



DRINKING WATER QUALITY POLICY

1. Policy Purpose/Intent

To implement and maintain drinking water quality to the townships of Julia Creek, Kynuna, McKinlay and Nelia with minimum or nil risks in accordance with Council's Drinking Water Quality Management Plan (DWQMP) and the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

2. Authority (Legislation)

- *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines*
- *Water Act 2000*
- *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*
- *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2018*
- *Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2019*
- *Public Health Act 2005*
- *Public Health Regulation 2018*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*
- *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011*

3. Scope

This policy applies to all McKinlay Shire Council activities associated with the supply of safe drinking water to its communities.

The Policy also pertains to all support, operational, and management personnel involved in the provision of potable drinking water and its associated infrastructure.

4. Policy Statement

McKinlay Shire Council is committed to managing its drinking water supply schemes to provide safe drinking water to the McKinlay Shire community that meets the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) / National Resource Management Ministerial Council Australia (NRMMC) Australian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines.

To achieve this Council will:

- Ensure the operation and maintenance of safe drinking water in accordance with McKinlay Shire Council's DWQMP and the guidelines.
- Use the risk-based approach to identify and manage environmental hazards or hazardous activities within its drinking water quality management.
- Undertake monitoring of the drinking water quality as per Council's DWQMP to ensure safe drinking water.

- Continually strive to improve procedures and performance within the Drinking Water Quality Management System, reviewing our practices against industry standards and expectations of our stakeholders.
- Incorporate the needs and expectations of our consumers, stakeholders, regulators, and employees into drinking water quality management.
- Strive to maintain compliance with all relevant environmental legislation, codes of practice and our Information Notices.
- Ensure all employees are appropriately trained within their area of responsibility and are aware of their obligations
- Develop the appropriate capabilities needed for contingency planning and incident response.
- Undertake regular monitoring of drinking water quality, develop, and maintain effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information and promote confidence in the management of MSC's water supply systems.
- Participate in appropriate research and development opportunities to improve our understanding of drinking water quality issues and performance.

5. Responsibility

McKinlay Shire Council is responsible for the adoption, amendment and repeal of this Policy, and the Chief Executive Officer and his delegates is responsible for the development and amendment of any associated procedures and guidelines relevant to the Policy.

6. Review

It is the responsibility of the Director of Engineering and Environmental Regulatory Services to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes.

This policy will be formally reviewed every three years or as required by Council.

This Policy is to remain in force until otherwise amended/repealed by resolution of Council.