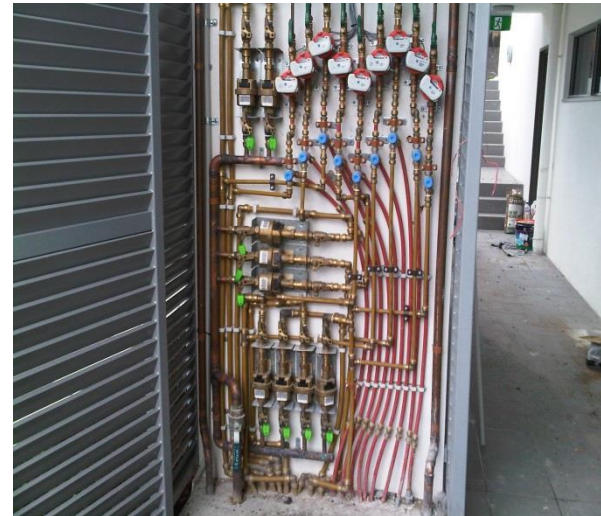


# Unlicensed persons installing and maintaining water meters in Qld

Presenter: Eddie Denman IPIQ President



Queensland Government is considering changing plumbing legalisation to allow unlicensed persons to install water meters in Qld



## What can go wrong with an incorrect water meter installation

- (i) cross connection between town mains water supply and recycled water supplies
- (ii) incorrect installation of backflow prevention devices installed as part of water meter assembly
- (iii) unapproved (e.g. watermark) materials used in installation of a water meter assembly

- Removal of Competitive Market Place

Should legislation change to allow Water Service Providers (WSP) to employ unlicensed persons to install water meters throughout Queensland, this would create an environment where WSP's will not have any competition to ensure prices remain competitive;

Ultimately transferring responsibility and changing legislation to allow unlicensed persons to install water meters may deliver increased water costs to property owners, developers and communities throughout Queensland.

**Maintaining water supply quality should not be compromised  
under any circumstances**

Current legislation does not place any time frames on WSP's with regards the design and installation of water meter assemblies, current timeframes from WSP's often exceed 3 months from the customer's request for the installation and design of a new water meter assembly.

The transfer of works from licensed plumbing contractors to unqualified WSP employees may see price increases attached to the installation and maintenance of water meters. This may also see an increase to “red tape” due to developers, builders and home owners locked into using a WSP to install water meters



## Sub-Water Meters

Each year Local Governments across Queensland conduct hundreds of inspections on installed sub water meters for Commercial properties. The removal of the requirement that only a licensed plumber can install and maintain water meters owned WPS may see significant financial impacts of plumbing business throughout Queensland.

WSP will be able to employ unlicensed persons to install and maintain their asset “sub water meters”. Additionally plumbing contractors involved in commercial developments may see the removal of sub water meters from their contact. It would become the responsibility of the WPS to install the required sub water meter.

For more information please contact

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