

Regulation on Environmental Pollution Control

1. CHAPTER

Sphere of validity.

- 1.1 This regulation encompasses all pollution pertaining to the outer environment, as well as to all activities and enterprises, which may emit such pollution. Exempt are activities and enterprises, which exclusively are subject to the Act of Law concerning pollution prevention of the seas nr. 32/1986, rules on prevention of oil contamination of the seas nr. 8/1971, rules concerning prevention of oil pollution of the seas at oil depots nr. 560/1982, regulation concerning safety measures taken against ionic radiation nr. 356/1986, and the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

2. CHAPTER

Definitions

- 2.1. *Outer environment* is defined as being all land, water, and air, outdoors, and outside workplaces.
- 2.2. *Effluent water discharge* denotes water, which is channelled into water discharge systems. *Effluent water discharge* may be sewage, drain water, water originating in central heating systems etc.
- 2.3. *A water discharge system* (sewer) is defined as being open or closed channels, used to transport effluent water discharge, and into rivers, lakes, sea, or earth. Equipment for processing effluent water discharge is part of the water discharge system.
- 2.4. *Drain water* is defined as being rainwater and meltwater, which streams into drains from huseroofs, streets, pavements, and other dense surfaces.
- 2.5. *Sewage* is denoted as being domestic sewage and industrial sewage or a combination of the two. Domestic sewage is discharge water from homes, offices, restaurants, schools and the like. Industrial sewage is discharge water from industrial- and production activities.

- 2.6. *Crude refinement* denotes the removal of solid objects from the discharge water by means of sifting or other equipment, to inhibit observable pollution. The size of sifting frames shall not be more than 20 mm.
- 2.7. *A drain channel* is defined being a punctured pipe, which is placed in the earth, to disperse the effluent water discharge into the soil.
- 2.8. *Seepwater* is denoted as polluted water, originating in whatever activity, and is not channelled into a water discharge system. Also included is water, which seeps from waste or through it.
- 2.9. *One personal unit* is termed as being those biological substances and (nutritional) minerals which one person discharges on average in 24 hours, or the equivalent.
- 2.10. *The majority of waste is defined in the following manner:*
- 2.10.1. *General waste* (consumption waste).
Refuse, garbage, and wrapping, stemming from household.
Also waste which stems from similar activities and has similar properties.
- 2.10.2. *Production waste*
Waste originating in activities of production, commerce, and services, e.g. paper, wood, glass etc.
- 2.10.3. *Toilet waste*
All waste from dry- or water conserving toilets, not attached to effluent water discharge systems.
- 2.10.4. *Sift waste*
Discharge which accumulates due to sifting.
- 2.10.5. *Dreg*
Solid waste from discharge water, other than sift waste.
- 2.10.6. *Special waste*
Waste, which can not be processed in the same way as general waste, production waste, or toilet waste, because of volume, composition, or because it can cause serious pollution and/or danger for lifeforms. Dangerous chemical waste in accordance with annex 4 is classified as special waste.
- 2.11. *A trash bin* is a container placed in a public place for the purpose of facilitating people to throw away litter or the like.
- 2.12. *A garbage bin* is a container, where garbage is collected and then transported to, or emptied and moved to a garbage disposal centre.
- 2.13. *A disposal centre* denotes a place or facility, where waste is received and kept for longer or shorter periods.
- 2.14. *An evaluative research* denotes a extensive research or long-term measurements, usually encompassing a larger area, such as a region, city, or neighbourhood,

or a research on multifarious components of pollution, e.g. from vehicles, or pollution from other countries.

- 2.15. *An inspection measurement* denotes specific measurements, which is performed in accordance with instructions of operating permits in accordance with chapter 8, or for the purpose of examining whether regulations and standards are adhered to.
- 2.16. *A strand area* is the beach including an area of 250 metres outward from the spring-tide perimeter.
- 2.17. *A collection area* denotes the area which receives pollution and dilutes or nullifies it.
- 2.18. *A dilution area* is the part of the collection area where inspectors of this regulation agree, that pollution may exceed set standards.
- 2.19. *A specialized inspection* denotes inspection on complex chemical processes or major industry and activities. Also other inspection, which requires special technical equipment or requires specialized knowledge to perform.
- 2.20. *Minister* in this regulation is identified as the Minister of Health.
[change pending]

3. CHAPTER

Inspection and Control

- 3.1. The Local Environmental Health Commission oversees the implementation of this regulation under the direction of the Pollution Control Department of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection. If specialized inspection is required, due to the activity's size or nature, it will be taken care of by the Pollution Department of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection, in accordance with decisions laid down in this regulation.
- 3.2. The supervision encompasses air, land and water, as well as all equipment and all circumstances, which can cause pollution.
- 3.3. The supervisor shall by means of advice, instruction, and information, promote measures, towards prohibiting and/or limiting pollution.
- 3.4. The supervisor shall have unlimited access to areas and constructions, where pollution hazard exists, as well as to equipment and appliances, which can cause pollution. The supervisor shall be given all information, which he requests for researching pollution hazards.
- 3.5. *Specialized inspection work on businesses, to which the Minister grants operating permits.*
 - 3.5.1. Businesses listed in Annex 7 are subject to specialized inspection and are divided into 4 categories as noted in annex 8. Inspection of general elements of pollution is still, as before, the responsibility of Local Environmental Health Commission.

