

# H<sub>2</sub>OPTIONS

ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLIES IN THE PERTH METROPOLITAN AREA

## APPROACHING WATER CORPORATION *as the* SERVICE PROVIDER

To approach the Water Corporation as the service provider for your alternative water supply, a proposal should be developed which addresses the 6-point checklist below. Where the Corporation agrees to take on the role of service provider, infrastructure related to the alternative water supply will be included in your normal land development agreement with the Water Corporation.

### **1. Is the Water Corporation the water service provider in your development area?**

This should have been established previously as part of the negotiations for water reticulation in your development area.

### **2. Demonstrate that the proposed alternative water supply does not compromise the Water Corporation's existing schemes and assets.**

To determine whether your scheme may compromise the existing schemes and assets of the Water Corporation consider these factors:

- Protection of drinking water sources
- The hydraulic efficiency and operation of assets
- The service standards for drinking water and sewerage services offered to customers

### **3. Demonstrate that water efficiency is an overriding consideration.**

Demonstrate how your proposed development addresses water conservation targets for residential water consumption:

- Scheme Water Consumption: **40-60kL/person/year (40kL a stretch target).**
- Total Water Consumption: **100kL/person/year (consistent with State Water Plan).**

See **Annexure F** for a water consumption tool designed to assist with addressing the above.

### **4. Demonstrate a cost effective proposal.**

Demonstrate how the cost to the regulated customer is comparable to the cost of the scheme water.

See **Annexure G** for an alternative water costing tool designed to assist with addressing the above.

### **5. Comply with Water Corporation design standards and ensure flexibility.**

In designing these schemes, it is important to recognise that alternative water supply schemes are an emerging and expanding area. As such, your design should be flexible. For example, if your development takes 10 years to roll out, it should allow for both technological advances and changes in the operating environment.

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The relevant Water Corporation design standards are:

- Pipework: Design Standard 63 with the alternative water supply addendum (based on WSAAs Standards)
- Electricals: Design Standard 26
- Operating System and Telemetry: Specific standard currently being developed

Please note: The above design standards are available on request.

### 6. Demonstrate a net benefit to the community.

Previously, the success of an alternative water supply has been largely due to the receptivity of the community to both the concept and the responsibilities related to living in a household supplied with an alternative water supply.

Proposals should demonstrate a mindfulness of this. Listed below are factors found to affect community acceptance of alternative water supply schemes.

Consider the following points when influencing and gaining community trust:

#### FACTORS THAT MAY INCREASE COMMUNITY TRUST

- Constant communication with the community
- Allowing the community to ask questions and voice opinions
- Involving the community at early planning stages
- Making all relevant information available and easily accessible to the community
- Allowing community members to take on some sort of role within the development

#### FACTORS THAT MAY INFLUENCE COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

- Perceptions of risk associated with using an alternative water supply
- The specific uses for the alternative water supply
- The sources of water to be used
- Attitudes towards the environment
- The cost of the alternative water supply
- Socio-demographic factors
- Responsibilities of the community

#### FACTORS THAT MAY LEAD TO HIGHER COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE

- Clear protection of public health and the environment
- Promotion of water conservation
- Reasonable cost to the consumer
- Minimal perception of wastewater as the alternative water supply
- High perception of the quality of the alternative water supply
- Confidence in local management of public utilities and technologies