

1 Policy History

Revision No.	Council Meeting Date	Minute No.	Adoption Date
1	11/05/2010	0142	11/05/2010
2	26/08/2014	0267	26/08/2014
3	09/06/2020	20/156	17/07/2020
4	09/07/2024	24/182	08/08/2024

2 Policy Objective

To define Council's requirements in relation to the installation and plumbing of rainwater, potable or non-potable water tanks in urban areas where a Council potable water supply is available.

3 Policy Statement

Water tanks may be used for the collection of rainwater or as a storage vessel where the Council water supply does not meet the customer's pressure and flow requirements. Care needs to be taken to ensure that these tanks do not contaminate the potable water supply.

Plumbing for water tanks shall be in accordance with Sections 8 and 14 of *AS/NZS 3500.1 – Plumbing and Drainage* and the additional provisions as provided in the *Plumbing Code of Australia*.

All tanks that are topped up with a potable water supply are categorised as a break tank and must be registered with Griffith City Council. Where testable backflow devices are required they shall also be registered with Council. Refer to Council's policy, *Backflow Protection*.

Tanks that are topped up or filled with either Council's potable or non-potable water supplies are subject to water restrictions imposed by Council.

Tank overflows shall drain to an approved storm water collection point.

Refer to Council policy, *Construction near Water & Sewerage Assets*, where it is proposed to install a tank over Council's water or sewerage assets.

Tanks and associated installations shall not adversely impact on neighbouring properties in terms of size, design, style, height and location. Pumps shall be installed so that noise shall not cause annoyance to neighbours.

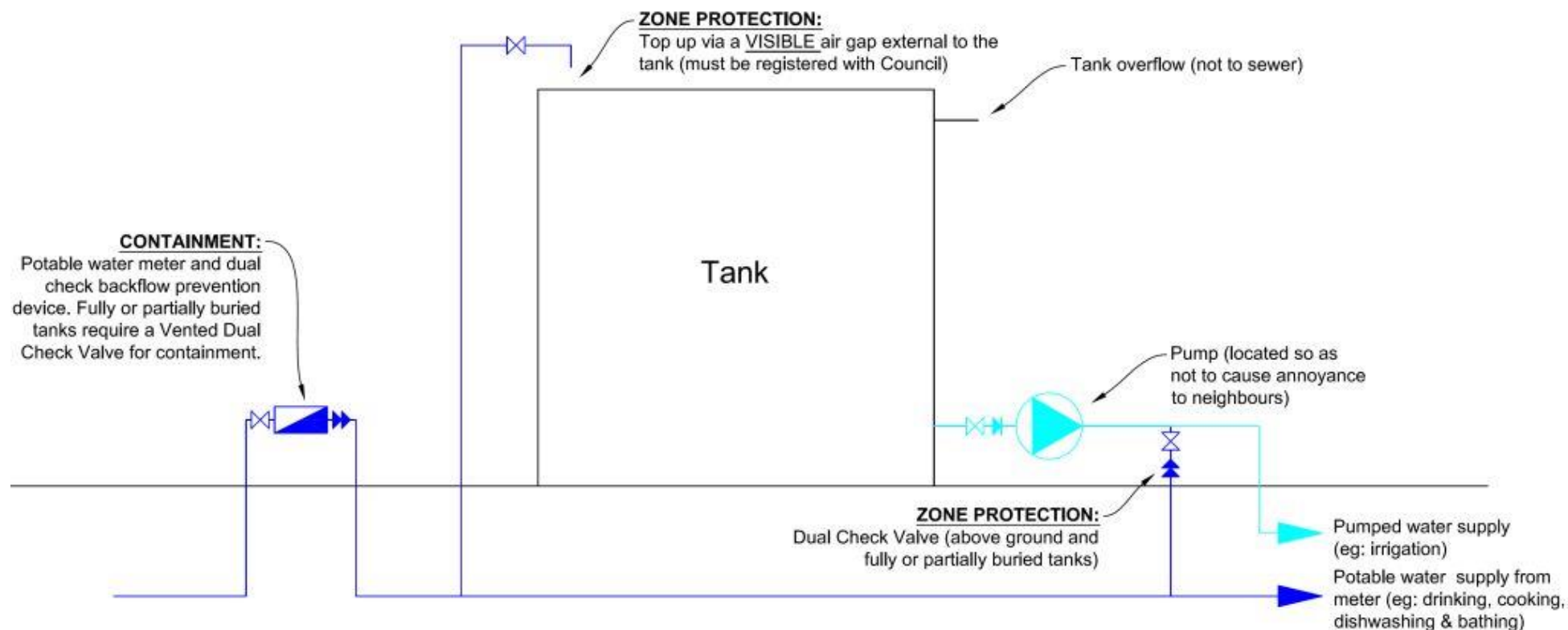
Water tanks are to comply with the criteria given in *State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008* or Development Consent is to be obtained from Council prior to installation.



