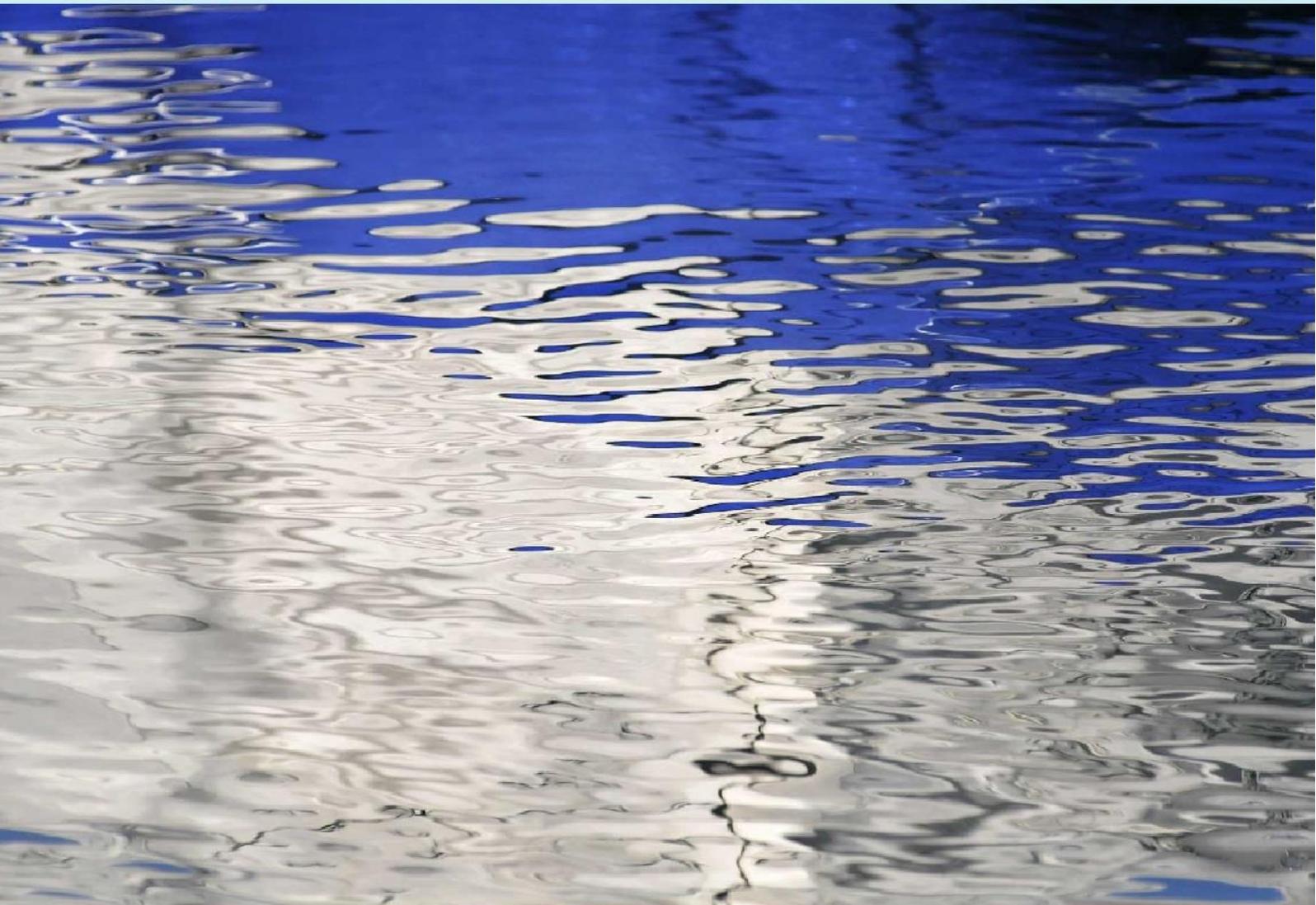




Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Water Regulations 2008—Policy for adding and changing names of Persons



Release history

Date	Version	Status	Comment
December 2019	1.1	Current	Minor changes to layout following review—no substantive changes to policy content
March 2016	1.0	Superseded	First version, reviewed and updated in 2018

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Cover photograph by Alison Pouliot

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Foreword

The Bureau of Meteorology administers Part 7 (Water Information) of the *Water Regulations 2008* (the Regulations). Part 7 sets out details for provision of water information to the Bureau, as required in the *Water Act 2007*. It defines who must give specified water information to the Bureau, and the time and format in which it must be given.

