

BHP

WAN Leinster Operations (Leinster Township)

Potable Water Quality Report

Quarter 4 - October to December 2025



Version	Date	Submission
1.0	30/01/2026	31/01/2026
1.1	03/02/2026	03/02/2026

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1. Water Provider Information

Table 1 Water provider contact details

Name of Company	BHP Nickel West Pty Ltd
Company Address	Level 43 125 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000
DoH Liaison Officer	Giovanna De Sousa
DoH Liaison Officer Email	Giovanna.desousa@bhp.com
DoH Liaison Contact #	0466847141

1.1 System Information

BHP Nickel West Leinster Nickel Operations is located 370 km north of Kalgoorlie. The Leinster Nickel Operations cover large mineral tenement landholdings incorporating several Nickel deposits and facilities including Leinster township (residential area, commercial facilities and SPQ accommodation village). Previously the average population on any given day at this location was 1,000 people but since moving into a temporary suspension the Leinster town population has reduced to approximately 200-300 people.

1.2 Drinking Water Supply System

Drinking water for the township of Leinster is sourced from the 11 mile bore field that sits 6 km equidistant from both locations. The raw water from this bore field has historically raised levels of salinity and nitrates.

Water is stored at the 11-mile water transfer station (390 kilolitres) and is gas chlorinated prior to being pumped to storage facilities located at town and the mine site.

The town reticulation network includes a 3 million litre buffer tank which provides holding capacity and distribution head pressure. There are two reverse osmosis (RO) units located at the dry mess facility and the town medical centre to deliver higher quality water.

Drinking water supplied by BHP complies with the health-related criteria, as outlined in version 3.7 of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

1.3 Number of Drinking Water Sampling Points

Table 2 provides the number of drinking water sample points maintained. Source water sample points are included in the monitoring program to provide data relating to changes in chemistry and microbiology of pre-treatment water. As these points are not indicative of the quality of drinking water provided for consumption, only consumer or distribution sample point information is collated in this quarterly report.

Table 2 Drinking Water Sampling Points

Region	Consumer / Distribution Points	Source Water Points (11 mile)
Leinster Township	6 ¹	1

¹ From Q4 2025, Leinster Airport samples will be included in the Leinster Site Quarterly Report.

2. Performance Summary

Table 3 below provides the number of microbiological water samples completed throughout quarter one. The required number assessed, number within compliance and any variance within the sampling quota.

Table 3 Drinking Water Sampling Performance Summary

Microbiological Quality ²	No. assessed	No. compliant	Variance
<i>Thermotolerant coliforms / E. coli</i>	18	18	0
<i>Amoeba (Thermophilic Naegleria)</i>	18	18	0
Chemical Quality	No. assessed	No. compliant	Variance
<i>Chemical - Health</i>	72	70	2
<i>Chemical - Aesthetic</i>	83	79	4
<i>Radiological</i>	2	2	0

3. Microbial Performance

Microbiological verification sampling is completed routinely at identified drinking water sample points which are chosen to be representative of distributed water. The aim of verification sampling is to confirm the water quality supplied to Leinster Town is safe and aesthetically acceptable. To ensure confidence in the reported results, all microbiological analyses are undertaken by a NATA accredited laboratory.

Microbiological results are reported by exception, and the Department of Health Western Australia (DoH) is notified of the exception as required by the specific alert level notification requirements listed in the DoH Binding Protocol.

Table 4 below provides a summary of microbiological compliance, including samples that require DoH notification and remedial actions.

Table 4 Microbiological - Compliance

Region/ Scheme/Zone	Date	Microbiological Characteristic	Alert Level	Remedial Actions	Date DOH notified	Close out date
There were no reportable events during the reporting period						

² Microbiological results from location SP2 11 Mil transfer station were not included in the total tally as this is considered a source supply point.

4. Chemical - Health Related Performance

Water chemistry samples are completed routinely at locations and frequencies specified in the Site Water Quality Verification Monitoring Program developed using a risk-based approach following completion of the site-specific drinking water quality risk assessment. The aim of verification sampling is to ensure that the water quality delivered to Leinster Town is of acceptable quality. Verification samples are analysed by a NATA accredited laboratory with the exception of free chlorine readings which are undertaken by technicians on-site using handheld instruments.

