

**Water Industry Competition Act 2006**  
**Schedule 4, clause 10**  
**Notice of decision – Grant of operational approval**  
**Approval No. 25\_0380A**

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (**IPART**) grants an operational approval for the Cooranbong scheme under Schedule 4, clause 10(1) of the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006 (Act)*.

The operational approval takes effect on 1 March 2025.

In considering whether to grant the operational approval and what conditions to impose on the approval, IPART had regard to the objects in sections 2A and 5A of the Act.

IPART is satisfied that a last resort provider has been designated for the essential service provider (registered operator) of the Cooranbong scheme to which the operational approval applies by order in the Gazette No. 3 of 10 January 2025 to take effect on 1 March 2025.

The operational approval is attached.

3/02/2025

X 

Signed by: Kelly.Kwan@ipart.nsw.gov.au

**Kelly Kwan**  
**Executive Director, Regulation & Compliance**  
As the delegate of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal



# Operational Approval

*Water Industry Competition Act 2006  
(NSW)*

Operational Approval no. 25\_038OA  
Cooranbong

---

# Contents

## **Schedule A    Version History**

## **Schedule B    Staged scheme**

---

Item B1	Authorised Stage	4
---------	------------------	---

## **Schedule C    Approval conditions**

---

Item C1	Interpretation	5
Item C2	Standard approval conditions	5
Item C3	Special approval conditions	5

## Operational Approval

### APPROVAL AUTHORISATION TABLE

<b>Scheme name</b> (the Act, s 7F(2)(a))	Cooranbong
<b>Approval number</b>	25_0380A
<b>Related scheme approval</b> (the Act, s 7F(2)(a))	25_022SA
<b>Version history</b>	Current approval in force since: 1 March 2025.  Details about grant, variation, replacement, cancellation or surrender of this approval are set out in Schedule A.
<b>Regulated scheme (retailer required)</b>	Yes
<b>Staged scheme</b> (the Act, s 7F(2)(c))	No
<b>Authorised purposes for drinking water infrastructure</b> (the Act, s 7F(2)(b))	Further treatment of drinking water. Storage of drinking water. Conveyance of drinking water. Supply of drinking water to customers.
<b>Authorised purposes for sewerage infrastructure</b> (the Act, s 7F(2)(b))	Production of recycled water from sewage. Treatment of sewage. Filtration of sewage. Storage of sewage. Conveyance of sewage.
<b>Authorised purposes for recycled water infrastructure</b> (the Act, s 7F(2)(b))	Production of recycled water from sewage. Treatment of recycled water. Filtration of recycled water. Storage of recycled water. Conveyance of recycled water. Supply of recycled water to customers.

---

# Approval Terms

## 1. Grant and authorisation

- 1.1 The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal grants this approval under the Act, Schedule 4, clause 10(1).

Note: This approval is deemed to be an approval granted under section 7B of the Act.

- 1.2 This approval authorises the registered operator to operate the authorised infrastructure for the authorised purposes in accordance with the specifications set out in this approval.

Note: This clause authorises the registered operator to carry out certain activities that would otherwise be prohibited under section 6A of the Act. This authorisation does not provide an exemption from obligations under other laws unless expressly provided by those laws.

## 2. Approval conditions

- 2.1 The authorisation in this approval is subject to the standard approval conditions specified in Schedule C, Item C2 and the special approval conditions specified in Schedule C, Item C3.

Note: The Act and Regulations contain additional conditions.

## 3. Interpretation

- 3.1 Expressions used in this approval that are defined in the Act or Regulations have the meanings set out in the Act or the Regulation unless the context otherwise requires.

- 3.2 In this approval, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the singular includes the plural and vice versa,
- (b) a reference to this approval includes any schedule to this approval,
- (c) a reference to a schedule is to a schedule to this approval, and
- (d) explanatory notes and headings do not form part of this approval, but in the case of uncertainty may be relied on for interpretation purposes.

- 3.3 In this approval:

**Act** means the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006*.

**authorised infrastructure** means the water industry infrastructure specified in the related scheme approval.

**authorised purposes** mean the purposes specified for the relevant infrastructure in the final column of the approval authorisation table.

