

Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water

Our ref: CTS 24158/23

Your ref: AA1000657

25 January 2024

Ms Naomi Menon GPO Box 3131 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Menon

Thank you for your letter of 21 December 2023 to the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW) about application for authorisation from the Water Services Association of Australia.

The recent COVID pandemic highlighted the need for the water sector to be better prepared in situations where service disruption and supply chain delivery services are impacted. The water sector relies heavily on these services to deliver water treatment chemicals to ensure that safe drinking water is supplied to communities.

The treatment of drinking water includes disinfection processes, to inactivate pathogens that may be present in the water, which is commonly achieved by utilising liquid chlorine or chlorine gas.

The ability for drinking water service providers to access chlorine gas during emergency situations will ensure that they can continually provide safe and reliable drinking water services to their communities and avoid any potential public health risks. I can advise that DRDMW has no objections to the application.

I have asked for Mr Imraan Yousuf, A/Manager, Water Supply Regulation in the Department to assist you with any further queries. You may wish to contact Mr Yousuf on or by email at <u>drinkingwater.reporting@rdmw.qld.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Harris A/ Executive Director Water Operations and Systems

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