

Appendix 3: Health, Aesthetic and Other Parameters in Major Centres 2002-2004

Drinking Water Quality in Alice Springs

Parameter/Location	Trigger level ¹	Units	Actual level ²
Health Parameters			
Antimony	0.003	mg/L	0.0001
Arsenic	0.007	mg/L	0.001
Barium	0.7	mg/L	0.1
Boron	4	mg/L	0.13
Cadmium	0.002	mg/L	0.0001
Chromium	0.05	mg/L	0.003
Fluoride	1.5	mg/L	0.5
Iodide	0.1	mg/L	0.1
Lead	0.01	mg/L	0.006
Mercury	0.001	mg/L	0.0001
Molybdenum	0.05	mg/L	0.003
Nickel	0.02	mg/L	0.003
Nitrate	50	mg/L	7
Nitrite ³	3	mg/L	DNA
Radiological ⁴	0.5	mSv/year	0.15
Selenium	0.01	mg/L	0.004
Silver	0.1	mg/L	0.005
Total THMs	0.25	mg/L	0.002
Uranium	0.02	mg/L	0.01
Aesthetic Parameters			
Aluminium	0.2	mg/L	0.02
Chloride	250	mg/L	74
Copper	1	mg/L	0.11
Hardness	200	mg/L	210
Iron	0.3	mg/L	0.11
Manganese	0.1	mg/L	0.02
pH	6.5 - 8.5	pH units	7.6
Sodium	180	mg/L	80
Sulphate	500	mg/L	65
TDS	800	mg/L	460
Zinc	3	mg/L	0.07
Other Parameters⁵			
Alkalinity	*	mg/L	260
Beryllium	*	mg/L	0.0005
Bromide	*	mg/L	0.5
Calcium	*	mg/L	45
Electrical Conductivity	*	µS/cm	810
Magnesium	*	mg/L	25
Potassium	*	mg/L	7
Silica	*	mg/L	18
Tin	*	mg/L	0.005

Legend

N/A	Not applicable	*	No guideline value applicable
DNA	Data not available	µS/cm	Microsiemens per centimetre
mg/L	Milligrams per litre	mSv/year	Millisieverts per year

¹ Australian Drinking Water Guideline (ADWG 1996) values for health and aesthetic parameters. TDS guideline value set by DHCS.

² Actual level is the average of results obtained from samples collected in the reticulation system in Alice Springs for 2002-2004.

³ Readily oxidises to Nitrate and therefore not tested.

⁴ Total annual radiological dose per year.

⁵ With the exception of Beryllium and Tin all other parameters are not included in the ADWG and tests are conducted for analytical purposes and to assist in providing a complete set of water quality results.