



Statement of Intent:

The Hydro will allow limited use of firearms (under prescribed terms and conditions) on its lands and lakes, providing the safety of employees, the public and protection of infrastructure assets that provide essential services to the community are ensured.

The Firearm's Policy Objectives are to:

- Ensure the safety of employees and the public
- Protect the Hydro's infrastructure assets
- Balance competing interests of stakeholders
- Monitor the effectiveness of the Policy

These Objectives will be achieved by:

- Issuing *Association Permits* to hunting associations for their members to hunt prescribed game within selected areas and at specified times and dates,
- Administering and enforcing *Association Permits* will be the responsibility of the Hydro in conjunction with the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment.
- Issuing *Individual Permits* to contractors for the control of pest and vermin,
- Issuing *Individual Permits* to persons to carry a firearm across Hydro land to access hunting zones on adjoining land.

The Hydro will prohibit use of firearms on its lands and lakes where the safety of its employees, the public or its infrastructure assets are compromised.

Chief Executive Officer
November 2002

General Manager Generation
November 2002



Hydro Tasmania
the renewable energy business

FIREARM'S POLICY AND PROCEDURES

REV NO.	DATE	REVISION DESCRIPTION	APPROVAL
0	Nov 2002	<p style="text-align: center;">FIREARM'S POLICY AND PROCEDURES</p> <p>Prepared by :</p> <p>David Thomas, Land & Facilities Management</p>	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

1. PURPOSE.....	4
2. SCOPE.....	4
3. DEFINITIONS.....	4
4. DISCUSSION.....	5
5. POLICY.....	6
6. RESPONSIBILITIES.....	6
7. REFERENCES	7
<u>8. PRINCIPLES.....</u>	7

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to ensure that the use of firearms are managed on Hydro Tasmania lands and lakes having regard to environmental considerations, protection of assets and the safety of employees and the public.

2. SCOPE

The policy applies to all Corporation land and lakes and applies to the following activities:

- Carrying of firearms
 - Storing of firearms
 - Discharging of firearms
-

3. DEFINITIONS

Association Permit

An association permit is a permit issued to a recognised shooting association for a specific hunting activity. It is not transferable and cannot be used by the associations' members to gain a gun licence.

Ammunition

Cartridge, pellet, bullet, projectile explosive device fired from a firearm.

Firearms

Rifle, gun, revolver, pistol or other lethal weapon from which any shot, bullet, or missile can be discharged.

Firearms Licence

A licence referred to in Division 2 of Part 2 of the *Firearms Act 1996*

Game Hunting

The hunting of specific game (ie wallaby, deer, duck) where the shooter has a game licence issued by the Department of Primary Industry, Water and Environment for that specific animal.

Permit

A permit issued by Hydro Tasmania for the carrying of firearms or shooting as prescribed in Schedule A of this Policy

PIWE

The Department of Primary Industry, Water and Environment or agency created from this government Department which administers the *Wildlife Regulations 1971*.

4. DISCUSSION

Since 1955, Hydro Tasmania has endorsed a No Shooting Policy on all its land and lakes across Tasmania. These Statutory Rules were expunged following enactment of the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995*.

In 1997 the Minister requested Hydro Tasmania review its recreational policies and align those policies with other government land agencies.

In 1998 Hydro Tasmania allowed restricted duck hunting on its lakes by issuing an *Association Permit* to select hunting associations as part of its commitment to aligning policy with other government agencies.

Following the 1998 Season, Hydro Tasmania consulted with all stakeholders including internal businesses, conservation groups, government agencies and hunting associations in regard to the effectiveness of hunting on Hydro Tasmania land and lakes.

In addition, Hydro Tasmania sought internal environmental advice on the affects of shooting on water quality and animal welfare.

This policy has been developed from these consultations.

5. POLICY

Hydro Tasmania is committed, where practicable, to providing a safe and environmentally responsible climate for its employees and the community.

Hydro Tasmania will allow the use of firearms on its lands and lakes where:

- (a) a permit has been issued by the Corporation for the culling of wildlife considered a pest or vermin;
- (b) a person is a member of a hunting association which has been granted an *Association Permit* for hunting prescribed game within select areas and at specified dates and times.

Any permit issued for game hunting will be regulated under the *Wildlife Regulations 1971* and administered and enforced by the Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment (DPIWE)

People granted a permit shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the *Firearms Act 1996*.

Hydro Tasmania will prohibit the discharge of firearms on its lands and lakes where safety of the public and employees is compromised.

