

## HOMESPRING HELPS TURN WATER INTO WINE

In the dry times plaguing farmers across Australia, one Hunter Valley Vineyard has taken a new approach to maximising their available water by installing a Homespring Central Water Purification system.

De luliis Vineyard, based in Pokolbin, is one of many in the area that tap into the Hunter Valley Wine Country Private Irrigation District, or PID. Despite receiving an annual allocation of 600,000 litres, the water is not fit for human consumption. De luliis found themselves in the situation where they had to truck in around 400,000 litres to satisfy the demands of their multi-use tourism facility.

“Essentially, the water from the PID is useful for only watering the vines,” explained Chief Winemaker, Mike de luliis. “It isn’t fit for human consumption due to the level of e-coli and algae it contains, hence having to bring in town water.”

Manufactured by Zenon using technology developed by General Electric, Homespring is imported into Australia by Nubian Water Systems. The unit can accept water with turbidity levels within 0-5 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units – or measurement of cloudiness).

In de luliis’s case, a water analysis showed that the turbidity level was 5 NTU – just within the specifications. Turbidity levels in dam water are known to vary through the course of the year, so a sandfilter (a simple swimming pool filter) was installed to eliminate much of the turbidity before the water goes into the Homespring. A further carbon filter was added to remove an algal taste that was evident in the water.

“With the Homespring, we are now able to utilise all of the water that we actually own without having to spend additional money trucking water in,” de luliis added. “This has represented a significant cost saving to us.”

The stand-alone Homespring unit costs \$4,650 + GST. As used at de luliis, inclusive of installation, pump, sandfilter and carbon filter, total cost was \$7,500 plus GST.

De luliis Vineyard’s PID allocation costs \$450 per Mega Litre for the first 50%, which rises to \$800 per Mega Litre for the second 50% of allocation. Should de luliis use their entire allocation of 0.6ML, it would cost them \$270 plus GST.

The 0.4ML of town water as purchased last vintage cost \$2,500 + GST, including transport.

### **ABOUT THE HOMESPRING CENTRAL WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM:**

The HomeSpring Central Water Purifier is a compact, chemical-free, point of entry system, providing purified water from every tap. Homespring complies with Australian Standards AS/NZS 4348, and is certified to remove harmful substances such as bacteria, viruses, cysts and parasites such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium and for Chlorine and Turbidity Reduction. The system was designed to be used in domestic homes but has found applications in dairy farms, mining industries, and many residential applications with alternative water supplies. Homespring Water Purifiers played critical roles in the Asian Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina humanitarian crises.

### **MORE INFORMATION:**

Frances Zaballa  
Nubian Water Systems  
Phone: 1800 NUBIAN (1800 682 426)  
Web: [www.nubian.com.au](http://www.nubian.com.au)  
Email: [fzaballa@nubian.com.au](mailto:fzaballa@nubian.com.au)