



# Water Authority-Cayman

Incorporated by Law No.18 of 1982 in the Legislative Assembly of the Cayman Islands

Reference Number: FOI/99666

Mr. Alric Lindsay  
alriclindsay@gmail.com

16-DEC-2022

Dear Mr. Lindsay,

Thank you for your application dated 18-Nov-2022, received by us on 18-Nov-2022.

The Water Authority is pleased to grant your request in full. Please see details below.

*1. Number of tests for toxins or any other tests performed on water piped to residences in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.*

*2. Number of tests for toxins or any other tests performed on water piped to commercial establishments in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.*

Questions 1 and 2: The Water Authority conducts water quality monitoring at the Red Gate Water Works, Lower Valley Water Works, North Side Water Works and West End Water Works (Cayman Brac) and at sample taps located within the piped water distribution systems in Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac. Sample results are representative of the water provided to residences and commercial establishments. There are 7 daily tests performed at each of the Water Works. Annually there are also multiple tests performed overseas (See list of attachments for question 4).

*3. Number of tests for toxins or any other tests done on water in George Town Harbour in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022*

Question 3: The last Marine Water Quality testing carried in the George Town Harbour was on 18 May 2021 in response to concerns about the water quality. Samples were collected from the shore and 3 tests were performed.

4. Details of toxins or any other contaminants found in tests done in each of 1-3 above.

Question 4: Please find attached

- i) Water Authority Result Summary (2019-2022)- These results are not specific to toxins or other contaminants but provide general water quality data as monitored by the Water Authority

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- ii) Overseas Testing for 2020 (1 file) and 2021 (9 files)- These results were analyzed by the Eurofins Test America Laboratory. Results where the < sign is used are below the method detection limit; i.e., the compound was not detected. Samples with the letter J are for the results that fall between the method detection limit and the reporting limit.
  - a) WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2020
  - b) ST WWTP WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - c) ST Mental Health Facility WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - d) ST Hutland Road Facility WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - e) ST 31 Nantucket Way WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - f) Red Gate Chorine House WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - g) North Side Chlorine House WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - h) LV Chlorine House WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - i) Cayman Brac Res WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
  - j) Cayman Brac Faith Hospital WAC Piped Water Overseas Testing 2021
- iii) 3 files related to the Hog Sty Bay testing on 18 May 2021:
  - a) spread sheet titled *Hog Sty Bay Marine Sampling, Tuesday 18 May 2021*
  - b) 2003 WHO Bathing Water Guidelines- Table 4.7 Guideline Values for Microbial Quality of Recreational Waters
  - c) 2006-2007 EU Directives for Coastal waters and transitional water

## 5. Confirmation of location of water treatment plant

Question 5:

Cayman Brac (West End) Water Works- Block 95B Parcel 183

Lower Valley Water Works- Block 32B Parcel 219

North Side Water Works- Block 58A Parcel 100

Red Gate Water Works- Block 20 B Parcel 410

6. Confirmation whether effluents or any other contaminants were discharged in connection with the water treatment plant in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022

7. Details of (or report produced on) effluents or any other contaminants discharged in connection with the water treatment plant in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022

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## Questions 6-7:

The Reverse Osmosis plants that produce potable water for the Water Authority use saline water from wells. The conversion rate of RO Plants is approximately 40%, i.e., for every gallon of saline feedwater, 0.4 gallon of potable water is produced and the salt that is in the feedwater is concentrated in 0.6 gallon of rejected water. This rejected water is disposed of in deep wells.

*8. In connection with the water treatment plant, confirmation whether effluents or any other contaminants were discharged in the North Sound in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.*

*9. In connection with 8 above, frequency of discharge of effluents or any other contaminants in the North Sound in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022*

## Question 8 and 9:

The water plants do not discharge into the North Sound, rejected water from these plants is discharged in deep wells.

*10. In connection with the water treatment plant, details of (or report produced on) effluents or any other contaminants discharged in any other body of water in the Cayman Islands in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022*

## Question 10:

Based on the conversion rate of the salinity of the rejected water is 1.67 times the salinity of the feedwater.

*11. In connection with 10 above, frequency of discharge of effluents in any other body of water in the Cayman Islands in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022*

## Question 11:

This discharge that takes place in the deep wells on a continual basis when the RO plants are operational.

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*12. In connection with the water treatment plant, confirmation whether effluents or any other contaminants were discharged via culverts at any time in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.*

*13. In connection with 12 above, frequency of discharge of effluents or any other contaminants via culverts at any time in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.*

Question 12 and 13:

There is no discharge from the water treatment plants via culverts.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your request, you may ask for an Internal Review under section 33 of the Freedom of Information Act, (2021 Revision).

You have 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice to request an Internal Review by writing to the Water Authority-Cayman. In your request please include:

- a) your name, address and telephone number
- b) a copy of your application and/or the reference number assigned to your application.
- c) a copy of this letter; and
- d) if so inclined, the basis on which you are requesting a review of the decision indicated.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote your reference number in any future correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Whittaker  
Information Manager  
Water Authority-Cayman  
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