

The Framework for the Management of Drinking Water Quality

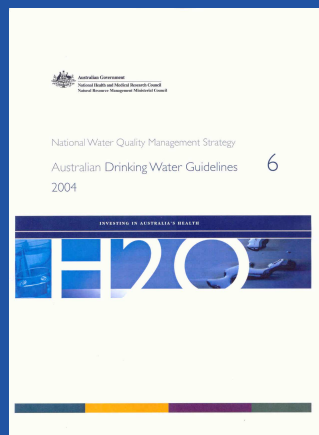
Or

Why you should pay attention to the next talk

Deniliquin, 2009

Presented by Sandy Leask
NSW Health Water Unit

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2004)



- defines safe, good quality drinking water
- incorporates a **preventive risk management framework**
- endorsed by NSW Cabinet for implementation as a model for best practice in NSW in 2005

Guiding Principles

- Greatest risk is from pathogenic microorganisms. Protection of water sources and adequate treatment is essential
- Robust multiple barriers appropriate to level of potential contamination must be continuously maintained
- Sudden or extreme change in water quality, flow or environmental conditions (eg. extreme rainfall or flooding) should arouse suspicion
- Operators must respond quickly and effectively to adverse monitoring signals
- Operators must have personal sense of responsibility to supply safe water, and never ignore a consumer complaint
- A preventive risk management approach is required to ensure drinking water safety and quality. Testing is just one part of this process.

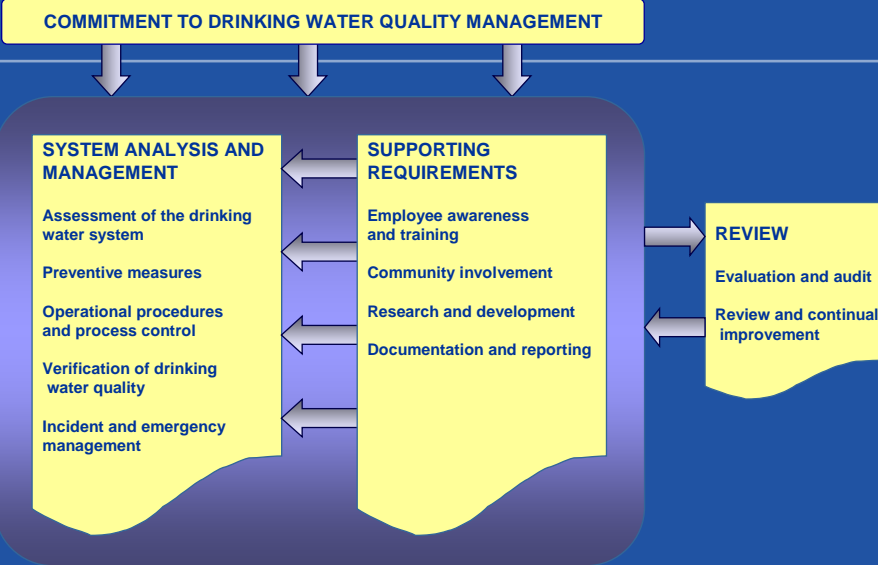
Framework for Management of Drinking Water Quality

- moves away from end point testing
- assessment of water supply and identification of hazards
- emphasises prevention, operational procedures, process control
- verification of quality, management of incidents

Simply

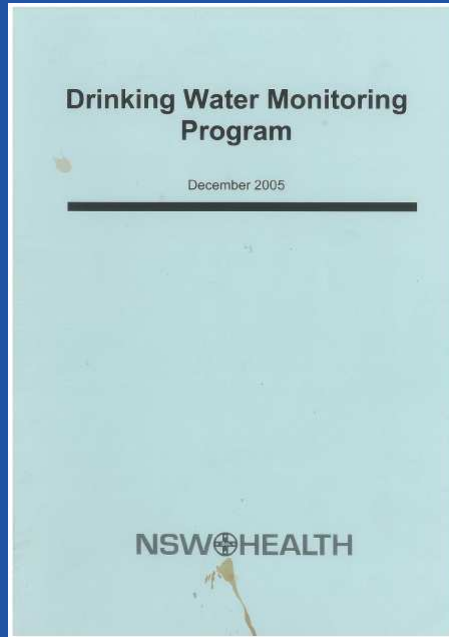
- what is the hazard and the source?
- how do we manage the risk?
- how do we know the risk is managed?

