

## Question on Notice

No. 447

Asked on 14 March 2007

**Mr HAYWARD** asked the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure (Ms BLIGH) –

### QUESTION:

How will level 5 water restrictions, regarding daily water consumption limits, apply to community title complexes with only one water meter?

### ANSWER:

The Queensland Water Commission's Level 5 water restrictions do not impose daily water consumption limits, but rather, encourage users to reduce their water consumption beyond reductions that have already been achieved.

As part of the Commission's broader demand management activities, a coordinated community based education program, known as 'Target 140', is encouraging the community to achieve a regional average for residential consumption of 140 litres per person per day.

This campaign, combined with the other water savings initiatives, is estimated by the Commission to save 127ML/day, approximately an additional 17% compared to Level 4 water restrictions.

Specifically in relation to community title schemes with only one water meter, the Government is giving consideration to the introduction of mandatory sub-metering of new multi-unit residential and non-residential premises and sub-metering of existing multi-residential buildings where practicable. These measures will aim to promote individual billing relating to actual water use and thereby encourage efficient use of water by providing consumers with better information about their actual water consumption.

Other water savings initiatives include:

**Level 5 Water Restrictions** - These restrictions focus on residential and commercial consumption and impose, among a range of measures, limitations on outdoor watering of gardens and lawns; limitations of the washing or cleaning of vehicles and houses; and restrictions on the filling or topping up of pools and outdoor spas. The water restrictions are one part of the Queensland Water Commission's water efficiency measures for residents, business and government to help create short and long term water savings.

**The High Volume Water Users Program** – This has been developed to identify high volume residential water users and require them to examine their water use. This targeted program aims at reducing above average per person and per household water consumption.

**Expanded application of Water Efficiency Management Plans (WEMPs)** - This allows businesses to gain a clearer understanding of their current water use and helps them to highlight areas that can be improved through the introduction of more water efficient devices or practices. WEMP requirements apply to all businesses that use over 1ML of water per year.

**State and Local Government funded programs** - The Home WaterWise rebate and retrofit schemes, and the Business Water Efficiency Program, which provide financial support to households and the business community to further encourage water savings.