



Industry Regulation fact sheet

Standardised Approvals Pathway Category 54: Sewage Facility (within a mining premises)

Standardised Approvals Pathway

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is introducing a Standardised Approvals Pathway under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* for select lower risk prescribed premises categories. This pathway provides a defined application and assessment process where activities meet published eligibility criteria and are suitable for standard conditions.

Category 54 – Sewage Facility (within a mining premises)

The Standardised Approvals Pathway for this category is intended to apply to small-scale sewage treatment facilities located on mining or exploration project premises, typically designed to service accommodation villages or on-site operational infrastructure.

Type of Applicants	Category rationale
• New or established mining operations requiring onsite sewage treatment • Small-scale sewage treatment plants located on mining or exploration project premises • Small-scale sewage treatment plants servicing accommodation villages on mine sites, or on-site operational facilities • Premises with effluent disposal via irrigation spray fields located within the mining premises	• Package plants are sewage facilities designed for remote mining premises. • Package plants are designed to treat small, defined volumes of wastewater, resulting in predictable and manageable environmental impacts. • Package plant sewage facilities are a repeatable, well-understood activity with minimal variation between sites

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for a Standardised Approval under Category 54, applications must meet the eligibility criteria. The eligibility criteria is comprised of:

- activity criteria (detailed below)
- siting criteria (separation distances to relevant sensitive receptors, detailed in the [Guideline: Category 54 Sewage facility premises: Standardised Approvals Pathway](#)).



Activity criteria

Factor	Criteria
Facility location	The sewage facility must be located on a mine site.
Authorised design capacity	Sewage treatment less than 500 m ³ per day.
Authorised process types	Sewage is treated, with the treated wastewater discharged on land via irrigation. Sewage treatment is limited to 'package-type' wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) generally comprising pre-assembled, self-contained systems designed to treat wastewater, typically for mining accommodation camps or for other project construction camps.

Guidance

The 'Mine wastewater irrigation' guidance in Appendix F of the [Guideline: Category 54 Sewage facility premises: Standardised Approvals Pathway](#) has been developed solely to support the assessment and decision-making under the Standardised Approvals Pathway. It must not be applied to, or relied upon for, general assessment processes outside of Standardised Approvals.

More information

Further information on the Standardised Approvals Pathway, including the eligibility criteria and guidance, is available at: [Standardised Approvals Pathway](#)

Contact Environmental Regulation on 6364 7000 or info@dwer.wa.gov.au for more details.

This document is available in alternative formats and languages on request. Other industry regulation publications are available at: [DWER Regulatory documents](#).

Legislation

This document is provided for guidance only. It should not be relied on to address every aspect of the relevant legislation. Please refer to legislation.wa.gov.au for electronic copies of the relevant legislation.

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