



**SOUTH WEST IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT
COOPERATIVE**

**Report to the Department of Health for the Period 01
January 2023 to 31 March 2023**

Rev	Date	Details	Prepared By	Approved By
			Name	Name
0	18/04/2023	Draft for Review	JC	
1	20/04/2023	Final for Issue	JC	RN
2				
3				
4				

Contents

1	Water Provider Information.....	3
1.1	System Information (Annual Report Only)	3
1.1.1	Catchment Details	3
1.1.2	Distribution System	4
1.1.3	Sampling Schedule & Procedure	4
2	Performance Summary	5
3	Microbial Performance	6
3.1	Microbial – Compliance Summary	6
3.2	Microbial – Exception Notifications	6
4	Chemical – Health Related Performance.....	7
4.1	Chemical: Health Related – Compliance Summary	7
4.2	Chemical: Health Related – Exception Notifications	7
5	Chemical – Aesthetic Performance	8
5.1	Chemical – Aesthetic	8
5.2	Chemical – Aesthetic – Incident Specific Information	8
6	Radiological Performance	10
6.1	Radiological – Compliance Summary	10
7	Planned Sample Summary	11
7.1	Planned Sample Compliance Summary	11
7.2	Planned Sample Exception Notifications	11

1 Water Provider Information

Water Provider Contact Details	
Name of Company	South West Irrigation Management Co-Operative, Trading as Harvey Water
Company Address	1 Turnbull Street, Harvey, WA, 6220
Company Phone	(08) 9721 0100
Company Email	admin@harveywater.com.au
Chief Executive Officer	Bruce Hathway
CEO Email	admin@harveywater.com.au
DoH Liaison Officers	Julia Clasby and Aled Lewis
DoH Liaison Officer Email	jclasby@harveywater.com.au and alewis@harveywater.com.au

1.1 System Information (Annual Report Only)

1.1.1 Catchment Details

Harvey Water has installed a bore into the Leederville aquifer to supply water for treatment to the Albemarle Lithium processing plant in Kemerton. Water from the bore is treated through a WTP designed to bring in accordance with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulations (DWER), the Department of Health (DoH) and the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

The bore area is situated on the Swan Coastal Plain, which is formed of shoreline and coastal dune deposits extending from the Darling Scarp to the Indian Ocean. Lakes and swamp occur in the low-lying interdunal depressions. The coastal plain is drained by the Wellesley River and a number of drains which discharge into it. Bengier Swamp and Mialla Lagoon are prominent wetlands which occupy large shallow depressions in the coastal plain close to the Darling Scarp. The Wellesley River, the only major watercourse in the vicinity of the site, runs in a south-westerly direction, 2km to the east of the bore area. This is one of the major river systems in the area that flows into the Brunswick River, which ultimately merges with the Collie River prior to discharging into the Leschenault Inlet.

Raw water is pumped to the WTP where it is treated through a system of filters and chemical dosing. Water is initially passed through a 100% glass multimedia filter to remove large particulates from the source water. After the multimedia filtration, water is chlorinated using sodium hypochlorite. Chlorinated water is then passed through a DMI media filter which utilises catalytic filtration media for the removal of iron and manganese.



Figure 1 – Location of Bore and WTP

1.1.2 Distribution System

Chlorination and pH adjustments are undertaken in order to maintain a final free chlorine concentration of between 0.5 – 2.0 mg/L and a pH between 6.5 – 8.5 as per ADWG. Treated potable water is stored in a 200kL storage tank on site prior to pumped distribution around the Albemarle site.

1.1.3 Sampling Schedule & Procedure

Potable water sampling is carried out in accordance with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG) and Harvey Water sampling procedure. Free chlorine residual, pH and turbidity are analysed continuously within the potable water treatment plant. Weekly samples of potable water are analysed in a NATA registered laboratory for pH, electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, total suspended solids, alkalinity, chloride, coliforms, E. coli, and amoeba. Further to this, monthly samples are analysed for metals (calcium, magnesium, sodium, iron, cadmium, copper, manganese and lead) hardness, sulphate and nitrate. Annual analysis further expands on the weekly and monthly analysis to include a full suite of metals analysis as well as organic compounds and radiological tests.

Further monitoring or adjustments to the sampling schedule can be made in response to the following:

- Post any incident
- Issues identified during a risk assessment
- Availability of any new information or new industry best practices
- Recommendations from regulatory authorities.

2 Performance Summary

Water Quality Meeting the Drinking Water Guidelines January – March 2023			
Parameters	No. of Analyses	No. of Analyses Complying with ADWG	No. of exceedences of ADWG
Microbial Quality			
E. Coli	13	13	0
Thermophilic Naegleria	13	13	0
Chemical and Physical Quality			
Health Related	78	78	0
Aesthetic	60	45	15
Radiological Quality			
Gross Alpha	NA	NA	NA
Gross Beta	NA	NA	NA

3 Microbial Performance

During the January to March 2023 reporting period, there were no reported exceedences of microbial paramaters when compared against the ADWG in the potable water system.