**Regulations** means any regulations made under the Act.

**related scheme approval** means the scheme approval identified as such in the final column of the approval authorisation table.

## Schedule A Version History

<b>Current approval in force since</b>	1 March 2025
<b>Original grant date</b>	14 April 2016
<b>Transition date</b>	Transitioned approval, granted under the Act, Schedule 4, cl. 10(1):  1 March 2025
<b>Variation history</b>	Varied under the Act, s. 7K(6) on:  Not applicable  Approval of commercial operation of new infrastructure granted under the <i>Water Industry Competition (General) Regulation 2021</i> , Schedule 1, cl. 2 (now repealed): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 14 April 2016</li><li>• 26 November 2020</li></ul>
<b>Replacement history</b>	Not applicable
<b>Cancellation or surrender</b>	Not applicable

## Schedule B Staged scheme

### Item B1 Authorised Stage

Not applicable.

---

## Schedule C Approval conditions

### Item C1 Interpretation

If any condition, or part of any condition, is unlawful, that condition, or part of the condition, is severable and does not affect the validity of the approval or the balance of the conditions or condition.

### Item C2 Standard approval conditions

#### C2.1 Limitations on which infrastructure may be operated

2.1.1 The registered operator must operate only that authorised infrastructure which is either:

- (a) existing infrastructure; or
- (b) infrastructure that extends or expands existing infrastructure, but only if the infrastructure:
  - (i) involves the same technology as that used in connection with the existing infrastructure, and
  - (ii) is consistent with any applicable asset management plan or system, water quality management system, and sewage management plan or system for the existing infrastructure; and
  - (iii) is in the area of operations specified in Schedule H of the related scheme approval; and
  - (iv) is located in the location specified in Schedule I of the related scheme approval, unless the infrastructure is pipelines within the reticulation network.

2.1.2 In this condition C2.1, **existing infrastructure** means that authorised infrastructure which existed at 9 October 2020.

### Item C3 Special approval conditions

#### C3.1 Permitted end-uses for recycled water

3.1.1 The registered operator must ensure water industry infrastructure for the scheme supplies recycled water to customers for only the permitted end-uses specified in Table C3.1 below.



Table C3.1

1. Car washing
2. Clothes washing (cold water tap only)
3. Dust suppression
4. Irrigation
5. Ornamental water features
6. Toilet flushing

3.1.2 In this condition C3.1, **ornamental water feature** means a water feature that:

- (a) is provided primarily for aesthetic or beautification purposes, and
- (b) does not, by its design or accessibility, encourage interaction with the water.

### C3.2 Environmental risk mitigation measures

3.2.1 The registered operator must implement environmental risk mitigation measures substantially consistent with the environmental risk mitigation measures identified in the REF where the registered operator carries out any activities authorised by this approval.

3.2.2 In this condition C3.2, **REF** means the document titled "*Extension of WICA Network Operator Licence 15\_033 Cooranbong - Review of Environmental Factors*", Version E, prepared by RPS Australia East Pty Ltd and dated 25 September 2019, and does not include any modified version of that document or any documents replacing it.

### C3.3 Management of designated irrigation areas

3.3.1 The registered operator must manage irrigation of designated irrigation areas in accordance with the recommendations in the LCA.

3.3.2 The registered operator must:

- (a) monitor the condition of soil in designated irrigation areas on an annual basis;
- (b) report to IPART:
  - (i) any deterioration to soil conditions below the level recommended in the LCA; and
  - (ii) details of the measures that the registered operator will take to mitigate that soil deterioration; and
- (c) implement the measures to mitigate soil deterioration notified to IPART under paragraph (b).

3.3.3 The registered operator must maintain records of its activities under this condition C3.3, including the results of its monitoring activities and implementation of measures to mitigate soil deterioration.

3.3.4 In this condition C3.3:

- (a) **designated irrigation areas** means any area identified as a 'designated irrigation area' in the LCA,
- (b) **LCA** means the "*Land Capability Assessment and Recycled Water Irrigation Plan North Coorانبong, NSW (Extension to Coorانبong WaterNOL#15\_033)*", 24 September 2018.

C3.4 [Not applicable]