3.5.2. Specialized inspection of activities, which is listed in annex 8 shall be as following:

Category	Remission from first inspection	Frequency of expert inspection and limited measurments	Major measurements
1.	6 months	Annually	every 3rd year
2.	6 months	Every 3rd year	every 6th year
3.	1 year	Every 5th year	every 10th year
4.	1 year	Every 5th year	never

3.5.3. Should the inspection render such results that provisions of the operating permits are not being maintained, or if certified complaints are frequent due to the activities, a business may be moved up one category.

If no certified complaints are received and if the inspection shows no environmental problems, the business can be moved down one category.

3.6. Businesses listed in annexes 8 and 9 pay a yearly inspections fee, which the Minister confirms after recommendations from the governing board of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection concerning annex 8 and the relevant regional commission on environmental health control concerning annex 9. The fee shall cover inspection costs.

Should inspection indicate that substantial environmental problems exist, the inspecting authority can demand an evaluative research at the expense of the business in question. Disputes over the necessity of such a research and/or expenses may be appealed to the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection if the Municipal Environmental Health Protection supervisor is party to the dispute, and to the Minister if a compromise can not be found. If the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection is party to the dispute the case may be forwarded to the Minister.

3.7. With a special agreement with the pertinent Environmental Health Commissions, which the Minister confirms, the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection can undertake other inspection than specialized in specific inspection areas on businesses listed in annex 9.

In the same manner the municipal health supervisors can undertake specialized inspection of the businesses listed in annex 8.

4. CHAPTER

Protection against water pollution

- 4.1. The owner of a water discharge system shall dispose of discharge water in such a manner that it does not put the public's health at risk, minimize imbalancing effects on the ecosystem and environment and in other respects in accordance with the provisions of this regulation.
- 4.2. *New and improved water discharge systems*
 - 4.2.1. The Local Environmental Health Commission grants approval for new and improved water discharge systems.
 - 4.2.2. The municipal authority shall submit a plan for new and improved water discharge systems to The Local Environmental Health Commission.
 - 4.2.3. In a plan the following information should, among other, be included:
 1. The area from which the discharge water is channelled and to what extent the discharge system substitutes older discharge systems.
 2. The expected volume of discharge water, on one hand from residential areas, and on the other hand from industrial areas, as well as what types of industry.
 3. Proposed cleansing of the discharge water, including special cleansing of industrial discharge water.
 4. Proposed collection area of the discharge water and proposed method of channelling into the collection area.
 5. Expected impact on the collection area due to the discharge water.
 6. Proposed treatment of silt waste and dreg from cleansing installations and proposed location for disposal collection.
 7. The estimated time, when the discharge system will be taken into use.
 - 4.2.4. The Local Environmental Health Commission shall obtain comments from and work closely with the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection, before approval is granted for discharge systems emitting more pollutants than equal 100 personal units into freshwater, or 1000 personal units into the sea. If discharge from two or more discharge systems is directed into the collection area from the same dilution area, it is considered being a single discharge system.
- 4.3. *Protection against pollution in rivers and lakes.*
 - 4.3.1. Municipal and planning authorities shall during preparation of detailed- and master plans confer with the Local Environmental Health

Commission, the Nature Conservation Council and the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection categorize water areas in the following categories, for the protection from pollution in water.

Category I. Areas of special significance due to their various use, ecological features, geological characteristics, or recreation.

Category II. Lakes, rivers, and streams, which can be used for drainage.

- 4.3.2. It is prohibited to channel sewage into rivers and lakes, listed in category I of article 4.3.1.
- 4.3.3. The Local Environmental Health Commission can, in the case of activities not requiring an operating permit in accordance with annex 7 grant a temporary exemption from prohibition according to 4.3.2. if unique circumstances give occasion for this and after conferring with the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection
- 4.3.4. An application for exemption from 4.3.2. along with results of research and/or calculations, which indicate the expected environmental effects shall be submitted to the Local Environmental Health Commission.
- 4.3.5. Discharge water from single apartment houses, or summer cottages, are exempt from the obligation of research, it being channelled into a septic tank and drain channel according to provisions laid down by the Local Environmental Health Commission. Only septic tanks approved by the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection may be used.
- 4.3.6. All house sewage shall be channelled via a septic tank, or other equipment which has at least equally good cleansing capabilities, before it is directed to rivers and lakes.
- 4.3.7. The capabilities of the cleansing equipment on the sewage water and dispersion in the environment shall at all times be such, that pollution in rivers and lakes outside dilution areas is within set standards, in accordance with annex 1 of this regulation.
- 4.3.8. The Minister can, at the recommendation of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection, alter standards of maximum pollution by those substances listed in annex 1, and add to or omit substances from the annex listing.

4.4. *Protection against pollution in groundwater.*

- 4.4.1. It is prohibited to pollute groundwater with discharge water and seep water.
- 4.4.2. The Local Environmental Health Commission can, in the case of activities not requiring an operating permit in accordance with annex 7,

and after conferring with the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection, in the case of larger discharge systems, grant a temporary exemption from prohibition as stated in article 4.4.1.

- 4.4.3. Applications for exemption of 4.4.1. with the results of research and/or calculations, which show expected environmental effects shall be sent to the Local Environmental Health Commission.
- 4.4.4. Discharge water from single summer cottages or apartment houses, not located on springwater areas, are exempt from obligations of research, provided it is channelled into a septic tank and drain channel according to regulations of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection and provisions laid down by the Local Environmental Health Commission.