Permit conditions and forms are attached in Appendix B.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

Manager Legal Services, or a designated officer, is responsible for:

- the maintenance of this policy
 - the development and maintenance of procedures and permit terms and conditions that give effect to this policy
-

7. REFERENCES

Hunting on Hydro land – A discussion paper, Generation Management December 1998

Duck hunting on Hydro Lakes: Environmental Issues Brief December 1998, Jo Hess, Hydro Environmental Services

Hydro-Electric Commission (Firearms) Statutory Rules 1955 No 32.

8. PRINCIPLES

The following principles apply when issuing and determining an *Association Permit*.

An *Association Permit* will have regard to:

- environmental considerations such as access, endangered species, game numbers, shot type
- safety issues such as Hydro Tasmania work projects, public activities, buildings and infrastructure
- adequate public liability insurance and indemnifying Hydro Tasmania from any action due to the activities of hunting groups
- concerns of internal business units and government land agencies (IFC, PIWE and Forestry Tasmania)
- minimising risk through designated hunting areas, no-go zones, shot direction, hunter numbers
- current legislation and regulations covering the shooting of wildlife and handling of firearms.
- responsibility for administering, monitoring, and policing the permit
- termination of the permit because of breach of the terms and conditions or at the determination of the permit.

9. PROCESS

The process for issuing Association Permits and entry permits are illustrated in appendices C & D attached.

Draft Association Permit.



ASSOCIATION PERMIT

The Hydro-Electric Corporation ARBN 072 377 158 (Known as “Hydro Tasmania”) hereby permits members of the <Association> (the “permitted associations”) to hunt <game> on the following Hydro Tasmania lands:

<Location>

Subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. This permit authorises the taking of <game> by current financial members of the permitted associations on the land.
2. Before any members of the permitted associations enters upon the land for the purposes of this permit, the permitted associations shall supply that member with a copy of this permit and associated location maps and have the members sign a counterpart acknowledging its terms and agreeing to be bound by them.
3. This permit is limited to the land as to the areas indicated in any attached location maps. Hydro Tasmania may designate restricted areas within the boundaries of the land from time to time by notification in writing to the permitted associations. Shooting is strictly prohibited in restricted areas.
4. The permitted associations may form alliances with other like incorporated associations subject to the permitted associations advising those allied associations of, and those associations agreeing in writing to, the terms and conditions applying to this permit. Details of allied associations are to be provided to Hydro Tasmania in writing by the permitted associations no later than the commencement date of this permit.
5. Hydro Tasmania reserves the right to revoke or suspend the permit at any time to shoot on any lands and lakes during the permit period, without having to give reasons.
6. The permit is limited to <type of firearm> only and approved legal shot.
7. Shooting is permitted between sunrise and sunset only.
8. Shooting is not permitted within 500 metres of any Hydro Tasmania or Transend Networks Pty Ltd work activity or infrastructure.

9. The permitted associations must take out and keep current a public liability policy of insurance covering the permit holders hunting activities on the land for the minimum sum of \$10 million noting Hydro Tasmania as a party to the policy. Copy of the insurance policy is to be forwarded to Hydro Tasmania at the time of signing this permit and before commencing any hunting activity on the land.
10. The permitted associations indemnifies and holds harmless Hydro Tasmania against all claims, damages, actions or demands made or taken by or on behalf of any person or persons claiming injury, loss or damage in any way arising out of the giving of this permit and/or entry onto the land pursuant to this permit. The permitted associations are required to obtain a like indemnity from each of the incorporated associations with which it has an alliance under this permit, such indemnities to be formally executed in accordance with the rules or articles of those associations.
11. The permit is not to be used by any association or person in support of an application for a firearms licence.
12. The permitted associations will, at the end of the permit term, provide Hydro Tasmania with statistics on numbers taken, species, and when the game was taken.
13. The permitted associations shall ensure the proper conduct of all members undertaking shooting pursuant to this permit while on Hydro Tasmania land. Members shall comply with the provisions of the *Firearms Act 1996* and regulations, adopt safe shooting practices and abide by all directional signs and lawful instructions given by authorised persons.
14. The permitted associations will ensure that major access tracks to the hunting zone are clearly signposted and flagged advising of a shoot in progress.
15. The permitted associations will obtain all relevant permits and licences necessary to enable their members to hunt on the land including conforming with the provisions of the Wildlife Regulations. Copies of these permits are to be supplied to Hydro Tasmania before commencing any hunting activities on the land.
16. Any dogs brought onto the land must be licensed and have had all inoculations to the standard acceptable to registered kennel keepers. It is the permitted associations and its members responsibility to manage the dogs appropriately.
17. Designated officers of the Department of Primary Industry, Water and Environment are authorised to monitor, police and enforce hunting activities on the land pursuant to the provisions of the *Wildlife Regulations 1971*.
18. The permitted associations are to observe the guidelines contained in the brochure *Recreational Use of Hydro Land 1998* or similar published documentation that is available from Hydro Tasmania. For the 2002

Season only fuel stoves may be used on Hydro Tasmania property.
Open fires are prohibited.

