

# Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure project

**Coordinator-General's change report 1 - stated  
condition 1(b)(iii)**

May 2021





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# Background

The *Lower Fitzroy River Infrastructure project – Coordinator-General’s evaluation report for an environmental impact statement* (Coordinator-General’s evaluation report) was released in December 2016, pursuant to section 34D(4) of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (SDPWO Act).

At the time of release of the Coordinator-General’s evaluation report, the Lower Fitzroy Infrastructure project (the project) involved the construction and operation of a raised Eden Bann Weir and a new weir at Rookwood on the Fitzroy River, Central Queensland. Following approval of the project by both State and Commonwealth Governments, the scope of the project was revised, and the Rookwood Weir is now the sole proposed development.

On 10 February 2021, Sunwater Limited (Sunwater) (the proponent) applied to the Coordinator-General to evaluate a proposed change to the project, under Division 3A, section 35C of the SDPWO Act.

In accordance with section 35H of the SDPWO Act, the Coordinator-General has evaluated the environmental effects of the proposed change, its effect on the project and any other related matters, and prepared this Coordinator-General’s change report under section 35I of the SDPWO Act.

## Changes to the project

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<b>Proposed change</b>	<p>Sunwater applied to the Coordinator-General seeking changes to stated condition 1(b)(iii) of the Coordinator-General’s evaluation report.</p> <p>The proponent’s change application explains that due to the changes to project scope and removal of project staging, the three-month (or 90 day) notification requirement identified in the Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 and applied in stated conditions of the Coordinator-General’s evaluation report is no longer relevant to the project. The change application further justifies that without an amendment to the 90-day notification period, the commencement of the in-river construction works would be delayed due to seasonal limitations, resulting in a potential \$30 million overspend.</p> <p>The proposed change would allow the proponent to negotiate with the administering authority, currently the State Assessment and Referral Agency, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, of on a revised schedule for delivery of a Notice of Election and Offsets Delivery Arrangements.</p> <p>I am satisfied that the proposed changes are consistent with the intent of the 2016 CGER conditions.</p>
<b>Decision</b>	Changes approved as outlined in Appendix 1.
<b>Date of effect</b>	Pursuant to section 35J of the SDPWO Act, approved changes take effect from the date of the decision.

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## Decision authorised by

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**Name and Position**

Kerry Smeltzer

Assistant Coordinator-General (as  
delegate for the Coordinator-General)

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**Signature**



**Date of  
decision**

5 May 2021

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Pursuant to section 35J of the SDPWO Act, a copy of this report will be given to the proponent, and a copy will be made available at: [www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/lower-fitzroy](http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/lower-fitzroy)

Pursuant to section 35K of the SDPWO Act, the Coordinator-General's report on the EIS for the project, and the Coordinator-General's change report, both have effect for the project. However, if the reports conflict, the Coordinator-General's change report prevails to the extent of any perceived inconsistency.

## Appendix 1. Change to condition

Former condition	New condition
<p><b>Appendix 4, Schedule 1, Part A, Condition 1</b></p> <p>(b) Significant residual impacts on prescribed environmental matters identified in Table A4 resulting from a prescribed activity are not authorised unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the proponent, in consultation with the administering agency, prepares a notice of election for each stage of the weir to counterbalance significant residual impacts of the prescribed environmental matters identified in Table A4</li> <li>(ii) the notices of election are prepared generally in accordance with sections 18 and 19 of the EO Act and are given to the administering agency in the approved form (section 92 of the EO Act)</li> <li>(iii) the notices of election are provided to the administering agency for approval no less than 90 days prior to the commencement of any disturbance activity for each stage that will result in a significant residual impact on the identified prescribed environmental matters in Table A4</li> <li>(iv) agreed delivery arrangements are entered into for each stage, in accordance with section 19 of the EO Act.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Appendix 4, Schedule 1, Part A, Condition 1</b></p> <p>(b) Significant residual impacts on prescribed environmental matters identified in Table A4 resulting from a prescribed activity are not authorised unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the proponent, in consultation with the administering agency, prepares a notice of election for each stage of the weir to counterbalance significant residual impacts of the prescribed environmental matters identified in Table A4</li> <li>(ii) the notices of election are prepared generally in accordance with sections 18 and 19 of the EO Act and are given to the administering agency in the approved form (section 92 of the EO Act)</li> <li>(iii) the notices of election are provided to the administering agency for approval prior to the commencement of any disturbance activity for each stage that will result in a significant residual impact on the identified prescribed environmental matters in Table A4</li> <li>(iv) agreed delivery arrangements are entered into for each stage, in accordance with section 19 of the EO Act.</li> </ul>

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