4.5. *Protection against pollution of strand areas.*

- 4.5.1. All sewage, channelled to the sea, shall be directed at least 5 metres below average spring-tide ebb level, or 20 metres outward from the average spring-tide ebb boundary. If the sewage is mixed with water from central heating systems or rainwater in the ratio of at least 1:5, which is directed through overflow pipes it suffices to channel it below the average spring-tide ebb level.
- 4.5.2. Municipal authorities and planning authorities shall while preparing detailed- and master plans, after conferring with the Local Environmental Health Commission, Environmental protection council and the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection categorize strand areas into the following categories, for protection against sea pollution.
 - Category I. Strand areas of special significance due to their various use, ecological features, geological characteristics, or recreation.
 - Category II. Other strand areas.
- 4.5.3. It is prohibited to direct sewage into strand areas, listed in category I of article 4.5.2.
- 4.5.4. The Local Environmental Health Commission can, in the case of activities not requiring an operating permit in accordance with annex 7 grant a temporary exemption from prohibition according to 4.5.1. and 4.5.3 within, however, the limitation stated in 4.2.4.
- 4.5.5. An application for exemption from 4.5.1. and/or 4.5.3 along with results of research and/or calculations, which indicate the expected environmental effects shall be submitted to the Local Environmental Health Commission.

- 4.5.6. Sewage from single apartment houses, or summer cottages, are exempt from the obligation of research, it being channelled into a septic tank and drain channel according to regulations set by the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection and to provisions laid down by the Local Environmental Health Commission.
- 4.5.7. All sewage shall undergo crude refinement before being channelled to the sea.
- 4.5.8. The Local Environmental Health Commission can, in the case of activities not requiring an operating permit in accordance with annex 7 grant a temporary exemption from provisions of article 4.5.7. if unique circumstances give the occasion for this and after conferring with the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection, though with the limitations laid down in article 4.2.4.
- 4.5.9. Pollution of fecal bacteria in shore-sea outside of the dilution area shall be below set standards, in accordance with annex 2 of this regulation.
- 4.5.10. The Minister adds to annex 2 further standards for maximum pollution of shore areas, at the recommendation of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection confers with the State Navigational Institute during preparation of proposals.

4.6. *Water Research*

- 4.6.1. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection conducts specialized inspection, unless otherwise noted in article 3.7. and plans for and supervises evaluative research on water pollution.
- 4.6.2. The Local Environmental Health Commission conducts, or sees to it that an evaluative research is carried out on discharge water and on the collection area.

4.7. *Existing discharge systems*

- 4.7.1. The municipal authority sends information to the Local Environmental Health Commission concerning the existing discharge system of the municipality and private discharge systems, carrying more pollution substances than listed in 4.2.4.
- 4.7.2. The information shall include:

1. Where and by what means discharge water is channelled into the environment.
 2. The volume of discharge water from residential areas and industrial areas, as well as what kind of industry it is, that directs its discharge water into the discharge system.
 3. The cleansing of discharge water, including special cleansing of water from industry.
 4. The handling and disposal of sift waste and dreg from the cleansing equipment.
 5. Distribution of bacterial pollution in the collection area.
- 4.7.3. If through a discharge system more pollution substances are directed than listed in 4.2.4. the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection, having received opinions from expert parties, evaluates pollution in light of the abovementioned information and submits a report on the findings to the pertinent Local Environmental Health Commission and Municipal Authority.
- 4.7.4. If the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection concludes after having received the opinions of the reviewers that improvements are necessary, the Centre shall seek the suggestions of the Municipal Authority concerning improvements, where listed is the rationale and operations schedule.

5. CHAPTER

Protection against atmospheric pollution

- 5.1. Atmospheric pollution due to substances listed in annex 3, included with this regulation, shall outside a dilution area, be under the set standards listed.
- 5.2. The Minister can, having received proposals from The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, omit or add chemicals listed in annex 3. The Minister can also, at the suggestions of the The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, alter set standards on maximum atmospheric pollution in accordance with annex 3.
- 5.3. The Local Environmental Health Commission can limit traffic and other activities in specific areas for shorter time periods, if the risk exists of pollution exceeding standards set in article 5.1. Also if inconveniences exist due to other substances, than those listed in annex 3.
- 5.4. The Local Environmental Health Commission can, in the case of businesses not subject to having an operating permit in accordance with annex 7, establish regulations on combustion which can harm the environment, cause fumes or smoke which inconveniences.

- 5.5. Distribution of emission in the environment and the efficiency of the cleansing equipment shall at all times be such that pollution is within set standards in accordance with 5.1
- 5.5.1. House owners shall ensure, that smoke from heating equipment, e.t.c. does not cause inconveniences to the neighbouring area.
- 5.5.2. The owners of motorized vehicles as defined by traffic law shall ensure, that the engine equipment is thus tuned, that it does not emit unnecessary smoke or soot.
- Pollution from automobiles shall be within set standards in accordance with annex 6. When vehicles are inspected, emission shall be tested and if it proves to be above the set standards in accordance with annex 6, corrections thereon shall be demanded.
- 5.5.3. Curators of businesses and institutions shall ensure that smoke, dust and dangerous or offensive smelling gases do not cause inconveniences in the neighbouring environment.

[5.6. Is missing from the original Icelandic version]

5.7. *Atmospheric research*

- 5.7.1. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, Radiation, and Environmental Protection conducts specialized inspection, unless otherwise noted in article 3.7. and plans for and supervises evaluative research on air quality.
- 5.7.2. The Local Environmental Health Commission conducts, or sees to it that *regular inspection measurements are done on air pollution.* The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection issues regulations on sampling methods and research.
- 5.8. Planning authorities shall when developing detailed- and master plans take into consideration research on air quality carried out in accordance with this regulation, as well as the opinion of the inspection parties, also in accordance with planning regulation nr. 318/1985

6. CHAPTER

Protection against waste pollution.

