New water telemetry requirements being introduced soon



Do you have a consent to take 5 litres per second of water or more?

Under the new National Environmental Standards for Freshwater, part of the government's Essential Freshwater reforms introduced last year, anyone with a resource consent for a consumptive water take of five litres or more per second needs to have a telemetry system in place.

A telemetry system can measure the water take every fifteen minutes and report the data electronically to ORC once per day. If you don't have one already, you'll need to put a telemetry system in place in the next few years. The deadline depends on the rate of take on the consent:

Amount of water	Consent deadline
20 litres per second or more	3 September 2022
Between 10 and less than 20 litres per second	3 September 2024
Between 5 and less than 10 litres per second	3 September 2026

If your consent does not specify a flow rate, then the 2022 deadline applies.

ORC suggests contacting an approved service provider to discuss the installation of telemetry. In some cases, they may be able to fit telemetry to your existing data logger without the need for a new meter.

All work on telemetry installation must be undertaken by a provider approved by ORC – there's a list of providers at **www.orc.govt.nz/consents/water-metering-and-measuring**.

For more information about the new rules, visit www.orc.govt.nz/NewWaterRules or you can contact our team with any questions on **0800 474 082** or **watermetering@orc.govt.nz**.

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