Framework for Management of Drinking Water Quality

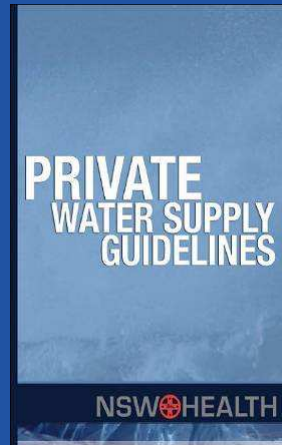
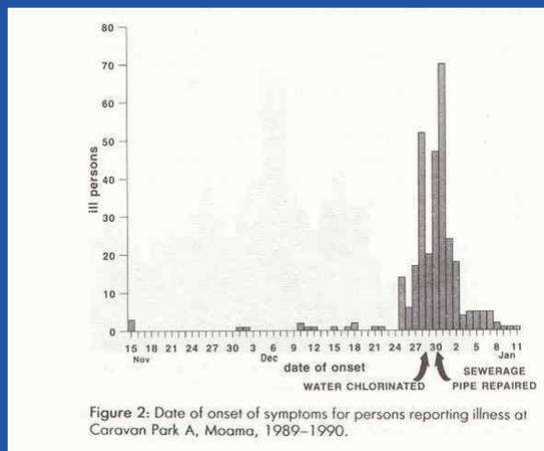


Examples – what has gone wrong recently in public water supplies in NSW

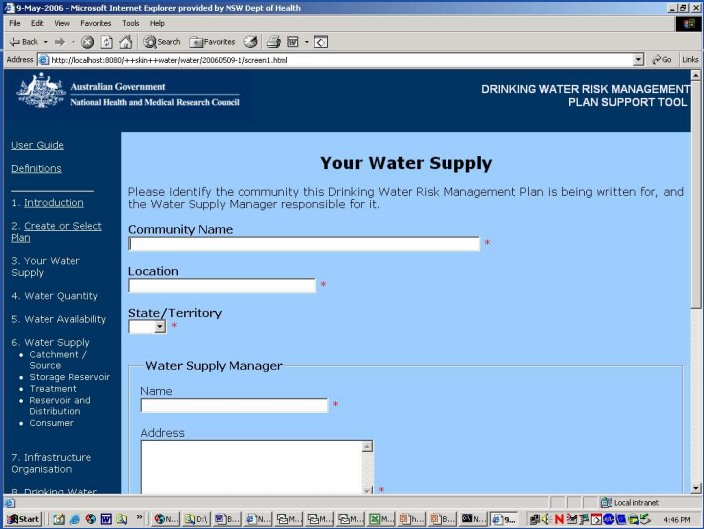




Private water supplies

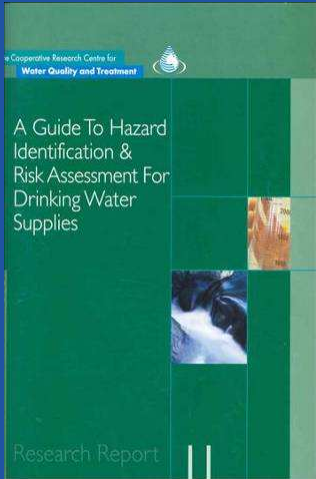


Community water planner



- identifies potential hazards and their sources
- assesses the risk
- helps evaluate existing preventive strategies, and need for additional measures

Cooperative Research Centre for Water Quality and Treatment risk assessment guide



Can be downloaded from CRC WQT 'Occasional Papers and Research reports' web page http://www.waterquality.crc.org.au/publication_occpr_resrpts.htm

Look for Research Report 11