Chemistry results that have the potential to affect human health and have health related guidelines in Table 10.6 of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG) 2011 (v3.8) are reported by exception to the West Australian Department of Health (DoH). Table 5 depicts health related chemical performance for October to December 2025.

Table 5 Leinster Township Distribution Water Chemical Health Performance

Health Characteristic	Units	ADWG Guideline	Maximum Recorded Value	No of Analyses	Analyses Complying	Variance
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	mg/L	0.02	<0.0002	1	1	0
2,4-Dichlorophenol	mg/L	0.2	<0.0002	1	1	0
2-chlorophenol	mg/L	0.3	<0.0001	1	1	0
Antimony	mg/L	0.003	<0.001	1	1	0
Arsenic	mg/L	0.01	<0.001	1	1	0
Barium	mg/L	2	0.027	1	1	0
Benzene	mg/L	0.001	<0.001	1	1	0
Beryllium	mg/L	0.06	<0.001	1	1	0
Boron	mg/L	4	0.64	1	1	0
Bromodichloromethane	mg/L	0.25	0.011	1	1	0
Bromoform	mg/L	0.25	0.074	1	1	0
Cadmium	mg/L	0.002	<0.0001	1	1	0
Chloroacetic Acid	mg/L	0.15	<0.001	1	1	0
Chloroform	mg/L	0.25	0.006	1	1	0
Chromium	mg/L	0.05	0.003	1	1	0
Copper	mg/L	2	0.004	1	1	0
Cyanide	mg/L	0.08	<0.004	1	1	0
Dibromochloromethane	mg/L	0.25	0.036	1	1	0
Dichloroacetic Acid	mg/L	0.1	<0.001	1	1	0
Ethylbenzene	mg/L	0.3	<0.002	1	1	0
Fluoride	mg/L	1.5	0.5	1	1	0
Free Chlorine	mg/L	5 ³	3.3	25	25	0
Iodide	mg/L	0.5	<0.05	1	1	0
Lead	mg/L	0.01	<0.001	1	1	0
Manganese	mg/L	0.5	<0.001	1	1	0
Mercury	mg/L	0.001	<0.0001	1	1	0
Molybdenum	mg/L	0.05	0.012	1	1	0
Nickel	mg/L	0.02	<0.001	1	1	0
Nitrate as NO ₃	mg/L	11.29	78.8	13	7	6
Nitrite as N	mg/L	0.68	<0.01	1	1	0
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	mg/L	0.00007	<0.0000005	1	1	0
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	mg/L	0.00007	<0.0000002	1	1	0

³ As total chlorine is not tested; the free chlorine result is measured against the ADWG health-related guideline value for total chlorine within Table 5

Table 5 Continued

Health Characteristic	Units	ADWG Guideline	Maximum Recorded Value	No of Analyses	Analyses Complying	Variance
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	mg/L	0.00056	<0.0000005	1	1	0
Reactive Silica as Silicon	mg/L	100	36.6	1	1	0
Selenium	mg/L	0.01	<0.004	1	1	0
Silver	mg/L	0.1	<0.001	1	1	0
Toluene	mg/L	0.8	<0.002	1	1	0
Total Trihalomethanes	mg/L	0.25	0.127	1	1	0
Xylene	mg/L	0.6	<0.002	1	1	0
Trichloroacetaldehyde (chloral hydrate)	mg/L	0.1	<0.001	1	1	0
Trichloroacetic Acid	mg/L	0.1	<0.001	1	1	0
Uranium	mg/L	0.02	0.003	1	1	0

4.1 Chemical - Health Related - Exception Notification

Table 6 below provides a summary of chemical health compliance, including samples that require DoH notification and remedial actions. A reporting exemption is in place for Leinster Township since July 2025.

