

Environment and Heritage Expertise

Technical Guideline

# TG 0875.00 – General requirements

**Version:** 1.0

**Date:** 28 August 2025.

**Status:** Final

**Document ID:** SAWG-ENV-0875.00

**Confidentiality:** OFFICIAL



**Government of  
South Australia**

© 2025 SA Water Corporation. All rights reserved. This document may contain confidential information of SA Water Corporation. Disclosure or dissemination to unauthorised individuals is strictly prohibited. Uncontrolled when printed or downloaded.

## Issue & version number

Only the current version of the Technical Guideline should be used. Earlier versions of this Technical Guideline are superseded and must not be used.

This Technical Guideline document is not controlled when printed or downloaded. Only online versions from the SA Water website may be used.

## Copyright and intellectual property

© SA Water. All rights reserved.

This Technical Guideline has been produced by the South Australian Water Corporation (SA Water). SA Water owns the copyright to all material produced by SA Water.

No part of this Technical Guideline may be reproduced, copied or transmitted in any form or by any means, except with the express written consent of SA Water.

Where any material is extracted from this Technical Guideline, which may occur only with express written consent of SA Water, that material must be attributed to SA Water as:  
© SA Water.

## Intellectual property

Where any material is extracted from this Technical Guideline, which may occur only with express written consent of SA Water, that material must be attributed to SA Water as:  
© SA Water.

Unless indicated expressly to the contrary, SA Water (and/or any third-party licensors of SA Water) own the copyright and other intellectual property rights, which is contained in the text, graphics, information, designs, data and other content in this Technical Guideline.

This Technical Guideline may not, without consent in writing from SA Water, or otherwise except to the extent permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth), be reproduced for any purpose, including particularly: purposes associated with government operational activities, commercial activity, or education.

SA Water is committed to upholding the rights of owners of copyright and intellectual property, and SA Water will make every effort to contact copyright owners and request permission to reproduce and make available copyright material. If you believe that any content in this Technical Guideline may infringe your copyright or other intellectual property rights, please contact us at [legal@sawater.com.au](mailto:legal@sawater.com.au) and we will investigate the position, and if appropriate, endeavour to correct the situation.

If you have access to this Technical Guideline and the Technical Guideline is used by you or any other entity, for purposes other than to progress SA Water's statutory functions, you could be infringing SA Water's copyright, and or SA Water's intellectual property, and you may face penalties under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth), otherwise under law, or under any other policy of SA Water or the South Australian Government that may apply.

## Technical Guidelines are only applicable for intended use

This Technical Guideline may be used by only: SA Water staff, SA Water contractors and persons expressly authorised in writing by SA Water to do so.

This Technical Guideline may be used only for application to progress activities associated with SA Water's statutory functions described particularly within the *Water Industry Act 2012* (SA), the *Water Industry Regulations 2012* (SA) and the *South Australian Water Corporation Act 1994* (SA). This Technical Guideline may not be used for any other activity outside of the scope of the functions described in that legislation.

If you have access to this Technical Guideline, and the Technical Guideline is used by you or any other entity, for purposes or activity other than to progress SA Water's statutory functions, the Technical Guideline may not be applicable to that other purpose or activity, in which you or that other entity intend to engage, and you could be misinterpreting the contents and you may not correctly apply the Technical Guideline. This may result in loss or damage to you, the entity or to other parties, and must be avoided.

This Technical Guideline has been prepared to address general and not particular circumstances. This Technical Guideline is intended to be used in conjunction with designs and project instructions that are prepared in response to particular circumstances and toward particular objectives. Any user of this Technical Guideline must ensure, by independent verification, that the application of the Technical Guideline is suitable to any design for any particular project, and to ensure that the Technical Guideline is in accordance with the latest relevant Australian Guidelines, legislation, regulations and codes and also with any relevant and applicable policy.

SA Water does its best to provide accurate and up-to-date information in the Technical Guidelines we prepare, but you should use your own skill and judgement before you rely on it. SA Water does not guarantee or warrant the accuracy, completeness, or currency of the information provided. SA Water recommends that you ask for professional advice from your own advisors on any aspect of your own circumstances.

## Liability disclaimer

This Technical Guideline may be used by only: SA Water staff, SA Water contractors and persons expressly authorised in writing by SA Water to do so.

