Lined Catchment Construction Approval in The Barossa Council Region

LOCATION: Flaxman Valley

ANNUAL RAINFALL: 700mm

FARM SIZE: 28ha

ENTERPRISES: Vineyard, beef, sheep

In 2026 Leon Deans constructed a 1-ha polyethylene-lined catchment to capture rainfall run-off to flow directly into his existing 10ML dam. Prior to its construction, Leon needed approval from relevant authorities. **This fact sheet outlines Leons approval requirements for constructing a lined catchment in The Barossa Council region.**

Lined catchment construction - approval requirements

A lined catchment is a polyethylene-lined structure designed to capture rainfall run-off that flows into a dam. Because it alters how surface water is collected or diverted across the landscape, regulatory approval is required before construction can begin.

In South Australia, approval may involve one or both of the following processes:

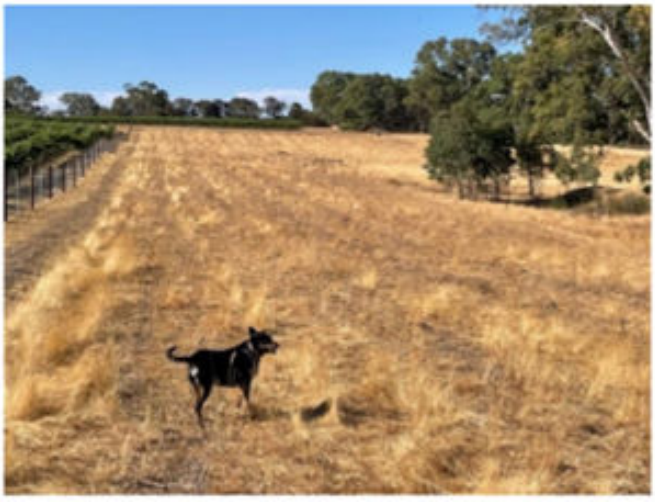
- **Development Approval (DA)** through your local council.
- **Water Affecting Activity (WAA) permit** through your regional SA Landscape Board.

The specific requirements depend on the location, design and potential impacts of the proposed catchment.

Development Approval (DA) - Council

Following discussions with The Barossa Council, including a site inspection of the proposed lined catchment location, the Council determined that Leon did not need to lodge a DA application. However, a DA may be required in some circumstances, and landholders are encouraged to seek early advice from their council before commencing any works.

Council considers a range of factors when determining whether a DA is required, including; whether the proposal involves building works and whether it results in a change in land use.



The 1-ha area designated for Leon Deans lined catchment prior to construction approval.

This project received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund