



DEPARTMENT OF
THE ENVIRONMENT,
CLIMATE CHANGE,
ENERGY AND WATER

Efficient Use Guidelines - Disallowable Instrument *Water Resources Act 2007*

FACTSHEET

Issued: 10 June 2009

Section 18 of the *Water Resources Act 2007* (the new Act) enables the Environment Protection Authority to create guidelines for working out amounts of water that are reasonable amounts for a particular use. These guidelines have been referred to as the Efficient Use Guidelines and are a disallowable instrument under the new Act (this means they are a statutory instrument that can be passed or disallowed by the Legislative Assembly).

The Guidelines state that in all cases, the smaller of the two options relating to volumes of water shall be used. These options are either (1) the volume requested by the applicant, or (2) the volume of water calculated as being suitable under the Efficient Use Guidelines.

The Guidelines contain five different methods relating to the proposed use of the water. These are:

- (1) Irrigation of parkland and residential gardens;
- (2) Rural stock and domestic use;
- (3) For metered use other than (1) or (2);
- (4) Irrigation for agricultural or horticultural crops;
- (5) All other unmetered use.

If a proposed use does not currently have a method for determining an efficient use volume, an efficient use volume shall be determined on a comparative basis with similar use and perceived benchmark examples of the proposed use.

Further information can be obtained by calling Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 and asking to speak with the Water Resources area.

Water Resources

For more information call Canberra Connect
on 13 22 81 or visit www.environment.act.gov.au