6.1. *The handling of waste*

- 6.1.1. It is prohibited to leave, transport or keep waste in such a manner, that it can cause harm or spoil the environment. This denotes equally both larger and smaller objects, e.g. automobile structures, ships' hulls, e.t.c.
- 6.1.2. The curators of shops, petrol stations, convenience stores, clubs, holiday camps, camping grounds, e.t.c., in conjunction with the Local

Environmental Health Commission are responsible for placing an ample amount of trash bins, and see to their maintenance and emptying. The curators are also responsible for the necessary cleaning in the proximate area.

- 6.1.3. The municipal authority as well as the authorities of public country parks, conservation areas, and national parks shall after consultation with the local environmental Health Commission place trash bins on tourist spots and other places, where a gathering of people can be expected and see to that their maintenance and emptying, as long as it is not the responsibility of another party in accordance with 6.1.2.
- 6.1.4. The municipal authority shall tend to the emptying of garbage bins and to the transport of garbage. The municipal authority can, after consulting with with the Local Environmental Health Commission, decide to sort garbage equally in homes as in workplaces and the like, and at a disposal centre.
- 6.1.5. Those parties, generating industrial waste and special waste, are responsible for all handling and transport of the waste. The Municipal Authority can, after consulting with the Local Environmental Health Commission, decide to have the waste sorted.
- 6.1.6. The portion of special waste, which is considered dangerous according to annex 4 of this regulation, can not be mixed with other waste. Specific types of dangerous waste shall be kept seperate as well, in consultation with inspecting parties and in accordance with regulations promulgated according to 6.2.7.
- 6.1.7. The operating parties of houses or areas, where toilet waste, sift waste, or dreg is generated, are responsible for all handling and transport of the waste, unless there is a special, effectual environmental Health Commission resolution stating otherwise.
- 6.1.8. The Local Environmental Health Commission can demand that, he who has violated article 6.1.1. shall clean or submit payment to those other parties that execute this task. This provision can also be exercised against those, who are responsible for emptying trash bins and garbage containers, if inefficient emptying has resulted in littering.

6.2. *The disposal of waste*

- 6.2.1. The municipal authorities provide and are responsible for the operation of a disposal centre for waste, however with reference to 6.2.6.
- 6.2.2. Garbage and industrial waste, which can not be recycled or used in another manner shall be transported to the disposal centre according to 6.2.1.

- 6.2.3. Outside urbanized areas the Local Environmental Health Commission can permit private parties to dispose of garbage which they generate, provided that circumstances allow such measure being taken in the opinion of the commission.
- 6.2.4. Means of recycling special waste shall at all times be sought. Those portions, which will not be utilized shall, other than dangerous chemical waste, be transported to disposal centres in accordance with 6.2.1., which the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection has approved for reception of such waste.
- 6.2.5. Toilet waste, sift waste and dreg, which will not be utilized shall be transported to a disposal centre which in accordance with 6.2.1. has been approved by the Local Environmental Health Commission.
- 6.2.6. *Dangerous chemical waste in accordance with annex 4 of this regulation* shall be transported to disposal centres, which the Minister approves for reception of such waste and at the advice of a workgroup according to 6.3. The Minister can, however, at the recommendation of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, grant parties exemption from this provision, in case of single substances.
- 6.2.7. The Minister issues regulations, at the recommendation of the workgroup according to 6.3., on transport, handling, disposal methods, and disposal location for the various types of hazardous waste. These regulations are promulgated as annexes with this regulation.
- 6.3. The Minister enrolls a 5 man permanent workgroup, wherein representatives are from the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, who is chairman, the Association of Local Authorities in Iceland, the Nature Conservation Council, The Directorate of Shipping, the Administration of Occupational Safety and Health. The work group makes recommendations to the Minister on the location of disposal centres in accordance with 6.2.6. as well as conditions, layout, and the operation of a disposal centre.

The workgroup also makes recommendations to the Minister on transport, handling, disposal locations, disposal methods, e.t.c. in accordance with 6.2.7.

7. CHAPTER

Protection against noise pollution.

- 7.1. Noise pollution shall be below the standards listed in annex 5 of this regulation, though with reference to article 7.4.
- 7.2. Protection against noise shall be such, that pollution is within set standards in accordance with 7.1., though with reference to 7.4. The protection against noise shall be promoted among other by the following measures:

- 7.2.1. The curators of businesses and institutions are required to do everything possible, in their power, to prevent annoyance due to noise.
 - 7.2.2. The owners of motorized vehicles shall see to, that their vehicles do not cause unnecessary noise.
 - 7.2.3. At all activities, such as building construction, excavation, road construction e.t.c. special attention shall be given to noise not being annoying.
- 7.3. In the case of noise protection being insufficient, the Local Environmental Health Commission makes recommendations to the municipal authority, e.g. regarding the limiting of traffic and/or operations in certain hours and areas. Inclusive is the limiting of traffic in certain streets in the evening, during night, or the whole day depending on circumstances, to keep noise within standards in accordance with 7.1.
- 7.4. The Local Environmental Health Commission can due to special uncontrollable circumstances and after conferring with the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection allow, that in certain delimited areas noise may exceed standards of article 7.1.
- 7.5. The Minister establishes, at the recommendation of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, regulations on methods of measuring and standards on noise from motorized vehicles, heavy machinery, and the like. The regulations are included as an annex to this regulation.
- 7.6. *Noise measurements*
 - 7.6.1. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection conducts specialized inspection, unless otherwise decided in accordance with article 3.7. and plans and supervises evaluative research on noise.
 - 7.6.2. The Local Environmental Health Commission conducts, or sees to it that regular inspection measurements are done on noise. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection issues regulations on measuring methods.
- 7.7. Planning authorities shall when developing detailed- and master plans take into consideration results of noise measurements, as well as the opinion of the inspection parties in accordance with this regulation, also in accordance with planning regulation nr. 318/1985

8. CHAPTER

Operating permits for businesses, which can cause pollution.

