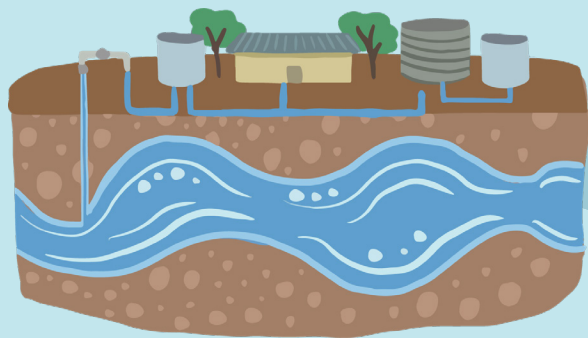


Beswick's drinking water

NT Health works with Power and Water to make sure that the best possible water is supplied to the community.

How is the water supply managed?



1 Your water comes from groundwater (bore water).



2 Chlorine is added to the water to kill any germs in it.



3 Power and Water test the water supply each month to make sure it is free of any dangerous germs.

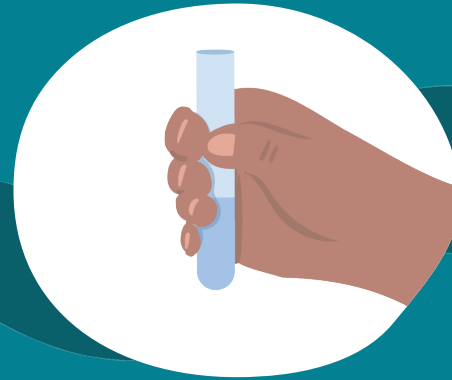


4 They also check the water's physical and chemical quality.

How does Beswick's water compare to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines?



5 The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines provides advice on what is safe, good quality water.



6 Beswick's water meets 31 of the 33 water quality targets that are regularly tested.



7 The level of antimony is higher than the limits recommended by the Guidelines.



8 Beswick's water has minerals in it from the surrounding rocks.



9 The minerals make the water hard.

Are there any health concerns?



- 10** There has not been much research into the health effects of humans drinking water with higher levels of antimony.

Studies using animals have found that drinking water with high levels of antimony may be linked to changes in liver function, increases in blood cholesterol and decreases in blood sugar.



- 11** Hardness does not cause direct harm to people's health.



- 12** Hard water can cause a build-up of scale in kettles, hot water systems, and taps and pipes. Scale buildup is worse when water is heated up.

Overtime scale build up will stop hot water systems and other appliances from working properly if they are not cleaned. The hardness of Beswick's water should only cause minor scaling.

Health advice



- 13** The guideline value for antimony is very cautious, it includes a large safety factor. The level of antimony in Beswick's water supply is unlikely to harm your health.



- 14** It is important that your plumbing and your hot water system is working well so that you can have a shower every day. If they are not working well contact your housing maintenance provider.

What is being done to improve Beswick's water?



There are several bores at Beswick and wherever possible Power and Water will always try to take drinking water from the groundwater with the lowest amount of antimony.

The government is trying to find funding to build new bores at Beswick to improve the drinking water supply.