



Water Amendment (Indigenous Authority Member) Act 2019

No. 80, 2019

An Act to amend the *Water Act 2007* in relation to the membership of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, and for related purposes

Note: An electronic version of this Act is available on the Federal Register of Legislation (<https://www.legislation.gov.au/>)

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An Act to amend the *Water Act 2007* in relation to the membership of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, and for related purposes

[Assented to 2 October 2019]

The Parliament of Australia enacts:

1 Short title

This Act is the *Water Amendment (Indigenous Authority Member) Act 2019*.

2 Commencement

- (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Provisions	Commencement	Date/Details
1. The whole of this Act	The day after this Act receives the Royal Assent.	3 October 2019

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this Act as originally enacted. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this Act.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this Act. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this Act.

3 Schedules

Legislation that is specified in a Schedule to this Act is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this Act has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1—Amendments

Water Act 2007

1 Paragraph 177(b)

Repeal the paragraph, substitute:

- (b) an Indigenous person (in this Subdivision called the *standing Indigenous Authority member*);
- (c) 4 other members.

2 Section 177 (note)

Omit “Note:”, substitute “Note 1:”.

3 At the end of section 177

Add:

Note 2: For *Indigenous person*, see subsection 4(1).

4 Subsection 178(2)

After “Authority member”, insert “(other than the standing Indigenous Authority member)”.

5 After subsection 178(2)

Insert:

- (2A) To be eligible for appointment as the standing Indigenous Authority member, an individual must be an Indigenous person who, at the time of appointment:
 - (a) has a high level of expertise in Indigenous matters relevant to Basin water resources; and
 - (b) is not a member of the governing body of a relevant interest group.

6 Subsection 180(3)

After “other than the Authority Chair”, insert “or the standing Indigenous Authority member”.

Schedule 1 Amendments

7 Subsection 180(3) (note 2)

After “this subsection”, insert “, or subsection 178(2A) or subsection (3A) of this section.”.

8 After subsection 180(3)

Insert:

- (3A) An individual is not eligible for appointment to act as the standing Indigenous Authority member unless the individual is an Indigenous person who has a high level of expertise in Indigenous matters relevant to Basin water resources.

*[Minister’s second reading speech made in—
House of Representatives on 4 July 2019
Senate on 12 September 2019]*

(118/19)