- 8.1. *Businesses subject to operating permits, which the Minister of Health issues.*
- 8.1.1. Businesses listed in annex 7 of this regulation may not commence operation sooner than an operating permit has been issued by the Minister in accordance with provisions of 8.2., 8.3., and 8.4. of this chapter.
- 8.1.2. Business operations may not be altered or increased in accordance with annex 7, if it can result in increased and/or different pollution, unless having obtained a new operating permit.
- 8.1.3. The Minister can, at the recommendation of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, which seeks deliberation with the pertinent Local Environmental Health Commission, add business operation types to or delete them from annexes 7 and 9.
- 8.2. *Applications for operating permits and the processing of operating permit proposals.*
- 8.2.1. Applications for operating permits shall be sent to the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection. Applicants shall pay incurred costs for the processing of the operations application according to set tariffs, which the Minister issues.
- 8.2.2. A detailed description of the operations shall be attached to the application, information concerning pollution danger and anticipated protection against pollution, a description and maps of the location, situation, constructions and the near surroundings, as well as other material, which may be of relevance.
- 8.2.3. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection shall when making operations proposals always seek comments from the Nature Conservation Council and the Local Environmental Health Commission. It shall also seek comments from the Administration of Occupational Safety and Health, The Committee on Toxic Substances, the Directorate of Shipping, and experts, as may be relevant at any time.
- 8.2.4. *Before comments from the Local Environmental Health Commission and the Nature Conservation Council are sought, an evaluation of the potential effects of pollution on the environment shall be available. It shall be conducted on behalf of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection.*

- 8.2.5. If the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection or the commenting parties consider information on pollution or its effects insufficient, it may be stipulated that investigations, measurements or research be carried out at the expense of the applicant.
- 8.2.6. In the case of a major business operation, e.g. where investment exceeds 600 million krónur as based on the building cost index of 136, April 1st 1989, a prefeasibility study for siting shall be carried out, where an evaluation on the environmental impact due to the operations is performed. The same is valid, if in a limited area a great concentration of smaller enterprises occurs and the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection is of the opinion that there is a potential danger of biological disturbances or unacceptable levels of pollution of air, on land, or in waters. Also, in the case of business investments exceeding 600 million krónur as based on the building cost index 136, before operations commence, necessary research and measurements shall be conducted on those factors of the environment that are affected the most by the operations, for later comparison. Research and evaluation on environmental disruption is at the expense of the applicant.

8.3. *The right to submit comments*

- 8.3.1. If an applicant for an operating permit considers the demands for investigations and/or research extraordinary in accordance with articles 8.2.5. and 8.2.6. he can seek the Minister's decree.
- 8.3.2. Proposals for operating permits shall be made available in the office of the pertinent municipal authority, for purposes of introduction to those parties, who are entitled to comment, in accordance with 8.3.3. An announcement to this effect shall be made in the official Gazette. The time limit for submitting comments is 6 weeks from the first day of the introduction. It is permissible to prolong the time limit up to 12 weeks, if special circumstances recommend it.
- 8.3.3. The following parties are entitled to submit comments on proposals for operating permits:
1. The applicant for an operating permit as well as those responsible for related or nearby activities and their employees.
 2. Residents of the area, where inconveniences due to pollution can be expected.
 3. Officials, societies, and others to whom the matter is concerned.
- 8.3.4. Written comments on proposals for operating permits shall be sent to the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection. The Centre investigates the matter in light of the comments,

which have appeared and reflects its opinion on them. If the parties to the case do not accept the opinion and if a compromise is unattainable, in the case of the parties involved being public inspection institutions, municipal authorities or the applicant the Minister decrees on the subject. If other parties are concerned, the case may be referred to the governing board of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection and if the parties involved do not accept the board's decision, then the case shall be submitted onward to a special decree committee in accordance with Act of Law no. 81/1988.

8.4. *Granting operating permits*

- 8.4.1. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection submits final operating permit proposals to the Ministry. The proposals shall be in full accordance with the already introduced proposals as well as in accordance with decrees and/or agreement that have resulted from submitted comments in accordance with 8.3.
- 8.4.2. Operating permits issued by the Ministry in accordance with this regulation shall be announced in the form of an announcement in the section B of the Government Gazette.
- 8.4.3. The Minister may limit an operating permit to a specific time period.

8.5. *Other businesses*

- 8.5.1. Other businesses which can cause pollution and are listed in annex 9 are subject to an operating permit issued by the Local Environmental Health Commission.
- 8.5.2. The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection issues guidelines for these activities, after deliberation with the municipalities' environmental health inspection.

