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Department of Consumer
and Employment Protection
Government of Western Australia

Resources Safety

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**ADVICE TO: REGISTERED MANAGERS OF MINES and
EXPLORATION MANAGERS and
EXPLORATION CONTRACTORS**

FROM: STATE MINING ENGINEER

MINESITE DRINKING WATER QUALITY

This advice is provided as a follow-up and update on a memorandum circulated to the industry in February 2000, advising of requirements in relation to drinking water quality.

Where mining companies and mining operators provide drinking water to employees (and in some cases also to associated communities), there is an obligation to:

- comply with 'Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality in Australia 2004', as published by the National Health & Medical Research Council; and
- provide results of routine monitoring of such water supplies to the Health Department WA.

Monitoring normally involves chemical and microbiological analysis of the drinking water.

Further information on the issue is available from the Secretary of the Advisory Committee for the Purity of Water, Mr Richard Theobald, Telephone (08 9388 4967, Fax (08) 9388 4905.

The guideline can be downloaded from:

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/publications/synopses/eh19syn.htm>.

This is an important issue in relation to occupational (and community) health and employers in the industry who supply drinking water should exercise due diligence in the process.

All new mining operations will be reminded of these requirements during the project approval process.

M J Knee
STATE MINING ENGINEER

10 July 2008

copy: Mr R Theobald - Secretary of the Advisory Committee for the Purity of Water.
Mr C. White, Chamber of Minerals & Energy, Locked Bag N984, PERTH WA 6844
Association of Mining & Exploration Companies Inc., 25 Richardson Street, WEST PERTH WA 6005