

Notice of Direction

2017/5.0

Transition timeframe for certification of products formerly excluded from the WaterMark Certification Scheme

Level 12, 224 Bunda Street
Canberra ACT 2600
GPO Box 2013
CANBERRA ACT 2601 Australia
Phone: 1300 134 631
Email: NCC@abcb.gov.au
Web: www.abcb.gov.au

Intent

The intent of this notice is to provide direction on the timeframe for certification of products formerly excluded from the WaterMark Certification Scheme ('the Scheme').

Background

This Notice of Direction is provided in accordance with clause 5(c) of the Rules for the Scheme.

During 2016-17 the ABCB WaterMark Risk Assessment Panel reviewed all plumbing and drainage products listed on the WaterMark Schedule of Specifications and WaterMark List of Exempt Products. The panel which undertook the review included representatives from State and Territory Plumbing Administrations, industry associations and ABCB technical staff. The review was Stage One of a two-stage process to review products listed on both the schedule and the list to determine their inclusion in, or exclusion from, the Scheme.

The outcome of the Stage One review was communicated through the publication of the WaterMark Schedule of Products and the WaterMark Schedule of Excluded Products in January 2017 on the ABCB website. These schedules were published in advance of implementation of the new Scheme to enable stakeholders to commence transition.

Formerly exempt products, which through the Stage One review were determined to require WaterMark certification, were marked with ^ on the January 2017 and May 2017 versions of the WaterMark Schedule of Products. These products were:

- ductile iron pressurised pipes and fittings;
- grey cast iron non-pressurised pipes and fittings;
- meters;
- tapping bands;
- repair clamps; and
- spring hydrants.

where such products are installed downstream from the point of connection to the water service and upstream from the point(s) of discharge.

The Plumbing Code of Australia (PCA) scope of cold water services applies to the design, construction, installation, replacement, repair, alteration and maintenance of any part of a cold water service of a property that is connected to the drinking water supply from the point of connection to the points of discharge.

The point of connection for a cold water service is defined in the PCA as the point where the service pipe within the premises connects to the Network Utility Operator's property service or to an alternative water supply system (Network Utility Operator means a person who undertakes the piped distribution of drinking water for supply). A heated water service commences where a water heater connects to a cold water service downstream of the isolation valve.

The WaterMark Schedule of Products and WaterMark Schedule of Excluded Products were adopted on 1 August 2017 when the new Scheme commenced progressive implementation.

Subsequently, in late October 2017 the ABCB WaterMark Risk Assessment Panel completed Stage Two of the review process. Stage Two involved reviewing products identified in Stage One as requiring a full risk assessment to determine their inclusion in, or exclusion from, the Scheme.

As an outcome of Stage Two the Panel determined that one product formerly exempted would now require WaterMark Certification. This product is:

- water tanks.

Some manufacturers of formerly exempt products have requested an extended transition period from 1 August 2017 to enable them to achieve WaterMark certification for these products. The ABCB has agreed to extend the transition period as outlined in the following Direction.

Reference Documents

- Rules for the WaterMark Certification Scheme
(Appendix 1 of the Manual for the WaterMark Certification Scheme)
- WaterMark Schedule of Products
- Plumbing Code of Australia.

Direction

The directions are as follows:

- 1.0 The ABCB has determined a transition period of 24 months from 1 August 2017 to enable manufacturers of products formerly exempt from the WaterMark Certification Scheme, listed in the table below, additional time to obtain WaterMark certification.

<i>Product type</i>	<i>Specification</i>
Ductile iron pressurised pipes and fittings	AS/NZS 2280
Grey cast iron non-pressurised pipes and fittings	AS 1631
Meters	AS 3565.1
Tapping bands	AS/NZS 4129 or AS/NZS 4793
Repair clamps	AS 4181
Spring hydrants	AS 3952
Prefabricated cold water storage tanks (previously listed as 'Water Tanks' on the Schedule of Excluded Products)	WMTS 026

- 2.0 Plumbing practitioners and product manufacturers are reminded that all of the products listed in the table in clause 1.0 above, which are installed between 1 August 2017 and 1 August 2019 that have not been WaterMark certified, must continue to be manufactured to the requirements of the Specification listed in the table and marked accordingly.

Further Information

Should any WaterMark Certification Scheme stakeholder require further clarification, they should contact the ABCB office directly for further advice on 1300 134 631 or email watermark@abcb.gov.au.

- END -