

DOCUMENT ON EXHIBITION

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and progressive
community*

New Policy – Water Carting Policy

**Exhibition Period: 42 days
21 March – 2 May 2025**

**Please address any queries to:
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COUNCIL MEETING MIN	76/25
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Objective

- The objective of the Water Carting Policy is to outline Mid-Western Regional Council's (MWRC) position regarding the supply, sale and transportation of bulk water purchased from Council.
- To secure and prioritise Council's ability to supply potable water in an efficient manner to the agreed and currently recognised health, environmental and other community standards with minimal restrictions and with the flexibility to promote and meet development demands within the Region.
- To provide guidance and clarification to all stakeholders on Council's primary obligation to, with consideration to organisational or seasonal conditions, manage the availability of potable water for supply to rural residential customers.
- Under section 68 (s68) of the Local Government Act 1993, Private Water Carters (PWC) are required to obtain approval to draw treated water from a Council Standpipe. This includes both chlorinated Potable water and chlorinated RAW water.
- Applicants for a s68 approval are to complete the supporting documentation including the PWC application form and a Quality Assurance Program (QAP)

Legislative requirements

- Local Government Act 1993
- Public Health Act 2010
- Public Health Regulation 2022
- Food Act 2003
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Related policies and plans

- NSW Guidelines for Water Carters
- Mid-Western Regional Council - Drinking Water Quality Policy
- Strategic Business Plan for Water Supply Services 2008
- Australian Drinking Water Guidelines

Definitions

Non-potable Water: Non-drinkable water

Potable water: Drinkable water

Chlorinated Raw Water: Non-potable water

Water Carter: a person or business who receives water from a supplier of drinking water (MWRC) and who supplies drinking water from a water carting vehicle in the course of a commercial undertaking.

PWC: Private Water Carter

WCV: Water Cart Vehicle

S68: Approval issued under Part B(2) within the table in section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993

QAP: Quality Assurance Program

Policy

GENERAL

Council does not commit to defined levels of service for developments that are outside Council's urban serviceable area. Access to standpipes and the availability of either Potable Water or Chlorinated RAW Water is subject to Council's continued capacity to service urban areas.

Water Carters are to be aware they may experience disruptions to standpipes in instances where Council may be undertaking water supply maintenance or where seasonal or other operational conditions impact on the availability of supply.

Water carters offer an alternative supply in areas where the water supply is insufficient or is temporarily unsuitable. The provision of treated potable water is primarily, to support residential customers and businesses throughout the Mid-Western Regional LGA.

Potable water and chlorinated RAW water may be purchased from Council with approval only and subject to the rates pursuant to the current adopted Council Fees and Charges.

1) Guidelines

Mid-Western Regional Council sells chlorinated treated potable water that meets Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

Note: When chlorinated and treated potable water is added to a water cart vehicle or a rainwater tank, it can mix with existing sludge and other contaminants, leading to taste, turbidity and odour problems. It is therefore the responsibility of the PWC and the owner of rainwater tanks to ensure the maintenance of their tanks.

2) Treatment

The water sourced from a Council potable bulk water standpipe meets the ADWGs and is safe for human consumption. The PWC is responsible for maintaining adequate chlorine residual up to the point of supply to customers. Adequate free chlorine residual would be between 0.2 - 1.0mg/L, depending on the original chlorine levels of the source water. Council has a chlorine dosing guide (**Appendix 1**) to assist PWC with this requirement. Dosing and chlorine residuals must be recorded in the vehicle's logbook.

3) Potable Water Cart Vehicles

Ideally the water tank should only be used for the transport of potable water. If this is not possible, the tank must be cleaned and disinfected prior to reuse for potable water. The tanks must not be used for the transport of hazardous materials or effluent (treated or otherwise).

Hoses and fittings must be made of food grade material and capped or stored in a dust proof container.

PROCEDURE

- All Private water carters must apply for and obtain a permit to access potable water from Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC).
- Once a PWC has obtained approval, they may request and pay for an AVDATA key to access the necessary bulk water standpipe.
- Water carters proposing to supply treated water to projects relating to State Significant Development (SSD), major mining or extraction industries must provide project specific information in the application for approval. Such detail is to reference the project name, approval number and nominate the frequency of access and volume of water the project will require.
- Approvals or permits to access Councils bulk water standpipes will be reviewed annually and may be revoked if water restrictions are imposed due to either environmental or operations conditions.
- The approvals are not transferable and each PWC must have an approval for each WCV.
- Water is for use inside the boundaries of Mid-Western Regional LGA.
- Water purchase and use is limited to residents, landowners and approved contractors working within Mid-Western Regional LGA .
- Where water restrictions are in place, bulk water use must adhere to the current level restrictions.
- The filling of WCVs by Private Water Carters is permitted only at the designated bulk water fill stations per **Table 1** of this Policy.
- In accordance with NSW Public Health Act, water carters who supply water to third parties must develop and adhere to a Quality Assurance Program (QAP). Each QAP is also to be submitted to the local NSW Health Public Health Unit.
- Water carters must keep updated logbooks in each WCV and make them available to Council authorised officers on request. Detail must include the following:

