Drinking Water Standards - summary of the proposed changes

The proposed changes to the maximum acceptable values (MAV) in the drinking water standards are detailed below. Note the tables only reflect the proposed changes to MAVs. The tables do not reflect the full list of determinands and associated MAVs.

Maximum acceptable values (MAV) for inorganic determinands of health significance

Name	Existing Standards MAV	Proposed Standards MAV	Remarks
Aluminium	No MAV listed	1 (mg/L)	WHO does not provide a guideline value (GV). The MAV is based on the WHO health-based value
Barium	0.7 (mg/L)	1.5 (mg/L)	MAV is based on WHO GV of 1.3mg/L for 60kg adult but adjusted for a 70kg adult
Boron	1.4 (mg/L)	2.4 (mg/L)	Adjusted to be the same as the revised WHO GV
Molybdenum	0.07 (mg/L)	No MAV is proposed	Removed from MAVs as WHO does not provide a GV
Nitrite, long term	0.2 (mg/L)	No MAV is proposed	WHO had a provisional MAV but have suspended this due to uncertainty about its accuracy
Perchlorate	No MAV listed	0.08 (mg/L)	Based on WHO GV but adjusted for a 70kg adult
Selenium	0.01 (mg/L)	0.04 (mg/L)	Now the same as the WHO GV
Uranium	0.02 (mg/L)	0.03 (mg/L)	Now the same as the WHO GV

Maximum acceptable values (MAV) for organic determinands of health significance

Name	Existing Standards MAV	Proposed Standards MAV	Remarks
Anatoxins - a	0.006 (mg/L)	MAV is proposed for Anatoxins as a group	Anatoxins now combined
Anatoxins – a(s)	0.001 (mg/L)	MAV is proposed for Anatoxins as a group	Anatoxins now combined
Anatoxins	No MAV listed	0.006 (m/L)	Anatoxins now combined after advice from Cawthron Institute
Atrazine	0.002 (mg/L)	0.1 (mg/L)	Based on WHO GV
Azinphos methyl	0.004 (mg/L)	0.1 (mg/L)	No WHO GV. ESR determined the MAV in 2000 and has updated their advice on the level
Cylindrospermopsins	0.001 (mg/L)	0.0008 (mg/L)	Adjusted on advice from Cawthron Institute
Homoanatoxin-a	0.002 (mg/L)	No MAV is proposed	Removed on advice from Cawthron Institute
Hydroxytrazine	No MAV listed	0.3 (mg/L)	Atrizine metabolite, based on WHO GV but adjusted for 70kg bodyweight
MCPA	0.002 (mg/L)	0.8 (mg/L)	Based on WHO GV but adjusted for 70kg bodyweight
Metalaxyl	0.1 (mg/L)	0.3 (mg/L)	No WHO GV. ESR determined the provisional MAV in 2000 and has updated their advice on the level
N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	No MAV listed	0.0001 (mg/L)	Based on WHO GV
PFHxS + PFOS	No MAV listed	0.00007 (mg/L)	No WHO GV. MAV has been adopted from the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines
PFOA	No MAV listed	0.00056 (mg/L)	No WHO GV. MAV has been adopted from the

Name	Existing Standards MAV	Proposed Standards MAV	Remarks
			Australian Drinking Water Guidelines
Sodium dichloroisocyanurate (as cyanuric acid)	No MAV listed	40 (mg/L)	Based on WHO GV
Trichloroethene	0.02 (mg/L)	0.03 (mg/L)	Based on WHO GV but adjusted for 70 kg bodyweight
1080	Long term MAV of 0.0035 (mg/L) retained	0.035 (mg/L) short term MAV	Short term MAV added

Maximum acceptable values (MAV) for radiological determinands

Name	Existing Standards MAV	Proposed Standards MAV	Remarks
Total alpha activity	0.1 (Bq/L excluding radon)	0.5 (Bq/L excluding radon)	Adjusted to be the same as the revised WHO GV
Total beta activity	0.5 (Bq/L excluding potassium-40)	1 (Bq/L excluding potassium-40)	Adjusted to be the same as the revised WHO GV