Table 6 Leinster Township Distribution Water Chemical Health Compliance

Region/ Scheme/Zone	Date	Chemical Characteristic	Result (mg/L)	Alert Level	P	Date DOH notified	Close out date
Barcode: SP 16 School Drinking Fountain	16/12/25	Nitrate (as NO ₃)	5.8	50 mg/L	A community communication plan is in place for new residence, additional to provision of RO treated water available for the public, which can be sourced at the township medical centre.	N/A	Ongoing
	18/11/25		5.31				
	21/10/25		5.89				
Barcode: SP 4 Town Potable Tank	16/12/25		71.3				
	18/11/25		74.8				
	21/10/25		78.8				
Barcode: SP 2 11 Mile Transfer Station Tap	16/12/25		69.5				
	18/11/25		75.7				
	21/10/25		77				
Barcode: SP 5	18/11/25		32.5				
	21/10/25	31.6					

5. Chemical - Aesthetic Performance

This section includes water chemistry results that do not have health guideline values but do have aesthetic guideline values in the ADWG (2011). Exceeding an aesthetic guideline value does not pose a health risk (provided no health guideline is exceeded at the same time) but can affect the palatability and how pleasing the water appears. Individual exceedances are generally not reportable to the DoH, with exception of turbidity. Table 7 depicts aesthetic related chemical performance for October to December 2025.

Table 7 Leinster Township Distribution Water Chemical Aesthetic Performance

Aesthetic Characteristic	Units	ADWG Guideline	Maximum Recorded Value	No of Analyses	No of Analyses Complying	Variance
Aluminium	mg/L	0.2	<0.01	1	1	0
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.4	<0.01	1	1	0
Ammonium as N	mg/L	0.4	<0.01	1	1	0
Chloride	mg/L	250	219	1	1	0
Colour	HU	15	1	3	3	0
Hydrogen Sulphide	Mg/L	0.05	<0.01	1	1	0
Iron	mg/L	0.3	<0.05	1	1	0
pH	pH units	6.5 - 8.5	5.86 - 7.75	25	24	1
Silica	mg/L	80	78.3	1	1	0
Sodium	mg/L	180	148	1	1	0
Sulphate	mg/L	250	111	1	1	0
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	600	898	21	12	9
Turbidity	NTU	5	3.65	21	21	0
Zinc	mg/L	3	<0.005	1	1	0

5.1 Chemical - Aesthetic Related – Incident Specific Information

Australian Drinking Water Guidelines state based on taste total dissolved solids should ideally be less than 600 mg/L to be regarded good quality for drinking. The Australian Drinking Water Guideline also state between 600 – 900mg/L is regarded as fair quality drinking water and acceptable. Highest record value for TDS in this quarter was recorded at 898 mg/L, within “fair quality water” as defined in ADWG.

Four pH results recorded for the quarter were below the lower limit of 6.5, the lowest being 5.86. Three of the four low pH results were collected from the SP 16 chilled water outlet, and one was collected from the Medical Centre RO.

6. Radiological Performance

Radiological parameters include gross alpha and gross beta levels which measure the overall radioactivity of the water. Verification samples are analysed by a NATA accredited laboratory to ensure accuracy of results.

Radiological results that are above the ADWG (2011) recommended screening levels (0.5 Bq/L for either gross alpha or gross beta) are investigated to determine the nature of the radioactivity. If further radiological analysis reveals a radiation dose exceedance, this is reported to the West Australian Department of Health (DoH). The department is notified of the exception within the required timeframe and using the

communication mode specified in the DoH Binding Protocol. Table 8 depicts the radiological performance for the quarter.

Table 8 Leinster Township Radiological Performance

Parameter	Units	ADWG Guideline	Maximum Recorded Value	No of Analyses	No of Analyses Complying	Variance
Gross Alpha	Bq/L	0.5	0.1	1	1	0
Gross Beta – 40K	Bq/L	0.5	<0.1	1	1	0

7. Planned Sample Summary

Planned drinking water quality monitoring completeness during October to December 2025 is summarised in Table 9 below.

Table 9 Leinster Township Distribution Water Planned Sample Summary

Parameter	Planned Analyses	Taken	% Compliance to Plan
Microbial	42	42	100%
Chemical	166	167	>100%
Radiological ⁴	2	2	100%

8. Planned Sample Exceptions

Table 10 Leinster Township Distribution Planned Sample Exception Summary

Table 8:				
Zone	Sample Point Description (ID)	Due Date	Characteristic	Reason for Missed Sample
Town	SP 6 Medical Centre RO	December 2025	Nitrate as NO ₃	Sample collection was missed as a result of operator error.

9. General Notes/Other News

A Water Services Licence was granted by the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) for the town of Leinster in December 2020 (commenced 16/9/2020 and expires 15/9/2045).

⁴ Radiological sampling is undertaken on a biannual basis with the next sampling to be conducted in June 2026