



# Recycled Waste Water Policy

Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Relevant Delegations	Director Infrastructure Services
Legislation and References	Water Industry Act 2012 SA Public Health Act 2011

## Recycled Wastewater Use Policy

### Definitions

For this policy the following definition applies:

**Recycled Water** - non-potable water generated from sewage, treated to a standard that is appropriate for its intended use.

### Policy

Council acknowledges that water is a climate sensitive valuable resource that should not be wasted. Council's recycled water will be used for irrigation of Council's assets and the supply to external users (subject to available supply) in accordance with all relevant legislative obligations.

Council is committed to provide a healthy, safe and reliable recycled water supply. Council will achieve this by committing to the following principles:

- Apply a risk based management approach that is based on the Australian Guidelines of Water Recycling
- Apply best practice in asset management, operation and maintenance of recycled water infrastructure
- Ensure that protection of public and environmental health is recognised as being of paramount importance
- Applying the principles of ESCOSA in the management of the recycle water scheme;
- Applying the principles of the Office of Technical Regulator in the operation of the recycle water scheme
- Ensure that there is efficient use of recycled water;

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- Ensure that the recycled water scheme will be able to meet Council's current and future demands through effective stakeholder consultation
- To promote stakeholder confidence in Council's recycled water scheme through the safe, reliable and well maintained systems; and
- Implementation of a sound business continuity plan to minimise the risk of disruption to services

## Council will:

- Participate in and support appropriate research and development activities to ensure continuous improvement and continued understanding of recycled water issues and performance
- Contribute to the development of industry regulations and guidelines, and other standards relevant to public health and the water cycle
- Continually improve Council practices by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations
- Ensure that employees and contractors are provided with adequate training opportunities and adequately trained to operate and manage the recycle water scheme

## POLICY OBJECTIVE

The Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council provide Community Wastewater Management Schemes (CWMS) in 3 of its townships within the Council area. The resultant treated town wastewater is harvested from CWMS recycling for its Clare, Riverton and Saddleworth treatment plants. This recycled treated water is an integral component of sustainable water use and is utilised to reduce reliance on water supplies.

This recycled water, 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.

## POLICY:

1. There will be three (3) categories of recycled town wastewater users;

### a. Council

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Recycled water is to be used to water Council owned ovals, woodlots and unsealed road surfaces. 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 is to be used to water areas within facilities where there is community benefit from such watering, including recreation grounds, ovals, golf club, woodlots and road making purposes.

**c. Commercial**

Recycled water is to be used by a commercial company or business for vineyard irrigation.

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. 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.
4. Community and Commercial 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.
5. 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 demands of water by the users exceeds the supply available.
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.

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## RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Manager Works and Infrastructure and Manager Finance and Administration is accountable for ensuring the proper operation of this policy and is also accountable for systems and procedures involved with the recycled wastewater use schemes and commercial fees and charges invoicing.

## LEGISLATION:

Water Industry Act 2012

Water Industry Regulations 2012 as required by the Technical Regulator

SA Public Health Act 2011

SA Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013

## REFERENCES:

Strategic Management Plan.2012-2016 Objective 3.1

South Australian Recycled Water Guidelines 2012

CWMS Safety, Reliability, Maintenance, & Technical Management Plan

## Review & Availability

This policy will be reviewed every four years, or as required.

The public may inspect a copy of this policy without charge at the Council offices during office hours and may obtain a copy for a fee fixed by Council

The policy is also available on Council's website [www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au](http://www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au)

## Document History

Approved by	Issue Date	Minute Reference – Details of Review
CGVC	24/07/17	New Policy Adopted by Council
CGVC		

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