Maintenance and the quality of the water supplied from a tank are the responsibility of the property owner, not Council.

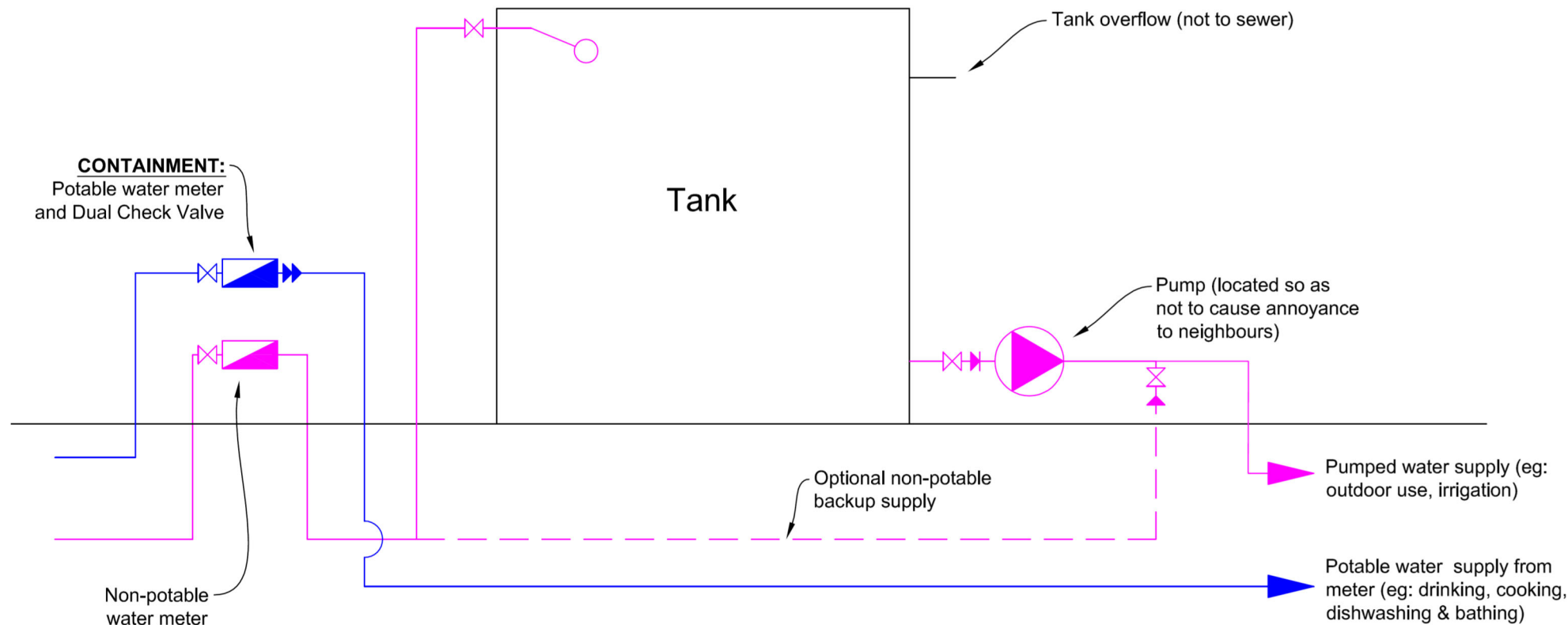
Where rainwater tanks are to be used, it is Council's preference that the potable water supply be used for drinking, cooking, dishwashing and bathing. However, should consumers wish to use rainwater for these purposes they should be aware of the advice given in *NSW Health Guideline_GL2007_009 – June 2007*.

