



Recycled Water Re-Use Policy

Local Government Act 2009

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Townsville City Council is committed to promoting and protecting public health by managing its recycled water supply to provide safe, high-quality recycled water for irrigation and industrial purposes only.

2. PRINCIPLES

This policy ensures that Council supplies only appropriate quality recycled water.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Workers responsible for the provision of recycled water to the area defined within the Recycled Water Management Plan.

4. RESPONSIBILITY

The Director of Infrastructure and Operations and the General Manager Water and Waste are responsible for ensuring this policy is understood and adhered to by all relevant workers.

5. DEFINITIONS

AGWR – means Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling: Managing Health and Environmental Risk (2008)

Service provider – means the same as service provider under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

The Act – means the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*

Townsville Water - a business unit of the Townsville City Council responsible for providing recycled water services to declared recycled water service areas of Townsville

Workers – includes employees, contractors, volunteers and all others who perform work on behalf of council.

6. POLICY

The Council wishes to provide recycled water only of an appropriate standard as outlined in the RWMP, and will:

- manage Class A recycled water at the point of production, and Class A+ recycled water at all points along the delivery chain from “catchment to meter” by using a risk-based approach in which potential threats to recycled water quality are identified, assessed and addressed;

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Authorised by – Director of Infrastructure & Operations

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- provide recycled water that will be used in accordance with the general accepted practices for using recycled irrigation water in an urban environment that will ensure:
 - a. applied recycled irrigation water should not leave the specified site as direct run-off,
 - b. applied recycled irrigation water should not leave site as wind drift,
 - c. applied recycled irrigation water should not leave site as run-off from rain event mixed with recycled irrigation water,
 - d. applied irrigation water should not leave site as run-off from applying recycled irrigation water to soil already at saturation point or beyond target profile depth.

Council will work with end users to ensure adequate measures and controls are put in place to mitigate the risk of the above.

- integrate the needs and expectations of consumers, stakeholders, regulators and employees into its planning to provide and maintain a safe recycled water supply;
- establish and maintain regular and effective recycled water quality monitoring and reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information, and to promote confidence in the management of its recycled water supply systems;
- develop appropriate contingency planning and incident response capabilities to manage incidents and other emergent events potentially affecting recycled water quality;
- participate in appropriate research and development activities (including employee training) to ensure continued understanding of recycled water quality issues and performance;
- contribute to setting industry regulations and guidelines, and other standards relevant to public health and the water cycle;
- continually improve its practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations;
- provide the community and relevant stakeholders with relevant and timely information; and
- openly communicate this policy to the community to encourage public awareness.

7. LEGAL PARAMETERS

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulations 2012

Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008

Public Health Act 2005

8. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Drinking Water Quality Management Plan Guidelines (September 2010)

Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling (2008)

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2004)

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