To the extent that the use of the Technical Guideline constitutes you acquiring goods or services from SA Water, as a consumer within the meaning of the Australian Consumer Law set out in the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) sch 2, as amended or replaced from time to time, you may have certain rights and remedies (including: consumer guarantee rights) that cannot be excluded, restricted or modified by agreement.

Nothing in this disclaimer operates to exclude, restrict or modify the application of any implied condition or warranty, provision, the exercise of any right or remedy, or the imposition of any liability under the Australian Consumer Law or any other statute, where to do so would contravene that statute or cause any term of this agreement to be void.

You acknowledge and agree that:

- Except for any non-excludable obligations, SA Water gives no warranty (express or implied) or guarantee that information, services and materials contained in this Technical Guideline are accurate, complete, current, or fit for any use whatsoever.
- All such information, services and materials are provided "as is" and "as available" without warranty of any kind. This means, for instance, that you should not rely on the accuracy or completeness of any information displayed within this Technical Guideline and its suitability for application to your particular circumstances, and furthermore it is your responsibility to contact an appropriate member of our staff if you have any questions about suitability of the Technical Guideline to any particular circumstance, before your use of the Technical Guideline.

To the maximum extent permitted by law and subject to any non-excludable obligations, SA Water excludes all liability for any loss or damage arising out of access to, use of, or reliance upon information, services and materials contained within this Technical Guideline.

## Significant/major changes incorporated in this edition

Not applicable - this is the first edition of the Technical Guideline.


## Document controls

### Version history

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	28 August 2025	Various	Issued for Use

Template: Technical Guideline Version 8.1, 27 September 2024

### Approvers

Approver Name	Approver Role	Signature
Tim Kildea	Manager Environment and Heritage Expertise	<div>16/09/2025</div> <div>X </div> <div>Tim Kildea Manager Environment and Heritage Expertise Signed by: KI000359</div>
Brooke Swaffer	Manager Environment and Recreation	<div>16/09/2025</div> <div>X Brooke Swaffer</div> <div>Brooke Swaffer Manager Environment and Recreation Signed by: SW001471</div>

### Reviewers

Name	Role	Version	Review Date
Environment and Heritage Expertise Team	Team review of guidelines.	1.0	28-08-2025

# Contents

---

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1	Purpose	6
1.2	Application	6
1.3	Scope	6
1.4	Glossary	7
1.5	Terms and Definitions	7
1.5.1	Abbreviations	7
1.5.2	Australian and international	8
1.5.3	SA Water documents	8

---

<b>2</b>	<b>Statutory obligations</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1	Strategic alignment	10

---

<b>3</b>	<b>Guideline overview</b>	<b>11</b>
----------	---------------------------	-----------

# 1 Introduction

SA Water is responsible for the construction and operation of around \$14 billion worth of water and wastewater infrastructure across South Australia.

An important part of the planning, construction and operation of SA Water's assets is ensuring potential impacts to the environment or to heritage are being identified and managed. This is important during both the planning and design stages, as well as construction and delivery of projects, programs or other changes to our assets.

The Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines have been developed to assist in the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of its infrastructure throughout the Asset Lifecycle process.

## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines are to:

- Support SA Water's Asset Planners, Project Managers, and Design Managers, and SA Water's business partners Designers, and Constructors, by increasing transparency of, and clarity in, information related to environment and heritage management.
- Summarise key information relevant to managing the environment and heritage matter, including overview of governing legislation, regulatory approvals and statutory obligations.
- Ensure early identification of potential environment or heritage implications during the planning phase, to inform project, design, and technical options assessment.
- Describe control measures and mitigation approaches suitable for construction and delivery which may be utilised in various Environmental Management Plans.
- Include Key Performance Indicators and monitoring requirements that may be applied to assess the effectiveness of measures to protect environment and heritage.

While each Technical Guideline is not exhaustive, it outlines SA Water's expectations regarding the management of environment and heritage matters.

Additional requirements may be necessary based on project- or site-specific activities, geographical location or approval conditions.

## 1.2 Application

The Technical Guidelines provides information on best practices, principles and expectations that should be applied with respect to managing environment and heritage risks to infrastructure projects.

While not binding under SA Water contracts, deviations from the Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines should only occur where better practice than that described is applicable and available and can be demonstrated to SA Water.

Where this evidence is not available or deemed by SA Water to be unsatisfactory, compliance with the Technical Guidelines is expected.

## 1.3 Scope

The Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines have been primarily designed to assist with the planning, design and delivery of SA Water's capital program; however, many elements may also apply to during regular operations and maintenance activities.

