Water licensing process for the Aboriginal Water Reserve

	PROCESS	DETAILS
	Prepare application and submit	• **Prepare agreement with eligible Aboriginal landholder as listed in the water plan*** • Applicant prepares application form and attached documents. If needed, discuss application information requirements with department • **Submit to eligible Aboriginal landholder for approval of application form/agreement*** • Submit application to department once form/agreement documents are approved
Clock starts	Application accepted	• The department will review application and determine if application is complete • Application is returned to applicant if not enough information is provided • Once application is accepted, the application progresses through the workflow • Applicant will be advised if there are any known concerns with the application and provided an opportunity to withdraw i.e. not enough water available
20 days	Application published online and public comment period commences	• A notice of intention to make water extraction licence decision is published. This is also referred to as a NOI • Copies of the NOI are sent to adjacent landowners and the relevant land council
20 days	Public comment period closes	• Applicant has opportunity to address any comments received
20 days	Draft documents prepared for the Controller of Water Resources	• If the draft licence conditions are not standard conditions, the applicant may receive a draft copy for feedback – this does not mean the licence will be approved
80 days total	The Controller of Water Resources makes a Water Extraction Licence Decision	• **The Controller will consider if the applicant is an eligible Aboriginal landholder and/or has an agreement to which the Aboriginal water reserve applies*** • **The Controller will consider the allocation specified under the water plan*** • The Controller will make a decision based on all the information provided • Decision is made approximately 80 business days from when the application is accepted
	Licence decision published and commenters notified	• Notice of water extraction licence decision is published • **Licence is ready to use for the benefit of Aboriginal economic development***

* **Additional steps required to access the Aboriginal water reserve.**