

Feed hydrant performance

QFES has received enquiries regarding whether an on-site feed hydrant system flow requirement could be augmented using an additional existing street hydrant. For example; Where an onsite system requires 10 L/s and due to water supply issues can only achieve 5 L/s, could the other 5 L/s come from an existing street hydrant?

AS 2419.1 – 2005 mandates the minimum requirements for the design and performance of fire hydrant installations. The minimum requirements for flow and pressure of hydrants (both feed and attack) are detailed in Tables 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3. The standard requires a minimum of 10 L/s to flow from each required feed hydrant outlet, regardless of location. Queensland Development Code, Mandatory Part 6.1 outlines the way this is to be tested and approved.

The required flow rates are aligned to the perceived risk of the building type and floor area. QFES considers a reduction in available flow from the onsite hydrant system would have a significant impact on the ability of firefighters to contain and extinguish a fire.