9. CHAPTER

Various provisions and implementation

- 9.1. The sphere of authority, compulsive measures, proceedings, decrees and penalties is subject to provisions of the Act of Law no. 81/1988 on Environmental health.
- 9.2. Operations, which fall under annex 7 and do not hold necessary permits from the Minister, shall be put to a halt at the demand of the Minister at the proposal of the National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection. The act of putting to a halt the operation is in the hands of the pertinent Local Environmental Health Commission in accordance with article 27 of the Act of Law no. 81/1988, but the responsibility of the Minister.

- 9.3. If a party does not pay attention to instructions of the Local Environmental Health Commission within a given time period, it can impose a daily fine upon him up to 10,000 krónur daily, until the matter has been rectified.
- 9.4. To promote the collection of dangerous waste in accordance with Act of Law no. 52/1988 on poisonous substances and dangerous substances, the Minister can at the recommendation of the Committee on Toxic Substances, The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection, and the Nature Conservation Council, decide a fee on merchandise, that obviously becomes dangerous waste.
- 9.5. This regulation, which is established with refernce to article 3 of the Act of Law no: 81/1988 on Environemental Health takes effect January 1st 1990. Also, from the same time regulation no. 390/1985 on operating permits for businesses that can cause pollution is void.

Temporary provisions

1. Current business operations, listed in appendix 7 and which have not at the validation of this regulation a valid operating permit in accordance with regulation no. 390/1985, or have already applied for a permit according to that regulation, shall apply for an operating permit in accordance with article 8.5.2. The minister enrols for this purpose a workgroup, to make recommendations on limits of allowable pollution in emission and discharge water, chimney height as compared to the various circumstances, demands of equipment for protection against pollution e.t.c.

The Ministry of Health and Social Security, July 25th 1989

Guðmundur Djarnason

Ingimar Sigurdsson

Annex 1

Standards for maximum pollution in rivers and lakes

- A. *At discharge connections, where discharge water is channelled into rivers and lakes, which can be used as reception areas there should not be*
- Sediments or precipitation
 - Layers of putrefying organisms (bacteria or fungi)
 - Oil or foam
 - Garbage or other foreign material
 - Substances that cause annoying odor, colour, or dreg.

- B. *In rivers and lakes outside the dilution area the following shall be valid:*

Maximum temperature change due to discharge: 2°C
Oxygen saturation, minimum: 70% Can not reach less than 6 mg O ₂ /l 50% of the time over 9 mg O ₂ /l
Acidity, pH: 6-9 Maximum change due to discharge: 0,5
Amonia, NH ₃ : Less than 0.025 mg/l Oxygen use BOD ₅ : Maximum 4 mg O ₂ /l
HOCl: Maximum 0.004 mg/l
Oil and fats: Oil slick shall not be visible
Maximum increase of fluvial colloids due to discharge: 2mg/l

Annex 2

Standards for maximum bacterial pollution at beaches and inlets stemming from sewage outlets

1. The number of fecal bacteria, E-coli bacteria, or streptococci, shall be outside the dilution area in at least 90% of cases under 1000 per 100 ml. with a minimum of 10 separate samples.
2. Where recreation areas are at beaches, or food processing in the vicinity, the number of fecal bacteria outside the dilution area, E-coli bacteria or streptococci, shall be less than 100 per 100 ml in at least 90% cases with a minimum of 10 separate samplings.

Annex 3

Standards for maximum atmospheric pollution

Chemical / Material	Time reference	Average
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	24 hours	50 µg/m ³
	Year	30 µg/m ³
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂)	24 hours	100 µg/m ³
	Year	30 µg/m ³
Carbon monoxide (CO)	One hour	25 µg/m ³
	Eight hours	10 µg/m ³
Airborne colloids diam < 10 µm	24 hours	100 µg/m ³
	Year	40 µg/m ³
Dust, insoluble in water	Month	10 g/m ³

Higher levels are permissible in 5% cases, when the time reference is a month or less.

Annex 4

Dangerous Chemical Waste

1. Petroleum waste

Examples:

- 1.1 Lubricating oil, grease, hydraulic oil, transformer oil, diesel oil, crude oil, tar, as well as waste polluted with these types of oil.
- 1.2 Oil, e.g. from metal industries such as drill and sawing oils
- 1.3 Oil waste, resulting from tank cleaning, oil pits, harbour oil receipt, e.t.c.
- 1.4 Oil, resulting from cleaning of an oil spill, oil polluted filtering substances, which have been used e.g. for the cleansing of beaches and oil from sea, heavily oil polluted soil e.t.c.

2. Organic solvent waste

- 2.1 Solvent, which contain halogen (F, Cl, Br, I).

Examples:

- Methylenechloride (dichlormethan)
- Methylenechloroform (1,1,1,-trichlorethan)
- Trichlorethylen.
- Perchlorethylen

- 2.2 Solvents, which do not contain halogen.

Examples:

- Industrial gasoline
- lacknaphta (white spirit e.t.c.)
- toluen
- xylen
- terpentine
- methanol
- isopropanol
- butanol
- acetone

- methylethylketon (MEK)
 - methylisobutylketon (MIBK)
 - ethylacetat
 - butylacetat
 - glycol (ethylenglycol)
- Automobile coolant containing up to 50% glycol is not considered dangerous waste.

Other organic chemical waste

Examples:

- 3.1 Phenol, formaldehyde, isocyanides
- 3.2 Solid, liquid or semi-solid waste, e.g. distillation residuals and remains from syntese, chemical cleaning, grease cleaning centres, plastics industries, chemical industries e.t.c. which contain more than 5% organically bound sulphur or halogen.

