

# Before you build it

## Permits, approvals and what's required

Planning to drill, repair or decommission a bore? In many cases, you'll need a bore work permit before starting any work. Here's what you need to know.



### 1 What is a bore work permit?

A bore work permit in the Northern Territory allows you to:

- ▶ Drill and construct a new or replacement bore
- ▶ Alter, repair or replace the casing, lining or screen of bore
- ▶ Deepen or change an existing bore
- ▶ Decommission, plug, backfill or seal off a bore

***It is an offence to do bore work without approval.***

### 2 When do you need a permit?

You'll need a bore work permit:

- ▶ In Water Control Districts\*
- ▶ Anywhere in the NT if the bore relates to mining or petroleum activity

### 3 When you don't need a permit

You don't need a permit to construct or work on a bore when:

- ▶ It's outside of a Water Control District\*
- ▶ You will clean out a bore (air lifting)
- ▶ It's not more than 3 metres deep

It's constructed for:

- carrying out site investigations for the foundations of a building, road or cutting
- constructing the foundations of a building, road or cutting
- extracting water from the area occupied by the foundations of a building, road or cutting
- locating materials necessary for the construction of a road or earthen structure.

If you're unsure, email [water.licensing@nt.gov.au](mailto:water.licensing@nt.gov.au)

### 4 How to apply for a permit

#### Step 1: Complete the application

Use the Bore Work Permit form (available as PDF or DOCX). If it's for a new bore, include a scaled map showing:

- ▶ Proposed bore location
- ▶ Nearby landmarks
- ▶ A north point

For existing bores, include the RN number (found on your bore or via:

[nrmaps.nt.gov.au/knowyourbore\\_desktop.html](http://nrmaps.nt.gov.au/knowyourbore_desktop.html)

#### Step 2: Submit your application

Send your completed form to the Water Resources Office. **Processing takes up to 2 weeks.**

### 5 If approved

You'll receive a bore work permit with specific conditions.

You must follow these conditions and give a copy to your NT licensed driller.

### 6 Want to use the water commercially?

A bore work permit does not give you the right to take water. You'll also need a water extraction licence to use bore water for commercial activities or irrigating a garden over 0.5 hectares.

#### More information

- ▶ To find out more, download the Work Permit application form and find the Water Resources Office details go to:



#### \*Water Control Districts

- ▶ Water Control Districts in the Northern Territory (NT) are areas with additional management of water resources.

Find out where the Water Control Districts are:

