approved meters have changed and are now required to:

- a) comply with the Australian Technical Specification 4747
- b) have the meter tested by a National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited laboratory and verified to be within 2.5 per cent accuracy at the testing facility, and results reported on the NATA report or certificate, and installed to manufacturer's specification.

The Department of Water does not advise on selection of a preferred type, make, model or water meter manufacturer. Selection of a water meter is based on a "fit for purpose" rule considering the local water/environmental considerations, cost effectiveness, maintenance, system operating requirements. It is recommended that water users consult with an irrigation professional prior to the selection and purchase of a water meter. The

department does, however require that the water meter selected for use is in accordance with the new RIWI (Approved Meters) Order 2009.

Our *Guidelines for Water Meter Installation* provides more information on installing meters. A fact sheet on reading your meter is also available on the website. Please contact the [metering team](#) for further enquiries.

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