

# Technical Information for Plumbers



**Bulletin 1 – August 2008**

**ATTENTION: ALL LICENCED PLUMBERS PERFORMING WORK  
IN THE RIVERINA WATER COUNTY COUNCIL AREA OF SUPPLY**

## **ZERO CONTAMINATION OF THE POTABLE WATER SUPPLY**

### **Background Information**

To fully comply with the AS 3500.1.2003, "All water supply systems shall be designed, installed, and maintained so as to prevent contaminants from being introduced into the water supply system". (Section 4.2.1, p20)

To protect the common potable water supply from such contaminants, Riverina Water County Council (RWCC) has determined that boundary containment devices are paramount in achieving this zero contamination and where deemed necessary, RWCC will direct a property owner to modify existing approved plumbing to comply with the current NSW Code of Practice (Section 1.7, p11).

### **Compliance Procedures**

The type of containment device installed is to comply with the relevant sections of AS3500 and the NSW Code of Practice, which in summary, requires:-

1. High hazard processes as defined in Section 4.3 of AS3500, will have RPZ or equivalent testable device protection installed
2. Medium hazard processes as defined in Section 4.3 of AS3500, will have double check valve minimum testable device protection installed.
3. Low hazard processes as defined in Section 4.3 of AS3500, will have non-testable device protection installed.
4. Fire services will specifically require a testable device at the boundary as stated in the NSW Code of Practice, Section 6.4.1, p62 and AS 3500, Section 4.6.1(b) (ii), p26.

Notification of plumbing work to RWCC is via advice from the relevant Shire/City councils, (Wagga Wagga, Lockhart, Greater Hume, Urana) by means of Development Application and Construction Certificate which should include details of backflow devices. At this point, RWCC can determine the hazard level and necessary device.

Further to this, **a plumbing permit will be required** for all plumbing works including installation of backflow devices, and, an Inspection and Maintenance Report is to be submitted to RWCC within two (2) working days of test completion by a plumber licensed to test these devices. A permit fee of \$75 is payable to RWCC. Existing testable device installations do not require a plumbing permit, valid 30/7/08 to 30/6/09.

Please be advised that RWCC will begin monitoring installations and test reporting of all new and existing backflow prevention devices from September 2008.

Future notifications will be sent as this procedure develops. As professional tradesmen, Riverina Water County Council appreciates your support in achieving zero contamination of our potable water supply.

Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the RWCC  
**Plumbing Inspector, Stuart Rose on 02 69214170**

Thank You for your co-operation.  
Riverina Water County Council

August 14, 2008