

Design & approval of developments that impact the water table / aquifer

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1. What type of basement excavation is considered an aquifer interference activity under NSW legislation?
2. What is the two-stage approval process required for aquifer interference works in NSW?
3. What role does DCCEEW play in assessing aquifer interference activities?
4. What is the role of a hydrogeologist in developments that impact the water table or aquifer?
5. How are tanked basements generally classified by WaterNSW in terms of risk?
6. Why are drained basement applications subject to more onerous review than tanked basement applications?

By the end of this session you should understand:

- Understand the NSW regulatory and approval framework for developments impacting the water table or aquifer, including the roles of Councils, WaterNSW and DCCEEW.
- Identify aquifer interference risks associated with basement design, and determine the appropriate assessment, referral and approval requirements at DA and pre-construction stages.
- Apply best-practice basement and groundwater management strategies to minimise aquifer impact, reduce approval complexity and support compliant project delivery.

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