Paint or varnish waste from paint production industries, spraybooths, and paintcontractors

- 4.1. Liquid and dustbased waste.
- 4.2. Solid and semi-solid di- or polymeric paint and varnish residuals, where one part is in excess.
- 4.3. Solid and semi-solid paint and varnish residuals, which contain antimon, lead, cadmium, cobolt, copper, chrome, manganese, tin, or a combination of the abovementioned metals.

Glue residuals from factories, contractors, and garages.

Examples:

- 5.1. All liquid glue residuals except monomeric glue, which does not contain organic solvents.
- 5.2. Solid and semi-solid di- and polymeric glue residuals, where one part is in excess.
- 5.3. Solid and semi-solid glue residuals, which contain phenol or organic halogen compounds.

Lye and acids

If the pH value is outside the range 2 - 11.5.

Examples of acids:

hydrochloric acid
nitric acid
phosphoric acid
sulfuric acid
acetic acid

Examples of lye:

sodium hydroxide (caustic soda)
potassium hydroxide (potassium lye)

Waste containing cadmium or mercury

Examples:

- 7.1. Batteries, which contain more than 0.025% mercury or cadmium.
- 7.2. Uncleaned packaging, which contains cadmium compounds, mercury or mercury compounds.
- 7.3. Metal compounds, which contain cadmium.
- 7.4. Dust and dreg, which contains cadmium from cleaning equipment in industry
- 7.5. Equipment and objects, which contain mercury, such as automatic switches, temperature gauges, pressure gauges e.t.c.
- 7.6. Waste from dentists' offices and the like, which contains mercury.
- 7.7. Aiding chemical substances e.t.c. which contain cadmium

Waste which contains antimon, arsenic, beryllium, silver, selenium, cobolt, chrome, copper, lead, manganese, nickel, zink, thallium, or vanadium.

Examples:

- 8.1. Waste stemming from surface treatment of metals, e.g. zinkcoating.
- 8.2. Waste from printing- or film developing establishments.

- 8.3. Catalysts from industry, dust and dreg from cleansing equipment, which contains the abovementioned metals.
- 8.4. Battery acids and other waste from lead based batteries.
- 8.5. Waste, which contains chrome from tanneries.

Waste, containing cyanide

Waste containing PCB

Example:

- 10.1. Insulating and coolant liquids, transformer- and condenser oil (Askeral).

Various poisonous chemical waste

Examples:

- 11.1. Fungi poison, weed poison, insecticide, preservatives, disinfectants and wood preservatives.
- 11.2. Uncleaned containers, which contain poisonous substances.

Asbestos dust

Example:

- 12.1. Dust from cleaning equipment of emission from cutting and grinding brake lining.

Chemical waste from laboratories, drug manufacturers, chemists (drug stores), hospitals, e.t.c.

ING: It is prohibited to transport bacterial waste do disposal centres, it shall be specially disposed of.

Annex 5

Standards for maximum noise measures as A-weighted equi-value noise (dB_(A)Leq) from traffic, bussinesses, and other activities.

	Week days 07-18 hrs	Evening 18-23 hrs	Night 23-07 hrs and weekends
ial areas	70	70	70
area (commercial, i, light industry, tial)	55	50	40
tial (fully)	50	45	35
r cottages	40	35	

ements shall be conducted in approximately 1,5 metres above ground, at least 3,5 from walls or other objects that reverberate sound. Wind speed shall not exceed more n/sek.

ase of a prevailing tone or a systematic noisepeak, all abovelisted values shall be l by 5 dB_(A)Leq.

Annex 6

Maximum permissible pollutants in automobile emission

1. The following standards shall apply for emission from automobiles of a 1992 make, and automobiles which are imported from 1.1.1992

The reference is USA-75 tests

Carbonmonoxide	CO	2.1 g/km
Carbohydrate	CH	0.25 g/km
Nitrogenoxide	NO _x	0.62 g/km
Dust		0.124 g/km
Gasoline vapours		2.0 g/test

2. The following standards shall apply for emission from automobiles from 1.1.1990 and onwards

The reference is USA-73 tests

Carbonmonoxide	CO	24.2 g/km
Carbohydrate	CH	2.1 g/km
Nitrogenoxide	NO _x	1.9 g/km

Annex 7

Business operations, subject to the Minister's of Health issuance of an operating permit.

- 1 Fishmeal factories
- 2 Aluminum production
- 3 Fertilizer production
- 4 Cement- and lime production
- 5 Silicium iron production
- 6 Silicium metal production
- 7 Silicium production
- 8 Cellulose- and paper production
- 9 Iron and steel production
- 10 Zink- and chrome coating of metals
- 11 Glasswool and rockwool production
- 12 Tanneries
- 13 Woolwashing establishments
- 14 Sea and freshwater animal farming
- 15 Handling and disposal of dangerous waste
- 16 Dumps and garbage incinerators
- 17 Garbage receival, compression or other handling, compost, e.t.c.
- 18 Glue and paintware production
- 19 Hygiene products factories
- 20 Plastics industries
- 21 Oil and asphalt centres
- 22 The production of meal or fats from butcheries' waste
- 23 Gasoline and oil supply stations and service stations with a greater than 100 m³ storage capacity
- 24 Gas supply stations with a greater than 100 m³ storage capacity (STP)
- 25 Liver boiler houses
- 26 Fats hydrogenating

Annex 8

The categorization of business requiring operating permits and are subject to the direct inspection of The National Centre for Hygiene, Food Control, and Environmental Protection.

