

*This is an unofficial translation. The binding version is the official Hebrew text.*

*Readers are consequently advised to consult qualified professional counsel before making any decision in connection with the enactment, which is here presented in translation for their general information only.*

## Water Regulations (Prevention of Water Pollution) (pH Values of Industrial Sewage), 5764-2003

By virtue of the powers vested in me under Section 20D (a) (2) of the Water Law, 5719-1959 (hereinafter - The Law), and Section 10A of the Licensing of Businesses Law, 5728-1968 (hereinafter - the Licensing of Businesses Law), and after consultation with the Minister of Health and the Water Council, and with the approval of the Economics Committee of the Knesset pursuant to Section 21A (a) of the Basic Law: The Knesset, and Section 2(b) of the Penal Law, 5737-1977, I make the following regulations:

Purpose of the regulations      1.    The purpose of these regulations is to ensure proper quality of the environment and prevention of pollution of water resources, as a result of the corrosive impacts of industrial sewage, by setting their pH values.

Definitions              2    In these regulations -

"Reservoir" – a pool or reservoir of water in which sewage is collected for storage purposes;

"Sewage system" – a system used for the collection of sewage and its transport;

"Operator" – one of the following:  
(1) A holder of a business license of a plant;  
(2) A person under whose ownership, occupation, supervision or control a plant operates;

"Plant" – a business requiring licensing, as per its meaning in the Licensing of Businesses Law, in which products are processed or manufactured or services are provided, in a manner that causes the discharge of sewage;

"Water resource" – as defined in Section 20A of the Law, with the exception of streams;

"Approver" – whoever the Minister of Environmental Protection has authorized as an approver pursuant to Section 6 of the Licensing of Businesses Law;

"pH Value" – a measure of the concentration of hydrogen ions in a solution (pH);

"Wastewater" – liquid waste which is discharged from a plant to a sewage system or reservoir, except for wastewater that originates in the sanitary conveniences or in the kitchen of the plant.

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| Prohibitions | 3. | A plant shall not discharge sewage –<br>(1) Whose pH value is lower than 6.0 or higher than 10.0 – to a sewage system;<br>(2) Whose pH value is lower than 6.0 or higher than 9.0 – to a reservoir   |
| Exceptions   | 4  | Notwithstanding the provisions of Regulation 3, an operator may discharge into a sewage system or directly into a reservoir –<br>(1) Sewage whose pH value is lower than 6.0 but is not lower than 5.0, if the following conditions are satisfied:<br>(a) The pipe at the connection point of the plant to the sewage system or to the reservoir is made of materials that are resistant to a pH value between 5.0 to 6.0, such as: a pipe made of plastic materials or a pipe that is not made of cement compounds;<br>(b) The pH value of the sewage mix discharged from the plant and the sewage flowing in the municipal sewage pipe or in the reservoir water, as the case may be, is not lower than 6.0, in proximity to their exit point from the plant;<br>(2) Sewage whose pH value exceeds 10.0 in discharge into the sewage system or exceeds 9.0 in discharge into a reservoir, if the following conditions are satisfied:<br>(a) In discharge into a sewage system –<br>(1) The pH value of the sewage at the point of connection of the plant to the sewage system does not exceed 10.5;<br>(2) The pH value of the sewage mixture discharged from the plant and the sewage flowing in the sewage pipe does not exceed 10.0 in proximity to their point of exit from the plant;<br>(3) The quantity of sewage discharged into the municipal sewage is less than 10 cubic meters in a period of 24 hours; |

(b) In discharge into a reservoir-

(1) It has been proved to the satisfaction of the approver that this shall not cause environmental damages and blockages in the irrigation systems to which the reservoir water is discharged;

(2) The quantity of sewage discharged from the plant does not exceed 25 per cent of the total quantity of the reservoir water on an annual average unless the approver has authorized discharge of a larger quantity after that provided in subparagraph (1) has been proved to his satisfaction.

Exception	5	Nothing in the provisions of these regulations shall derogate from the authority of the approver to prescribe in the business license conditions under the Licensing Businesses Law, more stringent pH values in relation to sewage discharged from a plant, in special cases in which he is satisfied that this is necessary in order to prevent pollution of water resources.
Saving of statutes	6	The provisions of these regulations shall not derogate from the provisions of any statute, except for provisions in a bye-law on the setting of pH values in sewage.
Penalties	7	A person who contravenes any of the provisions of these regulations shall be liable to the penalties provided in Section 20U of the Law.
Commencement	8	These regulations shall enter into force six months from the date of their publication.