

# METERING OF FIRE LINES POLICY

## (COMMUNITY POLICY)

### 1. Scope

The Metering of Fire Lines Policy (this 'Policy') applies to all properties in the declared water service area which require water connections for firefighting purposes.

### 2. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide Council's requirements for the metering of all fire lines to identify and eliminate avoidable system leakage and non-fire related water consumption through them.

### 3. References (legislation/related documents)

#### Legislative reference

*Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991*  
*Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* ch 2 pt 4 div 6

#### Related documents

AS/NZS 2845.1:2010 : Water Supply - Backflow prevention devices – Materials, design and performance requirements

### 4. Definitions

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Approved Certifier	Any person who performs or supervises fire protection work and has any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fire protection occupational licence issued under the QBCC Act that authorises the licensee to personally carry out the work (as an employee or sub-trade contractor only);</li> <li>• A contractor's licence issued under the QBCC Act that authorises the licensee to personally carry out the work (under the contract for a builder or consumer); or</li> <li>• A licence, registration or authorisation under an Act, other than the QBCC Act, that authorises the person to personally supervise or carry out the work (for example, an occupational licence issued under the <i>Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002</i> or the <i>Electrical Safety Act 2002</i>).</li> </ul>
Council	Livingstone Shire Council.
Declared Water Service Area	The area declared by Council at its 9 September 2014 Meeting and subsequently amended by resolution for a retail water service pursuant to s 161(1) and s 161(3) of the <i>Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008</i> .

Fire Line	A water service specifically and solely used for firefighting purposes.
QBCC Act	<i>Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991.</i>

## 5. Policy Statement

Under s 144 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* Council is unable to charge for water taken from a firefighting system or a service provider's hydrant for firefighting purposes. However, Council may fix a meter and/or a seal to any private firefighting system.

Council will meter all fire lines through a combination of retrofitting existing fire lines with appropriate meters and the mandatory fitting of meters to all new fire lines.

### 5.1 New Fire Lines

Where a new fire line is required for any hose reels, hydrants or sprinkler systems:

- 1) The fire line will be metered via a non-restrictive type meter (eg magnetic flow meter);
- 2) The diameter of the fire line is to be determined and certified by an approved certifier; and
- 3) The property owner will be required to cover the cost of this installation under a private works arrangement.

### 5.2 Existing Fire Lines

Where a property has an existing fire line and:

- 1) It is supplied by a single metered connection - no action is required; or
- 2) It is supplied via a separate unmetered connection:
  - a) Council may arrange for the connection to be metered; and
  - b) The property owner will not be charged any fees for the installation of the meter, nor compensated for any interruption to the service during installation.

### 5.3 Access Charge

The water access charge for a fire line will generally be determined on the basis of a 20mm water connection. This will be subject to Council's Revenue Statement adopted annually in conjunction with the budget.

### 5.4 Water Consumption Adjustment for Firefighting

Where water is consumed for firefighting purposes, the following applies:

- 1) Within 24 hours, the occupier of the premises must provide written notice to Council that there has been consumption of water for firefighting purposes;
- 2) Council will arrange for the water meter to be read as soon as possible after notification; and
- 3) No charge will be levied for water consumed between the last meter read date and the meter reading after the fire notification.

## 6. Changes to this Policy

This Policy is to remain in force until any of the following occur:

- 1) The related information is amended/replaced; or
- 2) Other circumstances as determined from time to time by the Council.

## 7. Repeals/Amendments

This Policy repeals Livingstone Shire Council Policy titled 'Metering of Fire Lines Policy (v1.1)'.

Version	Date	Action
1	27/09/2016	Adopted
1.1	03/09/2018	Administrative Amendments – reflect organisational restructure
2	21/05/2019	Amended Policy Adopted - minor updates to definitions and some wording

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