- All dates of extraction and delivery
 - Source of water / location of extraction
 - Customers name and delivery address
 - Volume delivered
 - Dosing and chlorine residual levels
 - When the tank was last cleaned and disinfected
- PWC are solely responsible for the cleanliness and condition of vehicles including tanks, pipes and fittings. Food grade hoses and fittings must be used, cleaned and replaced regularly.
 - Mid-Western Regional Council takes no responsibility for the water quality once it has been drawn from the bulk fill standpipe.
 - Council monitors potable water usage and reserves the right to cancel access to filling stations where evidence indicates a PWC has breached any of the above Policy requirements.
 - Chlorinated RAW Water is not permitted to be supplied to customers as potable water. This water is not fit for human consumption and shall only be used for purposes other than potable.

INSURANCE

Prior to operation and for the duration of an approval to draw water from a Council standpipe, all water carting vehicles are to hold a valid Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance to a value of \$20,000,000 which lists Mid-Western Regional Council as an 'Interested Party'.

Where insurance cover expires within an approval period, the operator is required to submit a copy of new insurance details to Council within 7 days prior to the expiry date of the insurance.

Water carting vehicles are required to carry and supply a Certificate of Currency for Third Party Property Damage Insurance.

Should any insurance cover either expire without renewal or be cancelled by the provider, the approval to draw water from a council standpipe ceases to have any effect and the holder of the approval is not permitted to operate the business until insurance cover is obtained.

TABLE 1: APPROVED COUNCIL BULK WATER STANDPIPES

Township	Address of Bulk water Standpipe
MUDGEE <i>Potable water only</i>	Corner of Ulan Road and Moggs Lane
GULGONG <i>Potable and chlorinated RAW water</i>	Elcom Pump Station at 1a Medley Street
RYLSTONE <i>Potable water only</i>	Corner of Ilford Road and Coomber Street

Appendix 1

CHLORINE READY RECKONER TABLES

To calculate millilitres of 12.5% sodium hypochlorite (liquid) required to disinfect the water in a tank.

Table 2

AMOUNT OF WATER IN TANK (L)	CONCENTRATION OF CHLORINE REQUIRED		
	1 mg/L	2 mg/L	5 mg/L
	ADD (mL)	ADD (mL)	ADD (mL)
1000	8	16	40
2000	16	32	80
5000	40	80	200
6000	48	96	240
7500	60	120	300
10000	80	160	400
16000	128	256	640
20000	160	320	800
30000	240	480	1200

For example: To achieve 5 mg/L chlorine in a 1000 litre tank, add approximately 40 mL of 12.5% sodium hypochlorite.

Please note these calculations are only estimates. The amount of liquid bleach required to be added to your water supply would depend on the quality of the water.

CHECK THE LABEL OF THE PRODUCT TO ENSURE THAT NO ADDITIVES SUCH AS FRAGRANCES ARE ADDED TO THE BLEACH.

Please note the above calculations are only estimates. The amount of chlorine required to be added to your water supply would depend on the quality of the water.

DO NOT USE STABILISED CHLORINE.
THE CHLORINE USED MUST NOT
CONTAIN ISOCYANURIC ACID

To calculate grams of 65% calcium hypochlorite (granular or powdered chlorine) required to disinfect the water in a tank.

Table 3

AMOUNT OF WATER IN TANK (L)	CONCENTRATION OF CHLORINE REQUIRED		
	1 mg/L	2 mg/L	5 mg/L
	ADD (g)	ADD (g)	ADD (g)
1000	2	3	8
2000	3	6	15
5000	8	15	38
6000	9	18	46
7500	12	23	58
10000	15	31	77
16000	25	49	123
20000	31	62	154
30000	46	92	231

For example: To achieve 5 mg/L chlorine in a 1000 litre tank add approximately 8 grams of 65% calcium hypochlorite.

Please note the above calculations are only estimates. The amount of chlorine required to be added to your water supply would depend on the quality of the water.

DO NOT USE STABILISED CHLORINE. THE CHLORINE USED MUST NOT CONTAIN ISOCYANURIC ACID.