



Northern Territory of Australia

Water Act 1992

Declaration of Exemptions

I, Hugh Crosby Heggie, Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, acting with the advice of the Executive Council and in accordance with the recommendation of the Minister for Water Resources:

- (a) under section 44(8) of the *Water Act 1992* and with reference to section 42(1) of the *Interpretation Act 1978*, make the declaration set out in the Schedule, Part B; and
- (b) under section 47(1) of the *Water Act 1992* and with reference to section 42(1) of the *Interpretation Act 1978*, make the declaration set out in the Schedule, Part C.

Responsible Minister:

J. R. BURGOYNE
Minister for Water Resources

H. C. HEGGIE
Administrator

Dated 1 May 2025

Schedule

Part A – Interpretation

In this Schedule:

deemed mining licence, see section 303 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

dewatering, see section 233QA of the *Environment Protection Regulations 2020*.

environmental (mining) licence, see section 4 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

mining activity, see section 13A of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

mining operator, for a mining site, see section 4 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

mining site, see section 4 of the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

Part B – Exemptions under section 44(8)

- 1 Subject to clause 2, sections 44(1) and (2) of the *Water Act 1992* do not apply to or in relation to the taking of water by a mining operator for the purpose of dewatering in the course of carrying out:
 - (a) a mining activity that is authorised under an environmental (mining) licence; or
 - (b) a mining activity that is authorised under a deemed mining licence while the deemed mining licence is in effect.
- 2 The exemptions in clause 1 of this Part B only apply where conditions have been imposed on the licence to require the mining operator to minimise and manage the environmental impacts of dewatering.

Part C – Exemptions under section 47(1)

- 1 Subject to clause 2, sections 59(1) and (2) of the *Water Act 1992* do not apply to or in relation to the taking of groundwater by a mining operator from a bore for the purpose of dewatering in the course of carrying out:

- (a) a mining activity that is authorised under an environmental (mining) licence; or
 - (b) a mining activity that is authorised under a deemed mining licence while the deemed mining licence is in effect.
- 2 The exemptions in clause 1 of this Part C only apply where conditions have been imposed on the licence to require the mining operator to minimise and manage the environmental impacts of dewatering.
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