

Media Release



March 7, 2011

Water quality up but long-term solution needed

Lancefield residents have noticed an improvement in the taste of their drinking water in recent months, after a switch from bore water to reservoir water.

Research conducted by Western Water found more than half the people surveyed drink the Lancefield tap water, but many filter or boil it first.

“The Lancefield residents we surveyed told us they were happier with their water since record rains allowed us to start using local reservoir water again,” Western Water’s Managing Director, John Wilkinson, says.

“However, the need remains for a long-term solution to Lancefield’s water supply issues,” he says.

“By talking to local residents we can get their input into possible solutions and start making some decisions about the best way forward.”

“People told us they would prefer to receive only reservoir water from their taps, but this will not always be possible in the current situation,” Mr Wilkinson says.

“As the reservoir levels drop, we may need to start supplementing the supply with bore water, however, we will let customers know if this is the case.

“This research has been a great opportunity to get feedback from the Lancefield community, and we will be consulting with people again later in the year,” Mr Wilkinson says.

“Before then we need to investigate all the possible options for Lancefield, including potential costs, so we can get more community input on the best way forward.”

Mr Wilkinson says despite issues with taste and calcium build-up, there is no problem with the safety of Lancefield’s water.

“All the drinking water supplied to Lancefield must comply with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act,” Mr Wilkinson says.

“In 2009-10 we had 100 per cent compliance with these requirements, so Lancefield residents can be assured they don’t need to boil or filter their water for health reasons.”

ends

About Western Water

Western Water is one of Victoria’s 13 regional urban water corporations. We provide water, recycled water and sewerage services to over 53,000 properties and 134,810 people in an area of 3,000 square kilometres. Our region extends from Lancefield in the north to Melton and Rockbank in the south and from Myrning in the west to Bulla in the east. We incorporate parts of Hume City Council and Melton, Moorabool and Macedon Ranges Shire Councils.

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