

Diversions Management

Guidelines for waterway off-takes

These guidelines aim to provide diversions licence holders with assistance on appropriate arrangements for off-takes from waterways. This information is intended as preliminary advice only. Licensees should contact Melbourne Water's diversion officers with any queries or site specific issues.

The 'right' way

Inlet and outlet lines, pumps and associated equipment should be set up to minimise impacts on the waterway and adjacent lands and ensure designated environmental flows will be protected at all times.

Appropriate configurations include the following elements:

- Positioning of the end of the suction line above the base environmental flow level of the creek. This ensures the creek is never "sucked dry".
- Provision of a small hard stand (preferably concrete) area for the pump and associated equipment.
- Provision of bunding around diesel pumps and fuel storages to contain any spills.
- Construction of the hard stand area level with the natural surface and offset at least 5 metres from the top of the waterway bank.
- Minimal disturbance to the bank area by inlet and outlet lines. This may be achieved by running the lines underground or ensuring they are suitably fixed in place.
- Ensure that the end of the suction line is fixed and does not cause erosion of the waterway bed or bank.

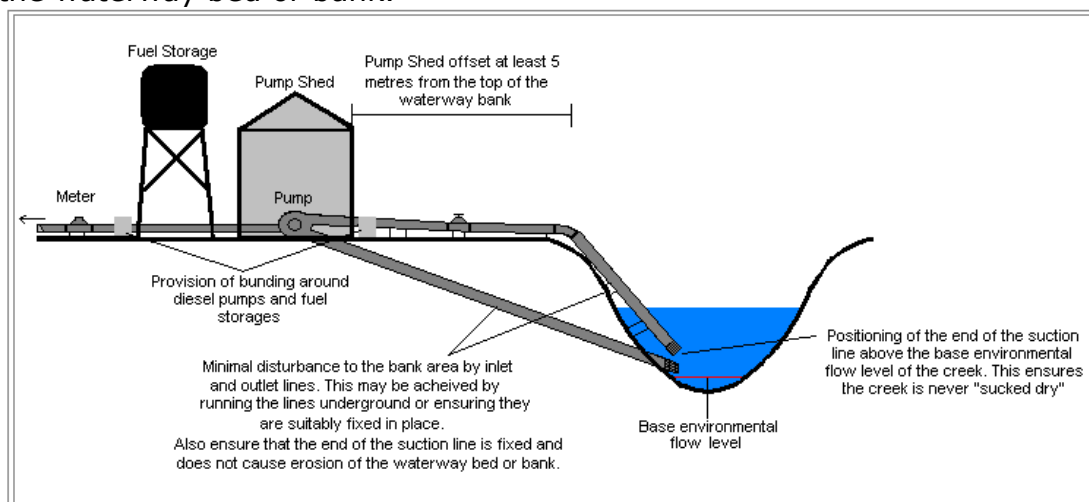


Figure 1: cross section of the 'right' way a waterway off-take should be installed

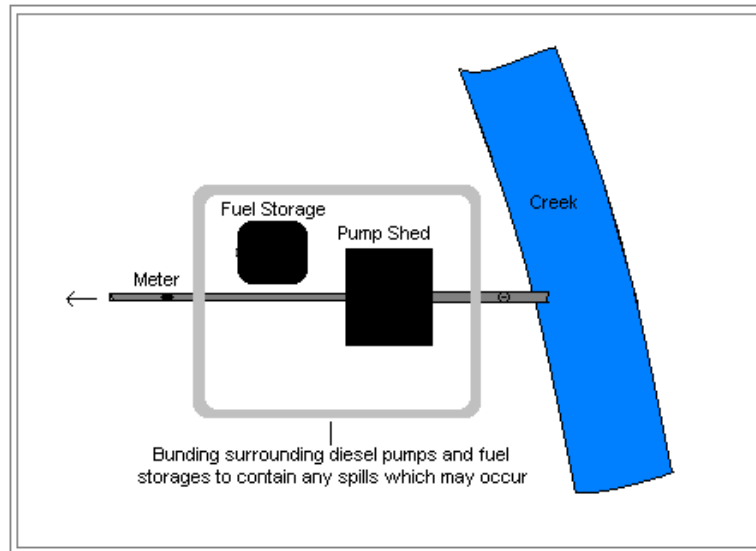


Figure 2: Birds eye view of the 'right' way a waterway off-take should be installed

The "wrong" Way

Diversion off-takes **should not**:

- Create any dam or sump on or adjacent to the waterway unless specific approval for such works has been obtained.
- Create unnecessary disturbance to the waterway and adjacent lands. This includes:
 - Clearing of vegetation;
 - Creation of berms or levees;
 - Leaving suction lines unsecured.
- Place pumps and equipment directly adjacent to waterway or on top of the bank.
- Raise pump and equipment housing areas above the natural surface level.
- Create trenches or alternative flow routes from the natural waterway course.
- Place the base of the suction line on the bed of the watercourse or so as to impact on the passing of environmental flows.
- Allow any part of the suction line to be unsecured within or on the banks of the waterway.

Further Information

Should you have any queries relating to the configuration of your off-take or your diversion licence in general, please contact:

Melbourne Water's Diversions Management Team on 131 722.