For any queries or assistance in applying these Technical Guidelines, please contact the Environment and Heritage Expertise team via [eia@sawater.com.au](mailto:eia@sawater.com.au).

## 1.4 Glossary

Terms and Abbreviations utilised in this Guideline are included in the following sections. The definitions presented below are to be used when interpreting this Guideline and actions undertaken in relation to this Guideline. Where a conflict exists, clarification is to be sought from SA Water.

## 1.5 Terms and Definitions

The following is a list of Terms applicable to this document:

Term	Description
<b>Accredited Consultant</b>	The term for all persons who are appointed as Accredited Consultants by the Native Vegetation Council under the Native Vegetation Act 1991 (SA).
<b>Asset Planner</b>	Responsible for the identification, appraisal, optimisation and prioritisation of options in relation to assets and asset management plans, which balance level of service, benefits, cost and risk.
<b>Consultant</b>	The organisation who has been engaged under contract to SA Water for the provision of professional or expert advice on a specific subject matter.
<b>Contractor</b>	An individual or organisation that is engaged by SA Water to carry out work or provide a service under a contract for service, including the contractor, the contractor's employees and any sub-contractors managed by that contractor.
<b>Contract</b>	A set of documents supplied to Contractor as the basis for construction; these documents contain contract forms, contract conditions, specifications, drawings, addenda, and contract changes.
<b>Design Manager</b>	The organisation responsible for designing infrastructure for SA Water whether it be a third party under contract to SA Water or a Constructor, or an in-house entity. A Designer is a person who effects design, produces designs or undertakes design activities as defined in the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA).
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment Officer</b>	Provides advice to a project to ensure that it complies with environment and heritage legislation, regulations and standards. Supported by the Asset Planner or Project Manager (depending on project stage), an EIA Officer will assess potential environment and heritage risks, secure any regulatory approvals that may be required, and provide advice on best practice approaches for managing risk during construction phases.
<b>Must</b>	Indicates a requirement that is to be adopted in order to comply with the Guideline
<b>Project Manager</b>	The person given the authority and responsibility to manage the project on a day-to-day basis and deliver the project within the agreed constraints of time, cost and quality.
<b>RASCI</b>	RASCI is a project management tool, specifically a responsibility assignment matrix, that helps define roles and responsibilities of team members. It clarifies who is Responsible, Accountable, Supportive, Consulted, and Informed for each task or deliverable.
<b>SA Water</b>	South Australian Water Corporation
<b>Should</b>	Indicates practices which are advised or recommended but is not required.
<b>Work</b>	Elements of a project which require design and/or construction.

### 1.5.1 Abbreviations

The following is a list of abbreviations, acronyms and initialisms used in this document:



Abbreviation	Description
<b>MFP</b>	Major Framework Partner
<b>RASCI</b>	Responsible, Accountable, Supported, Consulted, Informed
<b>TG</b>	SA Water Technical Guideline
<b>TS</b>	SA Water Technical Standard

### 1.5.2 Australian and international

The following table identifies Australian and International standards and other similar documents referenced in this document:

Reference	Title
<b>EP Act</b>	Environment Protection Act 1993 (SA)
<b>LSA Act</b>	Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (SA)
	Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)

### 1.5.3 SA Water documents

The following table identifies the SA Water standards and other similar documents referenced in this document:

Reference	Title
	SA Water Our Strategy 2020-25
	SA Water Environment Corporate Strategy
<b>TG 0875.11</b>	Aboriginal Heritage and Native Title
<b>TG 0875.12</b>	Non-Aboriginal Heritage
<b>TG 0875.21</b>	Vegetation
<b>TG 0875.22</b>	Fauna
<b>TG 0875.23</b>	Weed Hygiene
<b>TG 0875.24</b>	Phytophthora
<b>TG 0875.31</b>	Surface Water
<b>TG 0875.32</b>	Groundwater
<b>TG 0875.33</b>	Recycled Water
<b>TG 0875.34</b>	Sediment, Erosion and Stormwater
<b>TG 0875.35</b>	Dewatering, Dredging and Earthworks Drainage
<b>TG 0875.41</b>	Site Contamination
<b>TG 0875.42</b>	Acid Sulfate Soils
<b>TG 0875.43</b>	Hazardous Substances
<b>TG 0875.51</b>	Dust
<b>TG 0875.52</b>	Odour
<b>TG 0875.53</b>	Noise and Vibration
<b>TG 0875.61</b>	Spoil Management
<b>TG 0875.62</b>	Recycling
<b>TG 0875.63</b>	Waste Management



