

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 11

asked on Tuesday, 4 February 2019

MR R STEVENS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the western corridor recycled water system—

Will the Minister advise the list of chemicals used to treat waste water before it is returned to drinking supplies?

ANSWER:

Any drinking water in Queensland, no matter its source, meets the stringent standards set by the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines*.

If commissioned, water produced by the Western Corridor Purified Recycled Water Scheme would be 100 per cent safe to drink. Most chemicals used in the water treatment process are removed from the final product.

Seqwater's water treatment processes are based on the most recent edition of the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* drafted by the *National Health and Medical Research Council*, the *American Water Works Association Standard*, and the *American National Standard for Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals – Health Effects*.

The table below itemises the chemicals used across Seqwater's advanced water treatment plants and conventional water treatment plants:

Chemicals	Advanced Water Treatment Plants	Conventional Water Treatment Plants
Aluminium chlorohydrate	✓	✓
Aluminium sulphate (alum)		✓
Ammonia		✓
Anionic polyelectrolyte "AN 905 PWS" (25 kg)		✓
Calcium hydroxide (hydrate lime)	✓	✓
Carbon dioxide	✓	✓
Chlorine gas		✓
Filter aids (polymers),		✓
Hydrochloric acid		✓
Ozone		✓
Potassium permanganate		✓
Powdered activated carbon		✓
Soda ash		✓
Sodium fluoro-silicate		✓
Sodium hydroxide (caustic soda)		✓
Sodium hypochlorite	✓	✓
Sulphuric acid	✓	✓

In addition to the chemicals listed above, the following chemicals are used only across Seqwater's advanced water treatment plants:

Chemicals	Advanced Water Treatment Plants
Antiscalant (hydrex 4101)	✓
Antiscalant (hypersperse MDC150)	✓
Antiscalant (memguard AS 102)	✓
Chloramine - preformed chloramine (sodium hypochlorite and aqueous ammonia)	✓
Ferric chloride	✓
Hydrogen peroxide	✓
Polyacrylamide (LT 25)	✓
Sodium bisulphite	✓

All chemicals used across Seqwater's advanced water treatment plants and conventional water treatment plants are compliant with the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* and are standard treatment chemicals used extensively across Australia and international water treatment plants.

Indeed, I note that the Member for Lockyer is calling for the pipeline to be recommissioned.