1. The Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment (OGIA) is an independent entity established under Chapter 3A of the *Water Act 2000* (Water Act) to primarily advise on matters relating to the impacts on underground water caused by the exercise of underground water rights by resource tenure holders (both petroleum and mining).
2. OGIA is funded through an annual levy payable by resource tenure holders. The current levy applies to petroleum and gas tenure holders only.
3. Legislative changes that came into effect in December 2016 brought mining tenures into the underground water management framework in Chapter 3 of the Water Act and expanded OGIA’s role to include mining.
4. A consultation regulatory impact statement (consultation RIS) entitled “Development of a levy structure to fund the expanded role of the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment in the mining sector” has been prepared. The purpose of the consultation RIS is to evaluate options for a proposed levy structure to fund OGIA’s mining-related functions.
5. Cabinet approved the release of the consultation Regulatory Impact Statement for public consultation.
6. *Attachments*
* [Consultation RIS: Development of a levy structure to fund the expanded role of the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment in the mining sector](Attachments/RIS.PDF)