Exemption notice

Class exemption for mining camps from section 5(1) of the Water Services Act 2012

In accordance with section 7 of the Water Services Act 2012 Hon Terry Redman MLA, Minister for Water, has granted a class exemption from section 5 (1) of the Act in respect of the following provision of water services:

Water supply, sewerage and drainage services provided to camps operated by mining, oil and gas companies or their contractors for the exclusive use by the employees and contractors of those companies for exploration, development, construction (including construction of related infrastructure such as rail or ports) or operations (including closure related activities) and related purposes.

The exemption is to come into effect on the day on which Part 2 of the Water Services Act 2012 comes into operation.

Summary of reasons for the decision

Granting the exemption will reduce regulatory burden and avoid the costs of licensing water services provided to mining camps. These include:

- Administrative costs to the service provider including costs of licence fees, annual regulatory reporting costs and the costs of operational audits and asset management reviews every two to three years; and
- Costs to Government for enforcing and administering water service licences for all mine sites.

Granting of this exemption is not contrary to the public interest.

15 May 2013