












Physical Quality: Electrical Conductivity

ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY RANGE EC:mS/m (TDS: mg/ℓ)	DRINKING		FOOD PREPARATION 	BATHING 	LAUNDRY
	(Health) 	(Aesthetics) 			
EC:<70 mS/m (TDS: <450mg/ℓ)	No effects	Water tastes fresh	No effects	No effects	No effects
EC:70-150 (TDS: 450-1000)	Insignificant effect on sensitive groups	Water tastes good	Insignificant effect on sensitive groups	No effects	No effects
EC:150-370 (TDS:1000-2400)	Slight possibility of salt overload in sensitive groups	Water has a distinctly salty taste	Slight possibility of salt overload in sensitive groups	No effects	Insignificant corrosion
EC:370-520 (TDS:2400-3400)	Possible health risk to all individuals	Water tastes extremely salty	Possible health risk to all individuals	Impaired soap lathering	Slightly corrosive
EC:>520 (TDS>3400)	Increasing risk of dehydration	Tastes extremely salty and bitter	Increasing risk of dehydration	Impaired soap lathering	Corrosive

	Blue - Ideal		Green - Good		Yellow - Marginal
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	Red - Poor		Purple – Completely unacceptable*
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*Not to be used without treatment

DWAF (1998). Quality of domestic water supplies. Volume 1: Assessment Guide. WRC No. TT 101/98, p. 53.