Technical note regarding type 1 access chambers for Water Corporation wastewater assets

There has been some concern in recent weeks regarding the suitability of type 1 access chambers for use on Water Corporation wastewater infrastructure.

The Strategic Products Register should be the primary reference for anyone involved in the design, purchasing, installation or inspection of new Water Corporation infrastructure. The register is published along with design standards and product specifications on the Water Corporation public website at https://www.watercorporation.com.au/home/suppliers/procurement/design-standards. The register sets out the approval status of products that have been appraised by the Water Corporation for general use in new infrastructure.

Revisions and re-publication of the register are undertaken on at least an annual basis; however the Water Corporation works with suppliers on an ongoing basis between revisions. The Water Corporation issues letters of authorisation to suppliers which may be used as evidence of product approval in the intermediate period between revisions to the register published on our website.

There are several approved suppliers of type 1 access chamber components listed in the register. Limitations are applied to some of these products based on risks identified during product appraisal. Floatation checks, where required to be undertaken on a project-by-project basis, must be undertaken prior to installation by a suitably qualified Engineer.

The intention of the Water Corporation is to continue to work with suppliers with the aim of having robust engineered solutions that suit the full range of installation conditions experienced across the state. For type 1 access chambers, we are seeking products that meet the engineering requirements under all conditions so that there are fewer limitations applied to products in the register and no requirement for checks to be undertaken on projects. This position has been communicated to suppliers and the Water Corporation is eagerly awaiting product submissions.

Until type 1 access chamber product design changes and reviews are complete, all limitations in the product register must be adhered to.

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