

McKinlay Shire Council



Drinking Water Quality Policy

Contents

1. Policy Intent.....	3
2. Scope	3
3. Background/Supporting Information	3
4. Authority (Legislations).....	3
4. Policy Statement	4
5. Responsibility.....	4
6. Review	4

1. Policy Intent

To establish a policy for the implementation and maintenance of the McKinlay Shire Council's potable water supplies, that complies with the relevant legislation and standards and protects the public's health.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all McKinlay Shire Council activities associated with the supply of potable 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.

3. Background/Supporting Information

McKinlay Shire Council (MSC) is bound by the requirements within the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* and the *Public Health Act 2005* to provide potable water to all consumers within the MSC water supply declared service areas.

4. Authorities & Legislations

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Water Act 2000*
- *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*
- *Water Fluoridation Act 2008*
- *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2018*
- *Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2019*
- *Public Health Act 2005*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*
- *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011*

4. Policy Statement

MSC commits to implement and maintain a Drinking Water Management System that reflects the Australian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines and preserves and protects the health of the McKinlay Shire's communities.

To achieve this Council will:

- Use the risk-based approach to identify and manage environmental hazards or hazardous activities within its drinking water quality management;
- 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 suitably qualified within their area of responsibility and are aware of their environmental obligations, striving to create a positive culture and awareness;
- 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 potable water supply systems;
- Participate in appropriate research and development opportunities to improve our understanding of drinking water quality issues and performance;
- Recognise source and transfer network protection as a key component of our Drinking Water Quality Management Systems.

5. Responsibility

The 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 Environment & 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.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER