

Protocols for making Public Submissions

This document outlines shareholding Ministers' expectations for consultation on proposed public submissions by Government owned corporations (GOCs).

Shareholding Ministers recognise the significant role GOCs have both in their industry and the broader Queensland economy and accept that they may be requested to publicly comment on sector or regional issues, or make submissions to industry bodies.

In the past, GOCs have sought advice on an ad hoc basis about processes for consultation on public submissions. *The Protocols for making Public Submissions* (the Protocols) were introduced in 2017 to provide clarity on the expected approach.

The Protocols reflect the general principle that the appropriate channel for raising concerns about matters of Government policy is through established shareholder and portfolio relationships, and the expectation that shareholding Ministers will be kept informed of relevant public policy engagements, including involvement with peak industry bodies.

The Protocols apply to GOCs, GOC subsidiaries, Queensland Rail and Seqwater.

Protocols

- Where a public submission or contribution through a peak industry body is proposed and is technical in nature with no reference to Government policy; prior consultation with shareholding Ministers or shareholding departments is not required.
- Should a GOC propose to make, or contribute to, a public submission that references Government policy, the GOC must obtain prior approval from Queensland Treasury who will consult with the relevant shareholder department. In the event the proposed submission is considered a matter for shareholding Ministers, consideration will then proceed to shareholding/responsible Ministers.
- Any proposed submission that addresses sensitive or topical matters or comments on Government policy – including input into a peak body submission – is to be approved by shareholding/responsible Ministers prior to its public submission.