3.1 Microbial – Compliance Summary

Harvey Water Distribution System January – March 2023				
Microbial Characteristic	MOU Compliance Criteria	No. of Analyses	No. of Complying Analyses	% Compliance
Bacterial				
E. Coli	Non-detect	13	13	100
Amoeba				
Thermophilic Naegleria	Non-detect	13	13	100

3.2 Microbial – Exception Notifications

During the reporting period of January to March 2023, there were no reported exceedences of microbial characteristics.

4 Chemical – Health Related Performance

During the January to March 2023 reporting period there were zero reported exceedences of the chemical health parameters in accordance with the ADWG.

4.1 Chemical: Health Related – Compliance Summary

Harvey Water Distribution System January – March 2023					
Health Parameter	ADWG Compliance Criteria (mg/L)	No. of Analyses	No. of Analyses Complying with ADWG	% Compliance	Max Value of Analysis (mg/L)
Antimony	0.003	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cadmium	0.002	3	3	100	<0.0001
Chlorine (Inhouse testing free residual)	5	60	60	100	1.65
Copper	2	3	3	100	<0.001
Iron	0.3	3	3	100	0.11
Lead	0.01	3	3	100	<0.001
Manganese	0.5	3	3	100	0.055
Molybdenum	0.05	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nickel	0.02	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nitrate	50	3	3	100	2.1

4.2 Chemical: Health Related – Exception Notifications

There were no chemical health related exception notifications during the reporting period.

5 Chemical – Aesthetic Performance

During the January to March 2023 reporting period, there were two analytes that exceeded the chemical aesthetic parameters in the potable water distribution system. The details of these are outlined in section 5.2.

5.1 Chemical – Aesthetic

Harvey Water Distribution System January – March 2023					
Health Parameter	ADWG Compliance Criteria (mg/L unless stated)	No. of Analyses	No. of Analyses Complying with ADWG	% Compliance	Max Value of Analysis (mg/L unless stated)
pH	6.5 – 8.5	12	12	100	(7.2) 7.8
TDS	600	12	0	0	670
Turbidity	5 NTU	12	12	100	3.3 NTU
Aluminium	0.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sodium	180	3	3	100	130
Hardness	200	3	0	0	230
Chloride	250	12	12	100	230
Sulphate	250	3	3	100	61
Zinc	3	NA	NA	NA	NA
Iron	0.3	3	3	100	0.11

5.2 Chemical – Aesthetic – Incident Specific Information

Two analytes exceeded the aesthetic guidelines in a total of 12 samples analysed. These exceedences are discussed below:

- Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) – during this period, the TDS level in the potable water system ranged from 630 – 670 mg/L. It is noted water with TDS in the range of 600 – 900 mg/L is considered to have fair palatability, rather than good palatability for water with TDS < 600mg/L. As the water in this system falls within the fair range, the water quality will continue to be monitored to ensure the quality does not deteriorate further.
- Hardness - Hardness is another parameter that exceeded the aesthetic guideline in accordance with the ADWG. The main issue of concern with hardness is the formation of scaling in pipework. The optimum hardness of potable water is in the range of 60 – 200 mg/L as CaCO₃. The maximum hardness level in this water source recorded during this

reporting period was 230 mg/L. According to the ADWG, water with hardness in the range of 200 – 500 mg/L as CaCO_3 will have increasing scaling problems. Harvey Water will continue to monitor the level of hardness in the potable supply to ensure scaling does not pose an issue to the ongoing supply of water to Albemarle.

It is also noted that on some occasions, the turbidity in the potable water was elevated, whilst still within the ADWG guidelines. The turbidity for this reporting period ranged from 0.56 to 3.3 NTU with an average of 1.38 NTU. In order to better control the turbidity in the potable water supply, the frequency of backwashing of the media and DMI filtration systems have been increased, and the time between changeover of cartridge filter membranes has been decreased. Turbidity levels in the potable water will continue to be monitored to ensure it is being adequately controlled.

6 Radiological Performance

6.1 Radiological – Compliance Summary

No radiological testing was undertaken in the January – March 2023 quarter. The next radiological testing is due to be completed in the July – September 2023 quarter.

Harvey Water Distribution System January – March 2023					
Radiological Characteristic	ADWG Compliance Criteria (Bq/L)	No. of Analyses	No. of Analyses Complying with ADWG	% Compliance	Max Value of Analysis (mg/L unless stated)
Gross Alpha	0.5	NA	NA	NA	NA
Gross Beta	0.5	NA	NA	NA	NA

7 Planned Sample Summary

7.1 Planned Sample Compliance Summary

Planned Samples January – March 2023								
Microbial			Chemical			Radiological		
Planned	Taken	% Taken	Planned	Taken	% Taken	Planned	Taken	% Taken
12	12	100	12	12	100	0	0	NA

7.2 Planned Sample Exception Notifications

During the January – March 2023 reporting period, there were no missed samples.