Category 1.

Aluminum production.
The production of manufactured fertilizer.
Cement and lime production.
Silicum ferric production (SiFe).
Silicum metal production (Si).
Cellulose- and paper production.
Iron and steel production.
Glasswool and rockwool production.
Fish farms, if the production exceeds more than 1000 tons annually and discharges is into the sea, or if the production exceeds 100 tons annually and discharge is into freshwater.
Receival centres, garbage dumps and incineration, if they service a population of more than 50,000.

Category 2.

Fish meal factories, if their production capacity exceeds more than 500 tons per day and are located in urbanized areas.
Fish farms, if their production capacity exceeds more than 200 tons annually and discharge is into the sea, or if the production exceeds 20 tons and discharge is into freshwater.
Fry farms containing an excess of 350,000 fry and discharge is into freshwater
Receival centres, garbage dumps and incinerators, if they service a population of more than 10,000.

Category 3.

Fish meal factories, if their production exceeds more than 500 tons a day and are located in a rural area. Also smaller plants located in urbanized areas.
Surface processing of iron, steel, and other metals.
Tanneries.
Oilgravel and asphalt centres.
Fish farms, if the production capacity exceeds 100 tons annually and discharge is into the sea; or more than 10 tons and discharge is into freshwater.
Fry farms containing more than 150,000 fry and discharge is into freshwater.
Garbage receival centres, garbage dumps and incinerators, servicing a population of more than 2,000.
Wool cleaning establishments
Fats hydrogenting operations
Supply- and service stations for oil and gasoline having a storage capacity in excess of 100 m³.
Gas supply stations with a storing capacity of more than 100 m³.
Liver boiler houses.
Production of meal and fats from butcheries.

Category 4.

Fry and fish farms other than listed in categories 1 through 3.
Glue and paint materials' factories.
Hygiene products factories.
Plastics production.
Oilgravel and asphalt centres with a changeable location.
Receival centres, garbage dumps and incinerators, other than listed in categories 1 through 3.

Annex 9

listing of businesses, which are subject to being granted an operating permit by the Local Environmental Health Commission.

Iron and other metal based production.

- 1.1. Metal casting
- 1.2. Steel and steel ship building
- 1.3. Planishing, cable and rod factories
- 1.4. Nail and screw production
- 1.5. Tinsmithing
- 1.6. Production of metals for electrical industries, e.g. battery factories and shops.

The production and processing of lime, clay, rock, and similiar earth materials

- 2.1. Rock grinding and the production of roadgravel and gravel
- 2.2. Stone masonry.
- 2.3. Cement plants and cement wall factories.
- 2.4. Pottery factories

Chemical industry

- 3.1. Businesses storing chloride gas
- 3.2. Lacquer/Varnish spraying
- 3.3. Printing houses
- 3.4. Dry-cleaners
- 3.5. Drug and cosmetics production
- 3.6. Photographic and film processing
- 3.7. Bottling and packaging of various chemical compounds
- 3.8. The production of additives and auxiliary agents for food processing

Production and processing of substances of plant and animal origin.

- 4.1. Feed plants.
- 4.2. Feed blending.
- 4.3. Production of rubber based products.
- 4.4. Woodworks (cabinet works).
- 4.5. Saw mills.
- 4.6. Wood preserving.
- 4.7. Production of veneer wood, composite wood, and the like.
- 4.8. Paper and cardboardbox production.
- 4.9. Leather processing
- 4.10. Textile and jenny factories
- 4.11. Dyeing and bleaching

Food processing

- 5.1. Butchery
- 5.2. Meat processing
- 5.3. Canning factories
- 5.4. Smokehouses and smokeovens
- 5.5. Fish and other sea-food processing.
- 5.6. The production of prepared foods
- 5.7. Oven-drying of sea-food.
- 5.8. Dairy centres
- 5.9. Milkpowder production
- 5.10. Ale, softdrink, and soft beverage production
- 5.11. Coffee roasting
- 5.12. Margarine production
- 5.13. Potato processing
- 5.14. Production of potato flour and starch
- 5.15. One frying factories
- 5.16. Suet melting and lard production

- 5.17. Handling, mixing and grain milling.
 - 5.18. Refrigeration and freezing storehouses.

 - 6. Livestock farming
 - 6.1. Mink farms
 - 6.2. Fox farms
 - 6.3. Poultry (chicken) farms
 - 6.4. Pig farms
 - 6.5. Rabbitt farming
 - 6.6. Horse farming
 - 6.7. Veterinary hospitals
 - 6.8. Dog and cat pounds
 - 6.9. Pet shops

 - 7. Activities concerned with motorizes vehicles.
 - 7.1. Racing, practice, and education ranges
 - 7.2. Airports and airfields
 - 7.3. Automobile garages
 - 7.4. Rust proofing garages
 - 7.5. Greasing garages
 - 7.6. Automotive service stations
 - 7.7. Freight transport centres
 - 7.8. Taxi stops
 - 7.9. Bus stops and bus centres

 - 8. Miscellaneous
 - 8.1. Large transformer stations
 - 8.2. Large freight storage houses.
 - 8.3. Crematoria
 - 8.4. Shooting ranges
 - 8.5. Amusement parks, tivoli's circuses and the like.
 - 8.6. Fire department practice ranges
 - 8.7. Sewage treatment centres
 - 8.8. Laundry houses
-

Translated from Icelandic
by Magnús Bjarni Baldursson, BSc.,MA,