FIG 1: ABOVE GROUND OR FULLY / PARTIALLY BURIED TANK WHERE POTABLE WATER IS STORED AND PUMPED



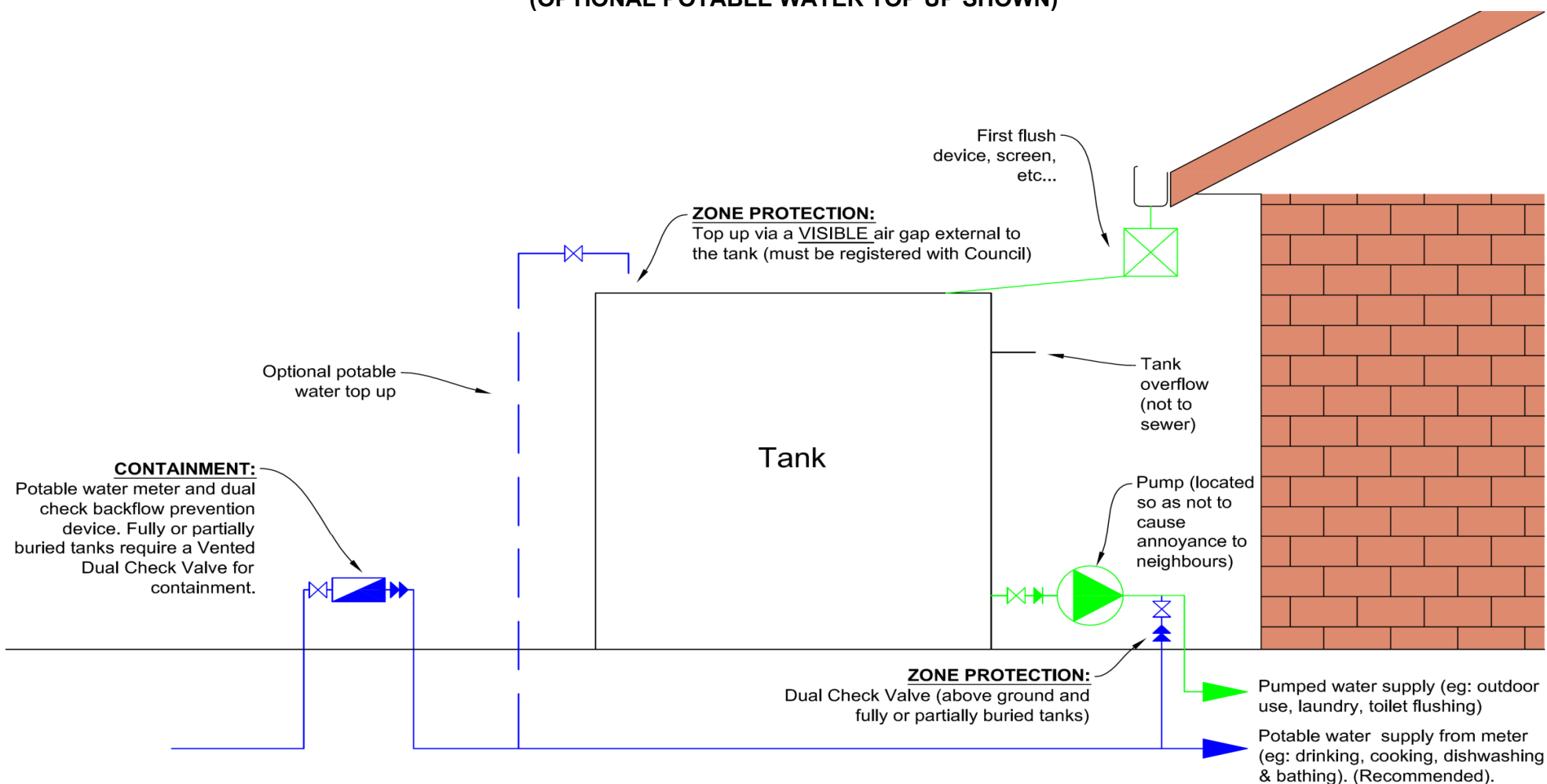
This installation above would typically be used where the Customer is looking to improve the flow rate for outdoor use. The potable water top up must be via an external and visible air gap and must also be registered with Council. It is Council's preference that the water supply for drinking, cooking, dishwashing and bathing is directly connected to the potable water meter.

FIG 2: ABOVE GROUND OR FULLY / PARTIALLY BURIED TANK WHERE NON- POTABLE WATER IS STORED AND PUMPED AND A POTABLE WATER METER IS INSTALLED



This installation above would be used where a customer has both a non-potable and a potable water supply and wants to improve the non-potable water supply flow rate for outdoor use. A dual check valve is required at the potable water meter for containment protection.

**FIG 3: ABOVE GROUND OR FULLY / PARTIALLY BURIED TANK WHERE RAINWATER IS COLLECTED AND PUMPED
(OPTIONAL POTABLE WATER TOP UP SHOWN)**



The installation relates to where rainwater is used for laundry, toilet flushing or outdoor use. The diagram shows an optional potable water supply top up. Where top up is via a non-potable water supply, refer to the non-potable water tank installation diagram.

4 Definitions

None

5 Exceptions

None

6 Legislation

None

7 Related Documents

NSW Plumbing and Drainage Code of Practice 3rd Edition 2006
AS/NZS 3500
NSW Health Guideline - GL2007 - 009 – June 2007
State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008
Rainwater Tank Design and Installation Handbook – Nov 2008
Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2004
Council Policy 715 - Backflow Protection
Council Policy 85 - Construction near Water & Sewerage Assets

8 Directorate

Utilities