

water savings action plans and every drop counts



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY,
UTILITIES AND SUSTAINABILITY
NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT

The New South Wales Department of Energy Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS) and Sydney Water are working closely together to improve water efficiency and encourage cost effective water saving projects.

In October 2004, the NSW Government released its Metropolitan Water Plan for the Sydney metropolitan area to address the challenges of developing and maintaining a sustainable water supply. The Plan emphasises the need for everyone to work together.

As part of the Metropolitan Water Plan, DEUS is responsible for a new program designed to drive water efficiencies in Sydney's businesses, NSW government agencies and local government.

Many organisations working with Sydney Water have already tackled some of these issues. This fact sheet aims to show how the activities of these two agencies complement each other and how businesses can use activities completed as part of Sydney Water's Every Drop Counts (EDC) Business Program to fulfil DEUS requirements.

Water Savings Action Plans

The Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS) administers the NSW Government water and energy savings initiatives, introduced in May 2005. These initiatives include a new requirement for high water and energy users to prepare savings action plans and the establishment of Water and Energy Savings Funds to support investment in savings measures.

The water savings initiatives apply to businesses, government agencies and local councils within Sydney Water's area of operations.

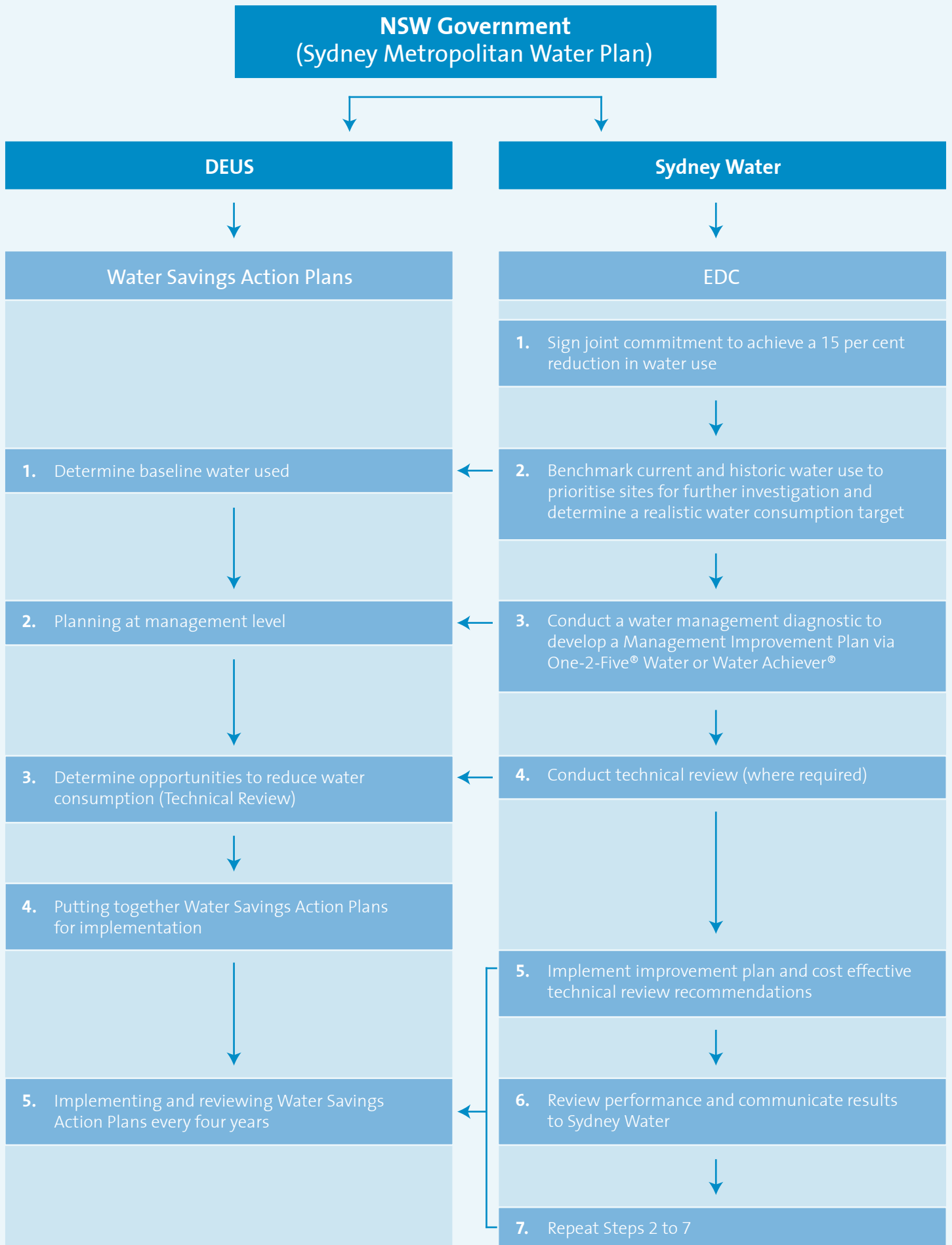
- Water Savings Action Plans must be prepared for all sites with water use of 50 ML or more a year and by all local councils. The plans are to be prepared in accordance with guidelines published by DEUS and need to be reviewed every four years.
- The Water Savings Fund will provide \$30 million a year over four years to deliver water savings, stimulate investment in water saving projects, technologies and encourage recycling. The measures are expected to save between 30 and 80 billion litres of water a year. For details visit www.deus.nsw.gov.au

