

INCIDENT: Drinking Water Fountain Found Connected to Recycled System
LOCATION: Cranbourne, Australia
SOURCE: Cranbourne Leader
DATE OF INCIDENT: 4/15/2015

A drinking water fountain at a Cranbourne school was connected to recycled water, and students drank from it for more than a year. A St Peter's College water fountain was connected to Class A recycled water following landscaping works at the school. Class A recycled water is the highest class of reclaimed water and is intended for uses such as watering gardens and the irrigation of crops grown for human consumption.

The College was not aware of any student illnesses as a result of this cross connection. Drinking the Class A recycled water may have led to a slightly increased risk of gastro. The problem was detected by a maintenance worker and the college was alerted on April 1. The fountain was immediately disconnected. A spokesman for the Department of Health said no spike in the number of gastro incidents had been reported at the school during the time the recycled water was connected.