



The Water New Zealand Drinking Water Quality Group e-Newsletter



INTRODUCTION TO THE GROUP

Welcome to the inaugural Drinking Water Quality Special Interest Group (SIG) newsletter!

Ongoing challenges around ensuring clean and safe drinking quality water in Aotearoa New Zealand has brought together this group of water professionals, passionate about ensuring a clean and safe drinking water future.

Our newly formed committee members are process engineers, equipment and water suppliers' representatives, laboratory experts, scientists and compliance officials who are well placed, with wider support from the water sector, to respond to current compliance risks and emerging issues.

The 12 months reporting milestone under new regulatory compliance rules introduced by Taumata Arowai is due by the end of February 2024 and all registered water suppliers around the country are now reporting on their performance under the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules.

The Drinking Water Quality SIG will be working on technical guidance material to support consistency among the water industry in approaching compliance and emerging issues. The group will be working collaboratively with Taumata Arowai, and we would also like to hear from you as to where you think there are gaps in information and guidance.

You can provide us with feedback using the survey below, or reach out to one of our committee using contact information available via our groups [webpage](#).

Nga mihi,

Tatiana Derevianko, Drinking Water Quality Group Chair



YOUR FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON PRIORITIES FOR DRINKING WATER QUALITY



Would you be interested in guidance on the Source Water Risk Management Plans or small water suppliers? Would a Water Quality General Code of Practice that includes topics from E.coli transgressions to advisories for MAV exceedances be of interest? There is also a growing interest in potential health risks associated with both the known and the emerging contaminants and whether the existing standards are set at an appropriate level.

We invite you to complete our survey to let the group know how we can best serve the water community of Aotearoa New Zealand. Complete this forms link prior to 7th March to provide us your feedback.

INAUGURAL EVENT: MICROPLASTICS IN DRINKING WATER

Microplastics are far more pervasive than we might think. Recent studies have found microplastics, in salt, honey, beer and critically, drinking water.

We are excited that for our inaugural event, hosted in conjunction with Tonkin + Taylor, we will be joined by internationally renowned microplastics expert, Charles Moore to learn more about microplastics and the implications for drinking water and our health.

Credited with the first discovery of the great pacific garbage patch, a collection of rapidly expanding marine debris roughly three times the size of France, Charles has devoted the subsequent 27 years to advancing our understanding of microplastics. His institute, The Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research, has been championing standardised laboratory test methods for testing of microplastics in drinking water.

We invite you to join us, for one of two free in person events using the links below:

- **Christchurch, 28th February, 5.30-7.30pm. SOLD OUT**
- Auckland, 4th March, 5.30-7.30pm. Register here.

Taumata Arowai: Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules Reporting Workshops

Taumata Arowai is running four workshops for drinking water suppliers (or people who support them) who are required to report on the Rules.



- 20th March 10am to 12pm
- 20th March 230pm to 430pm
- 21st March 9am to 11am
- 21st March 1pm to 3pm

The numbers on these workshops are strictly limited, so get in quick.

You have received this newsletter because you have subscribed to updates from the Drinking Water Quality group. To unsubscribe from the mailing list, edit your preferences on your Water New Zealand dashboard or contact reception@waternz.org.nz.

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