

Improved regulation for Joint private works schemes

We are working with Joint private works schemes to develop clearer, simpler, rules and regulations for schemes

We are proposing to implement parts of the *Water Management Amendment Act 2010* which will reduce red-tape for Joint private works schemes (JPWS) and reduce the need for government involvement to make administrative changes to the scheme. Once implemented these changes will be incorporated in the *Water Management Act 2000*.

We want to hear from schemes to help guide our decisions to make changes for clearer, simpler, rules and regulations.

Why are we updating the regulations for Joint private works schemes?

The current legislation that governs JPWS is outdated. The department is implementing new changes to simplify the current legislation for private irrigation districts, private drainage boards and private water trusts.

The changes will allow schemes to develop internal rules based on the needs of their scheme, and any changing circumstances.

How will improved regulations help Joint private works schemes?

The changes will provide greater autonomy for schemes and allow them to:

- create new entities such as private water corporations, which is not permitted under the current *Water Management Act 2000*
- appoint a new chairperson or approve new by-laws without the need for Governor or Ministerial approval
- make and amend their own internal administrative rules based on the needs of their scheme.

When will the legislation commence?

We are consulting with JPWS and other stakeholders from September 2022 to develop new rules and regulations, which will take at least 12 months.

Through this consultation, we will work together to determine an appropriate transition period for schemes before the new legislation applies.

We anticipate the legislation would likely commence from late 2023 onwards.

If you are a member of a Joint private works scheme, we want to hear from you

We invite private irrigation districts and boards, private water trusts and private drainage boards to contact us to provide input to inform the development of new rules and regulations. We will also use this input to develop supporting information to help schemes meet these new requirements.

How can I provide feedback or contact the project team?

You can provide your feedback to us directly:

- Complete an online feedback survey by 10 October 2022 at www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/joint-private-works
- Call 1300 081 047
- Email jpws@dpie.nsw.gov.au

You can use these contact details to let us know you want to receive updates about this project.