Every Drop Counts Business Program

Sydney Water's Every Drop Counts (EDC) Business Program was established in 2001 and provides a catalyst for change in the way businesses think of and manage water use. It is a voluntary program where Sydney Water works in partnership with its business customers to develop innovative and sustainable solutions to reduce overall water consumption, improve operational water efficiency and reduce costs.

More than 300 business and government customers have joined the EDC Business Program since its inception, together saving more than 20 million litres of water a day.

Water Savings Action Plans and Every Drop Counts



Aligning the two programs

The Water Savings Action Plan and the EDC Business Program are closely aligned. Full details of the process required for preparing Water Savings Action Plans or participating in EDC are available from DEUS and Sydney Water respectively.

How the components of the different programs complement each other is outlined below.

Determining how much water is used

The Water Savings Action Plan requires 12 months of water use data which reflects what the organisation would expect to use on a 'regular' basis. The 12 month timeframe selected must reflect normal operating conditions.

The EDC Business Program assists participants to determine current and historic water consumption for each site. Consumption is benchmarked using key performance indicators (KPIs) relevant to the sector to determine water saving potential and to prioritise sites for investigation. KPIs may include unit of production, lettable area, occupancy, patrons or full time equivalent students. If you have undertaken this process as part of the EDC Business Program, you will have the information necessary to complete *Template 1 - Baseline Water Use* in the Water Savings Action Plan guidelines.

Planning at Management Level

The Water Savings Action Plans require a management review be carried out to ensure that water efficiency is incorporated into the management practices of an organisation. This process identifies actions to improve organisational management of water systems and responsibilities for completing priority actions.

The EDC Business program provides a review of a participants' current water management practices and identifies critical actions for improvement. This is done through a formal water management diagnostic using either One-2-Five® Water or Water Achiever®. Both of these management diagnostic processes provide participants with a current water management scorecard in 10 key areas and five critical actions to be implemented. These critical actions form the basis of a water management improvement plan, which is developed with participants. Once the plan is implemented a water management diagnostic review is conducted to produce a further five critical actions.

The table below shows how pages from the One-2-Five® Water and Water Achiever® diagnostic reports can be inserted into your Water Savings Action Plan to satisfy Water Saving Action Plan requirements.

DEUS requirement	One-2-Five® Water	Water Achiever®
Template 2 – Management Review	Section 2 – Diagnostic results	Section 2 – Your results
Template 3 – Water Management Actions	Section 3 – Recommended actions report with the addition of a schedule for One-2-Five® Water reviews over the next four years and an "Action Completion Date" column.	Section 3 – Your critical actions with the addition of a schedule for Water Achiever® reviews over the next four years and an "Action Completion Date" column.

Technical Review

The Water Savings Action Plan involves a technical review to assess the breakdown in water use at a site and identify opportunities for efficiency improvements.

The EDC Business program technical reviews, such as water efficiency audits and water reuse studies, conducted within the past four years may be used to fulfil some or all of the DEUS Technical Review requirements. These technical reviews may consist of:

- a description of the site and an outline of the methodology used in the technical review
- graphs of historical and current site water use profiles and KPIs
- a description of existing water reticulation system, water using equipment, devices and processes across the site
- installation of sub-meters
- real-time monitoring of water meters for four to six weeks or greater
- identification of meters monitored during the review and commentary on water usage
- quantification and identification of leaks
- review of water using fixtures
- a breakdown of consumption based on monitoring conducted
- details of all cost-effective water saving measures including their cost to implement and simple payback
- suggestion of an appropriate water savings target
- identification of water reuse opportunities.

The EDC Business Program technical reviews will need to be checked against the Water Saving Action Plan requirements and additional information sourced where required.

Specialist support available

Sydney Water can assist EDC Business Program participants to prepare their Water Savings Action Plan for submission to DEUS. For more information on how the EDC Business Team can help you call **1800 661161** or email **EDCBusiness@sydneywater.com.au**

DEUS also has a team of water savings specialists available to provide advice and information on the preparation of plans.

Templates, Guidelines and further guide notes are available at **www.deus.nsw.gov.au** > **water and energy savings** or call **(02) 8281 7340**.