

# REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SOLID NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE

## Article 1

The terms used in these Regulations shall have the following meanings:

1. **The Minister**

The Minister of Regional Municipalities and Environment.

2. **The Ministry**

The Ministry of Regional Municipalities and Environment.

3. **Concerned Authority**

The Authority responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of the collection and disposal of solid non-hazardous waste.

4. **Solid Non-hazardous Waste**

Any solid material or semi solid which does not have any danger to the environment or to the human health, if it is dealt with in a safe scientific way, they are:

- Household waste
- Solid materials or semi solid discarded or produced from residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural and other activities.
- Construction and demolition debris.
- Metal scrap including discarded motor vehicles.
- Dewatered sludge from domestic, industrial or agricultural wastewater treatment always providing that such sludge contains no toxic constituents in concentrations in excess of those acceptable within the terms of the wastewater regulations.
- Slag and ashes from incineration processes always provided that these materials have an available toxic content within the criteria applied to the characterisation of dewatered sludge from wastewater treatment.

5. **Household Waste**

The solid non-hazardous materials generated from domestic activities.

**6. Treatment of Solid Non-hazardous Waste**

Any natural, physical, chemical or biological process applied to solid non-hazardous waste which changes its properties in any way that prevents or reduces its adverse effects on the environment or renders it more suitable for re-use, in part or in whole.

**7. Treatment Facility**

Any sites established for the treatment of solid non-hazardous waste.

**8. Sanitary Landfill**

The site licenced by the Ministry for the disposal of non-hazardous solid waste.

**9. Recycling**

The selective, controlled and beneficial separation of specific components of solid non-hazardous waste at or after the point of its generation.

**10. Dumping Sites**

The sites used for the uncontrolled dumping of waste.

**Article (2)**

Occupants of premises used for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural or other purposes shall store and dispose solid non-hazardous waste in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations and the decision of the Concerned Authority to this effect, such that there is no nuisance or hazard to the public health.

**Article 3**

The Concerned Authority shall establish a suitable system for the collection, storage and transport of all solid non-hazardous waste arising within its specialized area towards all residential complexes, other than residential complexes of less than 500 inhabitants which can be excluded by a decision from the Minister, provided that no nuisance or hazard to the public health is risked thereby.

**Article 4**

Occupants or users of residential sites shall deliver all the waste produced from the use of this site to the system established for the collection of such waste.

**Article 5**

The user of commercial, industrial, agricultural or any other sites who produce solid non-hazardous waste except domestic waste, shall collect these waste and transport it in a safe manner to a site designated by the Concerned Authority for this purpose, unless this Authority decides else Article 4 is followed.

**Article 6**

In areas where collection systems have been established the Concerned Authority shall provide the necessary number of waste containers and points shall be allocated for the collection of this waste. It is not permitted for any person to dispose of solid non-hazardous waste in places other than these places.

**Article 7**

The Ministry, according to an application, shall issue a licence for establishing solid non-hazardous waste treatment facilities and sanitary landfills.

**Article 8**

The Concerned Authority shall investigate that waste treatment facilities and sanitary landfill sites are designed, established and operated in a proper manner to ensure the environmental protection.

**Article 9**

The Concerned Authority has the right for that to get assistance of others to carry out feasibility studies to see the possibility of re-use of the components of solid non-hazardous waste.

**Article 10**

Operators of solid non-hazardous waste treatment facilities and sanitary landfills shall keep such records of daily operation as may be directed by the Ministry. These records shall be subject to the Ministry control in accordance with the conditions laid down in the licence.

**Article 11**

The Concerned Authority shall ensure that treatment and disposal of solid non-hazardous waste within its area of responsibility are carried out without creating any health or environmental hazard.

**Article 12**

The Concerned Authority shall register all existing systems of solid non-hazardous waste management, all sanitary landfills and dumping sites within its area

of responsibility whether or not they are operational. The registration shall be carried out in accordance with the relevant Order issued by the Minister. The Concerned Authority shall submit their registration to the Ministry within one year from the date when these Regulations come into force.

#### **Article 13**

No solid non-hazardous waste should be mixed with any category of hazardous waste at any time.

#### **Article 14**

The Concerned Authority shall prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for each sanitary landfill or dumping site as designated by the Ministry.

The Environmental Impact Statement shall be produced taking into account the "Guidelines for Location, Design, and Operation of Sanitary Landfills for Solid Non-hazardous Waste" as mentioned in the permit.

And if it deemed to the Concerned Authority that any sanitary landfill or dumping site is not suitable it shall inform the Ministry to prepare an Immediate Improvements Plan for the upgrading of the site. In case it was not possible the site shall be closed.

The Concerned Authority should apply to the Ministry for obtaining licence for sites which are to continue operation in accordance with the Immediate Improvements Plan.

In case of closing any sanitary landfill or dumping sites necessary measures shall be taken to restore the sites to a state of environmental acceptability and not polluting it.

The requirements of the Immediate Improvements Plan shall be completed within two years of the date of its approval.

#### **Article 15**

The Concerned Authority shall prepare a comprehensive Master Plan for the collection, storage, transport, treatment and disposal of solid non-hazardous waste to cover a 15-year period.

The Master Plan shall be summarised in a standard format issued by a Ministerial Decision and the Plan may be amended as necessary.

#### **Article 16**

The Master Plan and its Summary shall be submitted to the Ministry within three years from the date when these Regulations come into force.

The Ministry shall evaluate and comment on the Master Plan within six months of its submission.

The Concerned Authority shall respond to the Ministry's comments within six months of their receipt.

The Ministry shall, within six months of receiving any response from the Concerned Authority, issue its approved form of the Master Plan Summary.

**Article 17**

The Concerned Authority shall review all of the Master Plans for which it is responsible every five years and shall submit Review Reports relevant to the standard summary format to the Ministry for approval.

**Article 18**

Import of solid non-hazardous waste to the Sultanate is prohibited except with the approval of the Minister.

**Article 19**

Before issuing any Permit from the Ministry, according to these Regulations, regarding all projects involving the collection, storage, handling, transport and disposal of solid non-hazardous waste, it is required to obtain the approval of the Ministry of Health.