



Recycled Wastewater Use Policy

Policy Number	I8
Responsible Officer(s)	Manager Asset Delivery; Environmental Health Officer
Policy Adopted	March 2010
Last revised date	September 2022
Minutes reference	2022/09-06
Next review date	September 2026
Applicable Legislation	<i>South Australia Public Health Act 2011; South Australia Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013.</i>
Related Procedures	<i>South Australian Recycled Water Guidelines 2012.</i>

1. POLICY PRINCIPLE

Wakefield Regional Council is committed to playing a lead role in sustainable and responsible water use within the community.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVE

This policy aims to:

- Detail the arrangements for delivering recycled water to the community.
- Articulate Council's commitment to appropriate delivery of recycled water – including communication with relevant users.

3. POLICY DETAIL

Council provides Community Wastewater Management Schemes ("CWMS") in the Balaklava, Blyth, Hamley Bridge, Port Wakefield and Snowtown townships. This recycled water, generated from the CWMS, is an integral component of sustainable water use and is used to reduce reliance on drinking water supplies.

The CWMS and recycled water use are operated responsibly with approvals from Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Department of Health and Wellbeing (DHW), and the Office of The Technical Regulator (OTR). Council maintains the Safety, Reliability, Maintenance, and Technical Management Plan (SRMTMP) as required by the OTR, and the Recycled Water Risk Management Plan (RWRMP) as required by the DHW.

This recycled water, which was previously referred to as Class B recycled effluent, can be provided for some commercial and public use activities such as irrigation of recreation grounds, parks and gardens.

3.1 There will be three categories of recycled town wastewater users;

- a. **Council:** Recycled water is to be used to water Council-owned parks and gardens. Where this occurs, Council will;
 - i. Commit to the responsible use of recycled water and the application of a risk management approach;

- ii. Recognise and comply with all regulatory requirements;
 - iii. Communicate with all relevant agencies and stakeholders in the production and use of recycled water;
 - iv. Communicate and engage with all employees, contractors and suppliers of equipment to ensure compliance with all aspects of our recycled water use.
- b. **Community:** Recycled water may be made available to water areas within facilities where there is community benefit from such watering, including recreation grounds, ovals, golf clubs, schools and hospitals.
- c. **Commercial:** Recycled water may be made available to a commercial company or business where there is economic benefit.
- 3.2 Community and commercial users will be made aware of relevant legislation relating to health and the environment. However, compliance with the relevant legislation arising from the use of recycled water on their premises will be their responsibility and not that of council.
- 3.3 All applications for connection to the recycled wastewater infrastructure will be assessed and determined by Council within the applicable SA Health Regulations and the SA Recycled Water Guidelines.
- 3.4 Community users will enter into a Water Agreement with Council which will set out the conditions of supply of the recycled water, including that Council will not guarantee supply of water and will not be liable for failure of such supply.
- 3.5 Such Water Agreements may be subject to renegotiation to ensure that community users have a fair and equitable means of accessing the supply if, in any one location, the total demand of water by the users exceeds the supply available.
- 3.6 Commercial users will enter into an individual contract with Council which will include a price for the water at an agreed percentage of SA Water charges. Community use will always be considered above commercial use.

4. REFERENCES

South Australian Recycled Water Guidelines 2012.

5. REVIEW

This Policy shall be reviewed every 48 months, or more frequently if required by legislation or Council.

Document history:

Version	Adopted	Description of Change
1.0	Mar 2010 - Min 214	New Document.
2.0	Apr 2011 - Min 228	Significant changes regarding costs and requirements.
3.0	Sep 2011 - Min 62	Major re-wording of options for Class 'B' recycled water.
4.0	Sep 2013 - Min 80	Complete rewrite and reformatting of the Policy.
	November 2014	Policy Numbering System Changed and inclusion of this Document History Table.
4.0	Sept 2015 - Min 66	Policy Deleted.
5.0	Dec 2015 - Min 140	Policy reinstated with re-wording.
6.0	March 2018	Rewording, addition of principle and new template.
7.0	September 2022	Review and minor rewording.