The Regulations individually name over 200 organisations that are required to give the Bureau specified water information that is in their possession, custody or control. Organisations are grouped by Person Category and listed in the document *Persons and Classes of Persons* which is incorporated by reference in the Regulations.

This policy is part of a framework of principles, policies and procedures to formalise and communicate a consistent approach to maintaining and developing Part 7 of the Regulations.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set protocols for adding to or changing the list of organisations required to provide water information under the Regulations. The Bureau seeks to minimise the impacts of changes to legislative requirements, provide sufficient time for data providers to prepare for changes and ensure requirements are clear for all parties.

Scope

This policy applies to water information requirements, including metadata requirements, under the Regulations.

Audience

The audience for this policy is

- all organisations named in the Regulations that are required to provide water information
- organisations that may potentially be named
- Bureau staff with a water information role.

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Policy

It is Bureau policy to:

1. consider the following factors before adding new organisations to the Regulations, or removing organisations:
 - impact (including cost) on the organisation
 - significance and value of the water information held by the organisation
 - need to service customers of Bureau water information products
 - the Bureau's capacity to ingest and utilise the water information
 - the Bureau's ability to provide support to affected water information providers
2. when adding new organisations to the Regulations:
 - consult with new organisations about the possibility that they may be added
 - give new organisations, not already providing relevant water information to the Bureau, at least six months' notice of a proposal to add them and a 30 day period in which organisations can respond to the proposal. The Bureau will notify them in writing no less than three months before they are added
 - ensure new organisations are added only when an overall net benefit can be demonstrated, following consideration of the costs and benefits of the change
3. consult with relevant stakeholders such as the water industry, lead water agencies, named persons and peak industry bodies before adding new categories of organisations
4. review the *Persons and Classes of Persons* document at least every six months. The Bureau will update the *Persons and Classes of Persons* document within six months of becoming aware of the need for changes
5. formally advise affected water information providers when it publishes an updated *Persons and Classes of Persons* document
6. ensure that related material on its website is available and up to date. Specifically, the Bureau will:
 - show on its website the current version of the *Persons and Classes of Persons* document that lists the current names of organisations in the Regulations
 - show on its website an up-to-date register of accumulated changes made to the names in the *Persons and Classes of Persons* document
 - update the Regs Online tool with name changes within one week of the publication of the *Persons and Classes of Persons* document.

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Definitions	<p>Persons means all individuals, trusts, companies and corporations as well as agencies of state, territory or Australian governments, required to give water information to the Bureau</p> <p>Persons and Classes of Persons document means the document of that name located on the Bureau's website at: http://www.bom.gov.au/water/regulations/schedules/classesOfPerson.shtml. This document is incorporated by reference in the Regulations (Regulation 1.06 refers)</p> <p>Regulations means the <i>Water Regulations 2008</i></p> <hr/>
Date of effect	<p>This policy took effect on 11 March 2016, and was reviewed in February 2018, and December 2019.</p> <hr/>
Review date	<p>This policy is due for review by December 2021.</p> <hr/>
Contact	<p>For more information on this policy, contact: regulations@bom.gov.au</p> <hr/>
Related documents	<p>Bureau of Meteorology Principles for developing and maintaining Part 7 of the <i>Water Regulations 2008</i></p> <p>The Australian Government Guide to Regulation</p> <hr/>
Availability	<p>Find this policy on the Bureau's website at: http://www.bom.gov.au/water/regulations/principlesPolicies.shtml</p>