

Water Use License requirements in terms of:
Section 21 (a) – Abstraction of Water
Section 21 (b) – Storing of Water



biosphere
Enviro Solutions

EMAIL:
CELL:

CONTACT US

info@biosphere-enviro.co.za

060 602 1922 – Sune

066 218 2545 – Justin

SECTION 21 (A) ABSTRACTION OF WATER

What constitutes as a Section 21 (a) water use?

Any water that is/will be utilised for operational purposes, these include water abstraction from

- Rivers (surface water)
- In-stream/ off-stream dams
- Boreholes (groundwater)

When do you require an authorisation from the Department of Water and Sanitation?

- Any water use that does not fall under a Schedule 1 Water Use (permissible use) requires either a General Authorisation (GA) or a full Water Use License Application (WULA) process.

How would you know when you require a GA or a WULA?

- Depending on the quaternary catchment within Southern Africa you are situated in, you have set limits/ volumes of allowable abstraction to fall under a General Authorisation (GN538) per quaternary catchment. Once these limits are exceeded you would be required to undertake full WULA.

The example snip-out to the right indicates the allowable volume that may be abstracted from surface water features within the "A" Quaternary Catchment under a General Authorisation.

Please Note - you still need to apply for a GA if the water use does not fall under a schedule 1.

Drainage region	Main river	Maximum volume of surface water that may be abstracted on each property or by each person on communal land in terms of this authorisation	Maximum rate at which surface water may be abstracted on each property or by each person on communal land in terms of this authorisation	Months in which water may be abstracted in terms of this authorisation
		cubic metres per year	litres per second	
WMA 1: Limpopo				
A	Limpopo, Crocodile, Marico, Matlabas, Mokolo, Lephhalala, Mogalakwena, Sand, Nzhelele, Nwanedzi and Luvuvhu	2 000	1	whole year

SECTION 21 (B) STORING OF WATER (CLEAN WATER)

What constitutes as a Section 21 (b) water use?

Any clean water that is used for commercial purposes, stored in:

- Off/ and In-stream Dams
- Reservoirs (steel and concrete materials)
- Jojo Tanks
- Earthen ponds

When do you require an authorisation from the Department of Water and Sanitation?

- Any water use that does not fall under a Schedule 1 Water Use (permissible use- small jojo tanks used for household usage) may require a General Authorisation or a full Water Use License.

How would you know when you require a GA or a WULA?

- Same as for Section 21 (a), depending on the quaternary catchment within Southern Africa you are situated in, you have set limits/volumes of allowable storage to fall under a General Authorisation (GN538) per quaternary catchment. Once these limits are exceeded you would require a full WULA.

The snip-out to the right indicates the allowable volume that may be stored by on each property/farm or by each person on communal land within the "A" Quaternary Catchment under a General Authorisation.

Please Note - you still need to apply for a GA if the water use does not fall under a schedule 1.

Drainage region	Main river	Maximum volume of surface water that may be abstracted on each property or by each person on communal land in terms of this authorisation	Maximum rate at which surface water may be abstracted on each property or by each person on communal land in terms of this authorisation	Months in which water may be abstracted in terms of this authorisation	Maximum volume that may be stored on each property or by each person on communal land in terms of this authorisation
		cubic metres per year	litres per second		cubic metres
WMA 1: Limpopo					
A	Limpopo, Crocodile, Marico, Matlabas, Mokolo, Lephialala, Mogalakwena, Sand, Nzhelele, Nwanedzi and Luvuvhu	2 000	1	whole year	2 000