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Version Date 03 March 2017	Accountability Framework Level 1- Manage Occupational Safety and Health Level 2 – Manage Hazards and OSH Incidents	Stakeholders Business Unit Managers
Next Review Date 03 March 2020		

1 Policy Statement

Water Corporation is committed to ensuring that Asbestos and Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) present on its sites are appropriately managed and controlled to protect the health and well-being of employees, contractors, the community and the environment.

This Policy must be communicated to all persons working under the control of the Water Corporation, displayed in prominent locations and be made available to interested parties.

This Policy must be reviewed every three (3) years.

2 Purpose

The Asbestos Policy has been created to:

- Demonstrate the Water Corporation’s commitment to the effective management and control of Asbestos and ACM.
- Ensure that legal obligations relating to the management of Asbestos in the workplace and the environment are fulfilled.
- Outline the key principles associated with protecting the health and safety of employees, contractors, the community and the environment from the risks associated with working with Asbestos and ACM.

3 Scope

The Asbestos Policy applies to workers undertaking the following activities related to asbestos identification, assessment, management and work on:

- Water Corporation operating sites.
- Water Corporation non-operating sites including land owned by the Corporation, land managed by the Corporation and land leased by the corporation to other parties.
- Water Corporation assets and equipment that are not on Water Corporation land, including decommissioned assets.
- Construction sites controlled by contractors.
- Construction sites controlled by Water Corporation.
- Office buildings, depots, storage sites, owned (or occupied) by Water Corporation.
- Staffed facilities, unstaffed facilities, commissioned assets and non-commissioned assets.

4 Compliance Implications

Failure to comply with Environmental and or Workplace Health and Safety compliance obligations by members or functions of the Corporation could have any or all of the following implications:

- Causing harm to human health and/or the environment.

- Damage to Water Corporation's reputation and community standing.
- Significant fines, civil penalties and custodial sentences.
- Substantial court and legal costs.
- Improvement and/or Prohibition notices and/or Hazard Abatement Notices.
- An individual's reputation and career being irreparably damaged.

Through the implementation of this Policy, the Corporation meets its obligations under the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984* and *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*.

5 Principles

This Policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- A risk based approach must be adopted for the management and control of asbestos and ACM.
- All asbestos or ACM must be identified by a competent person. Its presence and location is identified (or assumed to be identified) and clearly signposted and/or labelled so far as is reasonably practicable.
- The condition and likelihood of disturbance of any ACM must be assessed to understand the associated risk of exposure to airborne fibres.
- Asbestos Asset Registers and asbestos management plans must be prepared, maintained and reviewed where Asbestos or ACM has been identified.
- Appropriate control measures must be implemented to minimise any risk of exposure to persons to airborne fibres.
- If ACM is found to be in an unstable condition, which is deemed to be a risk to the environment or the health of workers, contractors and/or the community, it must be removed and/or remediated as soon as practicable.

6 Application

This Policy forms part of the Health, Safety, Environment and Aboriginal Affairs Management System and must be implemented as part of the Asbestos Framework.

7 Key References

Key Compliance References

- Contaminated Sites Act 2003
- Contaminated Sites Regulations 2006
- Environmental Protection Act 1986
- Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004
- Health (Asbestos) Regulations 1992
- Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984
- Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996
- Code of Practice for the Management and Control of Asbestos in Workplaces 2005
- Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2005

Corporate References

- [Asbestos Management Guideline](#)
- [HSEAA-P-132 Identification, Assessment and Management of Asbestos Procedure](#)
- [HSEAA-P-131 Working with Asbestos Procedure](#)
- [Health Surveillance Guideline](#)

Document Revision History	
03 Mar 2017	New Document in line with the Asbestos Management Framework