



Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Drinking Water Quality Policy

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council is committed to promoting and protecting public health by managing its water supply to provide safe, high-quality drinking water.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Council activities associated with the supply of potable drinking water to the community. The policy pertains to all support, operational and management personnel, including contractors involved in the provision of drinking water and associated infrastructure.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy is to formalise Council's commitment to the effective management of its drinking water supplies in order to provide drinking water that meets the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, customer and regulatory requirements, and Council's Corporate and Operational Plan objectives.

4. POLICY

In partnership with stakeholders and relevant agencies, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council will:

- Manage water quality at all points along the delivery chain from the water source to the supply points for each consumer by using a risk-based approach in which potential threats to water quality are identified and managed to minimise any threat to drinking water quality in accordance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- Comply with statutory and regulatory requirements associated with the provision of safe drinking water.
- Implement and manage a Drinking Water Quality Management Plan.
- Ensure staff hold relevant competencies, maintain regular monitoring of the quality of drinking water and have effective reporting mechanisms to provide relevant and timely information, which promotes confidence in the water supply and its management.



- Develop appropriate contingency planning and incident response capabilities to manage incidents and continued understanding of drinking water quality issues and performance.
- Participate in appropriate research and development activities to ensure continued understanding of drinking water quality issues and performance.
- Commit to continually improve the capability of staff by providing training to ensure they are aware of this policy and are involved in the implementation of the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan.
- Actively contribute to the debate on setting industry regulations and guidelines, and other standards relevant to public health and the water cycle.
- Continually improve our practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations.
- Openly communicate this policy to the community to encourage public awareness.

5. REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

- *Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008*
- *Public Health Act 2005*
- *Public Health Regulation 2012*
- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- Australian Drinking Water Guidelines
- Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Drinking Water Quality Management Plan

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. As required by legislation.
2. The related documents are amended or replaced.
3. Other circumstances as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than two (2) years.

Version Control

Version	Revision Description	Adopted Date
1	Development of policy	