

Information sheet

Environmental Protection Act 1994

How certain petroleum infrastructure can be transferred to landholders

This information sheet is to inform landholders of their options and to provide guidance on the types of petroleum infrastructure that can be transferred from petroleum companies prior to the surrender of an environmental authority or petroleum tenure.

The Queensland Government recognises the value of certain on-farm petroleum infrastructure to landholders and supports the transfer of these assets for agricultural and other purposes, providing certain circumstances are met. Responsibility for the infrastructure may be handed over to a landholder either during or once the petroleum activity has finished being undertaken on the land. This will allow landholders to use the infrastructure for their own purposes. If you are a landholder interested in taking on infrastructure from petroleum activities, see the below information.

1 What infrastructure can potentially be transferred?

- Various water bores
- Converted petroleum wells
- Fences and gates
- Gas and water lines
- Water pumping stations
- Low risk dams (with exclusions)
- Temporary small water storages
- Access tracks, roads, workshops, sheds
- Hardstand, concrete slabs and laydown areas
- Equipment for power generation
- Electrical and communication infrastructure
- Earthen bunds (with restrictions)
- Accommodation facilities (with exclusions)
- Water pipeline infrastructure (with exclusions)
- Various empty and cleaned liquid waste storage containers
- Above ground fuel tanks and chemical storage facilities (under thresholds).

2 What can you do?

Have conversations with the petroleum operator as early as possible. This will provide the following benefits:

- Identification of assets that you can have after the petroleum operator no longer requires it
- Contributing to/having input into where the asset/s are best placed for your future use
- Identification of asset maintenance requirements.

You will need a written agreement with the petroleum operator that identifies the following:

- Acknowledgement that you will maintain the asset in the long-term, and that you are taking on the responsibility of the infrastructure once it is transferred
- The infrastructure being transferred
- The timing of when the infrastructure is transferred
- Ongoing maintenance requirements.

3 What can petroleum operators do?

To transfer petroleum infrastructure, the petroleum operator and landholder should come to an agreement (in writing). Depending on the infrastructure they wish to transfer, the environmental authority holder may need approval from the Department of Environment and Science. There is a guideline in place to assist EA holders with this process.

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4 Further information

If you need to know who your petroleum operator is, please contact Permits and Licence Management via email to palm@des.qld.gov.au or phone on 1300 130 372 and selecting option 4.

The GasFields Commission Queensland also helps support relationships between landholders, government, regional communities and the gas industry by connecting stakeholders and providing contact details to assist in finding more help if needed. They can be contacted via email: enquiries@gfcq.org.au or call (07) 3067 9400.

For more information on how you can take on petroleum assets visit the Department of Environment and Science website at www.des.qld.gov.au.

Disclaimer: While this document has been prepared with care it contains general information and does not profess to offer legal, professional or commercial advice. The Queensland Government accepts no liability for any external decisions or actions taken on the basis of this document. Persons external to the Department of Environment and Science should satisfy themselves independently and by consulting their own professional advisors before embarking on any proposed course of action.

Approved:

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