

Wanganui Soft Water and Bulk Water Supply Fact Sheet

A major milestone has been reached in the investigation and search for soft water plus bulk water supply. By mixing soft water sources with the existing City hard water sources the overall City can be provided with a significantly softer water supply.

WANGANUI WATER SUPPLY

Wanganui City is provided with water from underground bores which tap into a source which flows under the District called Nukumaruan aquifer. Many other aquifers exist but are not generally suitable for drinking water purposes. The Nukumaruan aquifer is shallow to the north and deepens towards the City. The water quality varies substantially.

City Water Demand

- Average Winter – 25 million litres per day
- Average Summer – 30 million litres per day

City Water Sources and Storage

- Storage (3 reservoirs) = 70 million litres
- Kaiiwi (hard water source provided since 1960's) = 34 million litres per day
- Aramoho bore and treatment plant built early 2000 = 3 million litres per day
- New water source – Abelard (soft) = 7 million litres per day
- New water source – Heloise (soft) – Under development

The new sources will provide on average 40% of the volume of water to the City on a daily basis. This mixes with existing hard sources to substantially soften the supply.

BULK WATER SUPPLY

- Bulk water supply volume can now be substantially added to.
- A major benefit in dealing with significant summer droughts.

MAJOR OPERATIONAL CHANGE FOR CITY WATER SUPPLY

- Currently the entire City operational control systems are being reprogrammed.
- The system is designed to maximise water quality and reduce risk.
- Water quality testing for commissioning will continue for one year.

COST

Construction and Investigation 2009/10 = \$2.2million budget.