19. Vehicular access is restricted to existing tracks and should comply with "Policy For Use of Recreational Vehicles on State-Owned Lands"
20. Camping is prohibited around <locations> as shown on the attached plan.
21. Any breach of the conditions of this permit by the permitted associations or any one or more of its members will result in its immediate cancellation.
22. Any environmental or contamination damage caused by the permitted associations or its members shall be cleaned up and reinstated to the satisfaction of Hydro Tasmania and relevant authorities at the expense of the permitted associations.

Shooting on Hydro property for any purposes other than as provided for by this permit is **strictly prohibited**.

This permit is valid from <start date> to and including <finish date>.

THIS PERMIT MAY BE CANCELLED AT ANY TIME BY THE
HYDRO-ELECTRIC CORPORATION.

Dated this day of 2002....

For and on behalf of the <association>

Authorised Officer:

Date:

Witness:

Date:

For and on behalf of the Hydro Tasmania

Clark Lamprill
Corporate Secretary

DRAFT PERMIT



FIREARM PERMIT NUMBER:

The Hydro-Electric Corporation hereby permits *<Name and address of applicant>* to have in his possession if crossing land owned and occupied by the Corporation at *(Location of access)* a firearm namely:

<Name and registration number of the firearm>

This permit does not authorise shooting on Corporation property, which is **strictly prohibited**.

This permit is valid from **<date>** to and including **<date>**.

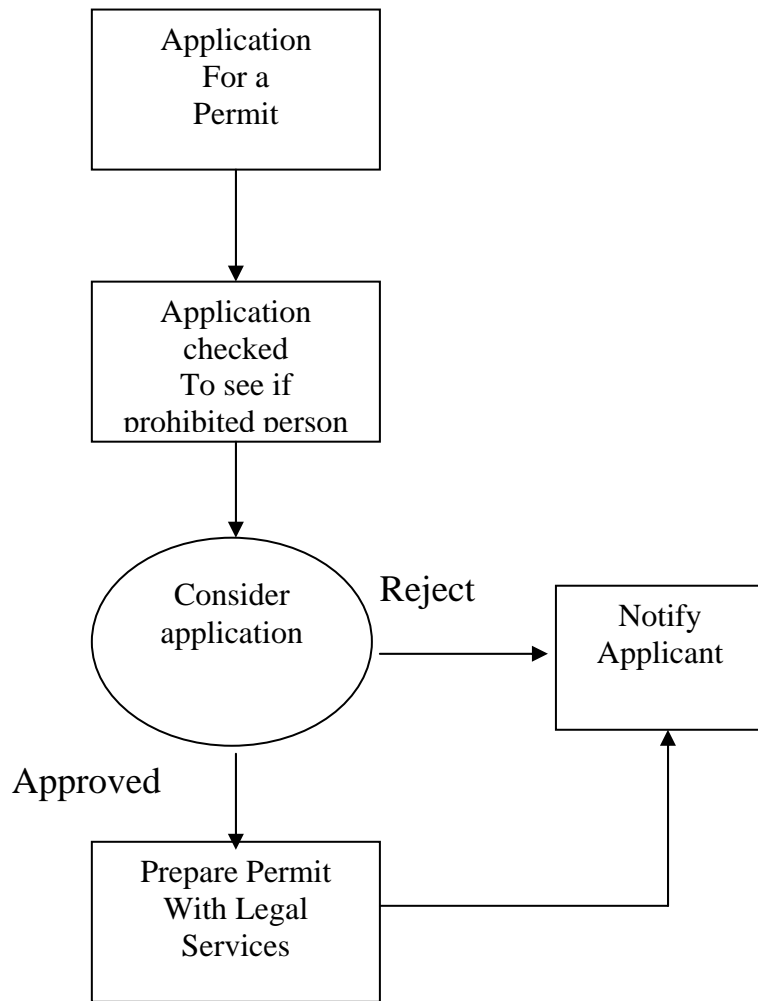
**THE PERMIT MAY BE CANCELLED AT ANY TIME BY THE
HYDRO-ELECTRIC CORPORATION.**

Dated this day of 199....

For and on behalf of the Hydro-Electric Corporation

C Lamprill
CORPORATION SECRETARY

PERMIT TO CARRY A FIREARM PROCESS



ASSOCIATION PERMIT PROCESS

