Utility installations exemption

List of water service providers with written agreement

Utility installations exemption (Water service providers)

The Utility installations exemption is listed in Clause 52.17 (Native Vegetation) and Clause 52.16 (Native Vegetation Precinct Plan) of all local planning schemes. Before relying on the exemption, water service providers must obtain written agreement from the Secretary to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

As a condition of written agreement, water service providers must comply with the *Procedure to rely on the utility installations exemption in planning schemes – Water service providers*.

As of 2 November 2026, the following water service providers have been provided with written agreement from the Secretary to DEECA to rely on the Utility installations exemption.

Table 1: Water service providers with written agreement

Water service provider	Date written agreement provided
Goulburn Murray Water	25 February 2021
Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water	25 February 2021
Melbourne Water	25 February 2021
Lower Murray Water	10 March 2021
South East Water	18 May 2021
Wannon Water	28 May 2021
Coliban Water	04 June 2021
Yarra Valley Water	07 June 2021
Greater Western Water	30 June 2021
East Gippsland Water	03 August 2021
South Gippsland Water	15 December 2021
North East Water	08 August 2022
Barwon Water	12 October 2022
Gippsland Water	19 December 2022
Central Highlands Water	31 August 2023
SA Water	09 August 2024
Westernport Water	16 March 2025
Southern Rural Water	24 May 2025

Water service provider	Date written agreement provided
Goulburn Valley Water	08 July 2025

To request written agreement to rely on this exemption, email DEECA's Biodiversity Compensation and Offset Systems at nativevegatation.support@deeca.vic.gov.au.

We acknowledge Victorian Traditional Owners and their Elders past and present as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters and commit to genuinely partnering with them and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

