

From: Pitkin, Paul (Orroroo Area School)
Sent: Tuesday, 15 March 2016 1:02 PM
To: ESCOSA:Essential Services Commission of South Australia
<ESCOSAEssentialServicesCommissionofSouthAustralia@escosa.sa.gov.au>
Subject: Orroroo Water Quality Project

To whom it may concern,

Re – Orroroo Water Quality Project

As a school we face various issues in relation to supplying drinkable water to our students, staff and school community.

These include

- Financial issues in regards to providing safe water to our students.
- Curriculum based issues

We use rainwater to provide suitable drinking supply (current water supply to Orroroo not an option for safe / continuous use). Thus as a DECD requirement if using rainwater we must provide a UV Filter for every rainwater tanks used for drinking. At a cost of \$1500 per unit installed. With 6-12 months scheduled maintenance on each system for the light / filters, the associated fees for the plumber to conduct quickly add up. We currently have 3 of these units within our school.

In the last 6 years or so I would anticipated that due to the installation, regular maintenance checks and replacement of broken or damaged equipment we would have easily paid out between \$8000 + for our efforts to provide safe drinking water.

The need to have rainwater plumbed through to our Industrial (Industry standard) – purpose built Home Economics room **is essential**;

- not only for the food preparation,
- but also to improve the longevity of the various equipment; eg. Combination Oven – (\$20,000), Dish Washing unit (\$5000-\$8000), Coffee machine (\$3000-\$5000) – the quality of the current town water would render these machine unusable very quickly due to calcium and mineral build up ! As a small Area School - we definitely don't have the money to replace these items on a 5-10 year basis; thus we organised to have rainwater plumbed into the Home Economics room – kitchen.
- We have also purchased more rainwater tanks to accommodate the need to have a high levels of rainwater supplies onsite.

In relation to the water project we trust you will take into account the factors outlined above.

A new water supply would assist our school to improve the water supply to our students, staff and school community on a consistent basis, and negate costly systems which other schools in a majority of the state don't need to budget for.

Regards

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PRINCIPAL

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