
Water Quality Policy

AIM

To demonstrate the Corporation's support and long-term commitment to develop and implement an effective system for drinking water quality management.

1 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Safe Drinking Water Act 2003
Safe Drinking Water Regulations 2005

2 OTHER IMPACTING LEGISLATION

Statement of Obligations 2007

3 OTHER REFERENCES & RELATED DOCUMENTS

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2004

4 DEFINITIONS

NHMRC – National Health and Medical Research Council
NRMMC – National Resource Management Ministerial Council

5 COMMENCEMENT

This policy comes into operation on 15 October 2010.

6 RESPONSIBLE OFFICER FOR THIS POLICY

General Manager – Risk and Regulations

7 REVIEW DATE

This policy is to be reviewed in October 2012.

Note: The review date is not a sunset provision. The policy will continue in operation until replaced by a later version or rescinded.

8 RESPONSIBILITIES and DELEGATIONS

The successful implementation of this policy requires the ongoing and active support of the Senior Executive to maintain and reinforce the importance of drinking water quality management to all employees and those outside the Corporation.

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9 POLICY

The Corporation is committed to managing its water supply effectively to provide a safe, high quality drinking water that consistently meets the NHMRC/NRMMC Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, and consumer and other regulatory requirements.

To achieve this, in partnerships with stakeholders and other relevant agencies, the Corporation will:

- Manage water quality along all points of the delivery chain from source water to the consumer,
- Use a risk-based approach in which potential threats to water quality are identified and balanced,
- Integrate the needs and expectations of our consumers, stakeholders, regulators and employees in our planning,
- Establish regular monitoring of the quality of drinking water and effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information, and promote confidence in the water supply and its management,
- Develop appropriate contingency planning and incident response capability,
- Participate in appropriate research and development activities to ensure continued understanding of drinking water quality issues and performance,
- Contribute to the debate on setting industry regulations and guidelines, and other standards relevant to public health and the water cycle, and
- Continually improve our practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations.

The Corporation will implement and maintain the Water Quality Risk Management System consistent with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2004 to effectively manage the risks to drinking water quality. A Water Quality Strategy will be developed and implemented to support and promote improvements to the drinking water system from source water to the consumer.

All managers and employees involved in the supply of drinking water are responsible for understanding, implementing, maintaining and continuously improving the Water Quality Risk Management System.