## 2 Statutory obligations

SA Water's operational environment, including delivery of its capital program, is subject to several statutory obligations including the:

- Environment Protection Act 1993 (SA) Part 4 – Section 25:

*General environmental duty*

*(1) A person must not undertake an activity that pollutes, or might pollute, the environment unless the person takes all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise any resulting environmental harm.*

- Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (SA) Division 2 – Section 8:

*General statutory duties*

*(1) A person must act reasonably in relation to the management of natural resources within the State.*

*(2) In determining what is reasonable for the purposes of subsection (1), regard must be had, amongst other things, to the objects of this Act, and to—*

- a. the need to act responsibly in relation to the management of natural resources, including the protection of biodiversity, and the potential impact of a failure to comply with the relevant duty; and*
- b. any environmental, social, cultural, economic or practical implications, including in relation to the state of matters regarding biodiversity and any relevant assessment of costs and benefits associated with a particular course of action, the financial implications of various measures or options, and the current state of technical and scientific knowledge; and*
- c. any degrees of risk that may be involved; and*
- d. the nature, extent and duration of any harm; and*
- e. the extent to which a person is responsible for the management of the natural resources including in relation to the environment and its biodiversity; and*
- f. the significance of the natural resources, including in relation to the environment and its biodiversity and to the economy of the State (if relevant); and*
- g. the extent to which an act or activity may have a cumulative effect on any natural resources including the environment and its biodiversity; and*
- h. any pre-existing circumstance, and the state or condition of the natural resources; and*
- i. any local circumstances as described in subsection (8).*

- Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA) Part 2 – Section 11:

*General Duty*

*(1) A person must not carry out or undertake an act or activity that harms or has the potential to harm biodiversity unless the person takes all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise any resulting harm.*

## 2.1 Strategic alignment

The Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines support the delivery of [Our Strategy 2020-25](#) by protecting environment and heritage while supporting water and wastewater infrastructure delivery. This is aligned to all five focus areas of the Strategy, namely:

1. Driving customer outcomes: Our customers trust us to provide safe, smart, reliable and affordable services.
2. Healthy communities: We promote the health and wellbeing of active, thriving communities.
3. Proactive environmental leadership: We take action to support ecosystem health, respond to climate change and reduce waste.
4. Water for the future: We secure customer access to fit for purpose water.
5. Our people for the future: We create safe, diverse and healthy workplaces with high employee engagement.

The [Environment Corporate Strategy](#) includes the following relevant focus areas:

- Demonstrate environmental leadership and accountability.
- Support liveable places and revitalised ecosystems.

### 3 Guideline overview

The Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines comprise of 20 individual guidelines grouped into six different themes.

Each Technical Guideline has been designed to be able to be used as a stand-alone document (noting that the elements of these General Requirements remain), however, note there may be instances when more than one Technical Guideline will apply for a specific project or set of circumstances.

For example, if the Vegetation Technical Guideline applies, then Fauna, Weed Hygiene and Phytophthora Technical Guidelines may also apply. Similarly, where the Surface Water Technical Guideline applies, it is also likely that Sediment, Erosion and Stormwater Technical Guideline will also apply.

The guidelines in this series are listed below:

#### Heritage Technical Guidelines

- TG 0875.11 Aboriginal Heritage and Native Title
- TG 0875.12 Non-Aboriginal Heritage

#### Flora and Fauna Technical Guidelines

- TG 0875.21 Vegetation
- TG 0875.22 Fauna
- TG 0875.23 Weed Hygiene
- TG 0875.24 Phytophthora

#### Water Technical Guidelines

- TG 0875.31 Surface Water
- TG 0875.32 Groundwater
- TG 0875.33 Recycled Water
- TG 0875.34 Sediment, Erosion and Stormwater
- TG 0875.35 Dewatering, Dredging and Earthworks Drainage

#### Contamination Technical Guidelines

- TG 0875.41 Site Contamination
- TG 0875.42 Acid Sulfate Soils
- TG 0875.43 Hazardous Substances

#### Air Quality Technical Guidelines

- TG 0875.51 Dust
- TG 0875.52 Odour
- TG 0875.53 Noise and Vibration

#### Circular Economy Technical Guidelines

- TG 0875.61 Spoil Management
- TG 0875.62 Recycling
- TG 0875.63 Waste Management