



Thursday 18 May 2017

TasWater update: Treatment of unusual water taste in Oatlands

TasWater is continuing to monitor the quality of the water being supplied to Oatlands following reports from customers about taste and odour.

It has been attributed to the presence of algae in Blackman Dams, the raw water source for Oatlands. The alga produces a substance known as Methyl –Isoborneol (MIB) and Geosmin, leading to the unusual taste.

TasWater has introduced several processes to alleviate the problem and return the water to normal including regular inspections of the dams to monitor the status of the algae.

Area Manager for Regional Services, Larry Smith, says carbon dosing has been installed at the Oatlands Water Treatment Plant to alleviate the impact of the Geosmin and MIB.

“Carbon dosing rates are being slowly increased while monitoring plant performance and stability.”

While the algae in the dams remain, rigorous testing of the raw water and the towns treated supply indicates at all times the water continues to meet Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and is safe to drink.

Residents who have any question or notice ongoing evidence of taste or odour in their water supply are welcome to call TasWater on 136992.