Wednesday, 20 October 2021

The Hon. Melinda Pavey, MP

Minister Water, Property and Housing

GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001 [Lodged Electronically](https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/ministers/minister-for-water-property-and-housing) Via Portal

**RE: Application for Ministerial Exemption requiring a response prior to 1 December 2021**

Dear Minister

We have been working hard towards achieving full compliance with our metering requirements for our clients in the north-west of NSW.

In <insert date> we wrote to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and Water requesting an Exemption under S.233 of the *Water Management (General) Regulation 2018* (see attachment 1).We have provided the additional follow-up information requested of us but to-date we have had no formal indication on what steps we must take to be compliant.

The request was90CA/WA…… on the property “property name”, townXXX within the Water Sharing Plan of the Gwydir Regulated River/Gwydir Unregulated Water Source. Following extensive review and testing, we see no other option than to …..summarise what you are doing – maintain the non-pattern approved meter, install a patterned approved meter outside its pattern approval conditions etc etc.

This site is due to be compliant on the 1 December 2021. We need to plan and prepare for this work and time is running out. If the Department is not going to make a determination in time for me to be fully compliant, I/we need to ensure that my effort to comply is reflected properly in the Departmental system and I am considered to be on a pathway. For this, I want the Duly Qualified Persons Portal to be updated with each stage of my request.

These matters are out of our control. There is not a full range of options for all types of site conditions and hence an exemption is the only alternative to non-compliance. Our client does not support relying on NRAR’s compliance discretion as a solution as promoted by the Department.

We are seeking an urgent decision to ensure certainty to our business. Following years of drought, we need to know we can continue to use our infrastructure without fear of action from NRAR through no fault of our own.

Yours sincerely,

Licence Holder DQP/Certified Meter Installer

Mobile CMI: XXXX

Email Mobile

 Email

Cc: Gwydir Valley Irrigators Association, gvia@gvia.org.au

 NSW DPIEW, regulatory.implementation@dpie.nsw.gov.au

 Mr Adam Marshall, MP, northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Attachment 1 – Exemption Request Application