



Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Name of the proposal	Amendment of the <i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation 2020</i> to insert a new division under Part 4 Planned Development for the Paradise Dam Improvement Project
Submission type (<i>Summary IAS / Consultation IAS / Decision IAS</i>)	Summary IAS
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	<i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation 2020</i>
Date of issue	22 May 2025

Proposal type	Details
Minor and machinery in nature	<p>This proposal is minor in nature, requiring an amendment to subordinate legislation to outline early works to be undertaken for the Paradise Dam Improvement Project (PDIP). The proposal does not result in a substantive change to regulatory policy, increase costs or regulatory burden on business or the community.</p> <p>In December 2024, the Queensland Government reaffirmed support for the PDIP involving the construction of a new dam wall, retuning the structure to its original full supply level, which is required to ensure a safe and secure water supply for the Bundaberg and Burnett regions for future generations. The Project involves Sunwater constructing a replacement dam wall immediately downstream (approximately 90 m) of the existing dam wall and partial demolition of the existing dam.</p> <p>This proposal seeks to support the completion of early works by streamlining the regulatory approval pathways. The PDIP early works include Sunwater constructing a temporary project accommodation village, two concrete batching plants, laydown area and geotechnical investigations on land where Sunwater has tenure, as well as quarry investigations on properties located nearby to the project site.</p> <p>Sunwater has established the Paradise Dam Reference Group including representatives from local government, peak bodies, customers, Traditional Owners and downstream residents as part of their Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation Strategy for the PDIP. Sunwater consults with the local community through information stalls, drop-in sessions and social media posts and through meetings with nearby landowners regarding the project scope.</p>



	<p>Some early works activities, including the components associated with the concrete batching plants, are likely to be subject to Commonwealth assessment which includes a statutory public consultation process under the <i>Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act). Consideration and/or approval of the works under the EPBC Act may be required prior to investigations for quarry material commencing.</p> <p>The regulation amendment would direct:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunwater to undertake the proposed Project Works under s100 of the <i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971</i> (SDPWO Act). • the Coordinator-General to undertake Facilitation Works under s109 of the SDPWO Act enlivening the powers and functions of the Coordinator-General under the SDPWO Act. <p>The proposed regulatory amendment would remove the requirement for certain Local Government development approvals for the Project Works. This will allow the early works to commence in a timely manner.</p> <p>Construction of the early works are to be undertaken in accordance with a Construction Environmental Management Plan and supporting management plans submitted to the Coordinator-General to ensure that potential impacts are managed.</p> <p>Sunwater will be required to comply with existing regulatory requirements. Existing legislated landowner protections will continue to apply to the use of the Coordinator-General's powers.</p> <p>The regulation amendment is considered minor as the impacts, usually assessed through a development application with relevant local authorities, will be considered by the Coordinator-General for the Project Works. Enlivening powers and functions of the SDPWO Act for a project of this significance aligns with community expectations.</p> <p>Consequently, the regulatory proposal is minor and machinery in nature, and no further impact assessment is required under the <i>Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy</i>.</p>
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*Refer to [The Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy](#) for regulatory proposals not requiring regulatory impact analysis (for example, public sector management, changes to existing criminal laws, taxation).

Signed

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Gerard Coggan
Coordinator-General

Date: 16 May 2025

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Jarrod Bleijie MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development,
Infrastructure and Planning
Minister of Industrial Relations

Date: 22 May 2025