

WaterMark Certification Scheme

Notice of Direction 2025/1.0

Amended Fees and Charges – Commencing 1 October 2025

Intent

The intent of this notice is to advise of changes to the fees and charges contained in the Approved Certifier Agreements in relation to the WaterMark Certification Scheme.

Background

This Notice of Direction is provided in accordance with clause 5.(c) of the Rules for the WaterMark Certification Scheme (refer Manual for the WaterMark Certification Scheme – Appendix 1).

WaterMark fees have not increased since 2017. The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) has absorbed cost increases related to administration of the WaterMark Certification Scheme over this time. This was in the interest of keeping the scheme as efficient as possible. However, the current fees are no longer sustainable and if continue as is, will put the effectiveness of scheme operation at risk.

Approved Certifiers were advised of this decision at WaterMark Conformity Assessment Body (WMCAB) Forum 2025-1 held on 3 April 2025.

The ABCB will implement the amended fees and charges from 1 October 2025 for all Approved Certifiers.

Reference Documents

- Rules for the WaterMark Certification Scheme (refer [Manual for the WaterMark Certification Scheme](#) – Appendix 1)
- Approved Certifier Agreement (refer [Manual for the WaterMark Certification Scheme](#) – Appendix 2)

Direction

The direction is as follows:

- 1.0 The ABCB will amend the annual fees and charges contained in Schedule 2 of the Approved Certifier Agreement (refer Manual for the WaterMark Certification Scheme – Appendix 2) for all Approved Certifiers as follows:

The Approved Certifier must pay the ABCB:

- a) an initial application fee of \$1,575 plus GST payable immediately on the Commencement Date; and
 - b) an annual fee of \$10,500 plus GST in quarterly instalments of \$2,625 payable immediately on the Commencement Date and thereafter, payable quarterly in advance within 30 days of the end of each quarter of the year; and
 - c) an annual licence fee of \$525 plus GST per WaterMark Licence granted to Approved Users to use the WaterMark. This fee is payable within 30 days of the end of each quarter of the year for all WaterMark Licences granted in that quarter
- 2.0 The amended annual fee structure will be applicable for Approved Certifier Agreements and the WaterMark Licence, from 1 October 2025.
- 3.0 The ABCB will offer WMCABs a new Approved Certifier Agreement prior to 1 October 2025, and WMCABs will be invoiced quarterly instalments in advance.
- 4.0 WMCABs will have 30 days from the date of invoice of the Approved Certifier fee quarterly instalment to complete the payment in accordance with the stated acceptable payment methods.
- 5.0 WMCABs will submit the activity report on all WaterMark Licences due in connection to the WMCS for that quarter to the ABCB within 14 days of the end of each quarter.
- 6.0 ABCB will generate an invoice for the WaterMark Licence fees and forward to the WMCAB within seven days of receipt of the activity report.
- 7.0 WMCABs will have 30 days from the date of invoice of the WaterMark Licence fees to complete the payment in accordance with the stated acceptable payment methods.
- 8.0 The ABCB will forward the above correspondence via email and directs WMCABs to submit their quarterly activity reports via email.
- 9.0 A pro-forma activity report in the form of an Excel spread sheet will be provided to the WMCABs for completion.

Consequence of Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with this direction may result in a breach of trademark or the process of certification and authorisation of products, which may cause the termination of the Approved Agreements or Licence.

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@treasury.gov.au.

Date of publication: July 2025