

Ground Water (Amendment) Regulations 2015

GN No. 71 of 2015

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THE GROUND WATER ACT

Regulations made by the Central Water Board, with the approval of the Minister, under

section 16 of the Ground Water Act

1. These regulations may be cited as the Ground Water (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

2. In these regulations —

—principal regulations means the Ground Water Regulations 2011.

3. Regulation 2 of the principal regulations is amended —

(a) in the definition of —agricultural purpose —

(i) by adding the word —or at the end of paragraph (a);

(ii) in paragraph (b), by deleting the words —; or and replacing them by a comma;

(iii) by revoking paragraph (c);

(b) by inserting, in the appropriate alphabetical order, the following new definitions —

—aquaculture means farming aquatic organisms, including fish and aquatic plants, for

commercial purposes;

—penalty means the amount payable where a licensee abstracts, over an aggregate period of 3 consecutive months, ground water in excess of thrice the monthly quantity he is authorised to abstract, and shall be calculated in accordance with Part C of the First Schedule;

—penalty bill means the bill issued, on a quarterly basis, to a licensee who abstracts, over an aggregate period of 3 consecutive months, ground water in excess of thrice the monthly quantity he is authorised to abstract;

4. Regulation 15 of the principal regulations is revoked and replaced by the following regulation —

15. (1) The licensee shall pay —

(a) the appropriate monthly water charges specified in Part B of the First Schedule; and

(b) where he abstracts, over an aggregate period of 3 consecutive months, ground water in excess of thrice the monthly quantity that he is authorised

to abstract, the appropriate penalty which shall be calculated in

accordance with Part C of the First Schedule.

(2) (a) The penalty referred to in paragraph (1)(b) shall be —

(i) calculated for an aggregate period of 3 consecutive months; and

(ii) set out in a penalty bill.

(b) (i) A licensee who is required to pay the penalty referred to in paragraph

(1)(b) shall pay that penalty within 21 days of the date of delivery of the penalty bill.

(ii) Any payment made after that date shall be subject to a surcharge of 10

per cent.

(c) In this regulation —

—daily quantity means, subject to the conditions set out in a ground water

licence, the volume of ground water specified in that licence that a

licensee is authorised to abstract on a daily basis;

—monthly quantity means the daily quantity multiplied by 30.

5. The First Schedule to the principal regulations is amended —

(a) by deleting the heading and replacing it by the following heading —

FEES, WATER CHARGES AND PENALTY

(b) in Part A, in item 5, in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c), by adding the words —and

aquaculture ;

(c) in Part B, in paragraphs (a) and (b), by adding the words —and aquaculture ;

(d) by adding Part C set out in the Schedule to these regulations.

6. These regulations shall come into operation on 1 May 2015.

Made by the Central Water Board on 31 October 2013, and approved by the Minister on 16

April 2015.

SCHEDULE

[Regulation 5]

Part C – Penalty

Excess amount of

water abstracted

(m3

)

Per Cubic

metre (Rs)

1. Use of ground water for agricultural purposes

and aquaculture

between 1 - 25 1

2. Use of brackish water for aquaculture and

desalination purposes

between 26 - 50 6

3. Use of brackish water for purposes other than

desalination and aquaculture

between 51 - 100 10

4. Use of ground water for domestic purposes above 100 34

5. Use of ground water for the purposes of

producing drinks

between 1 – 25

between 26 – 50

between 51 – 100

above 100

15

20

30

40

6. Use of ground water for non-domestic purposes

other than aquaculture desalination, producing

drinks and agricultural

between 1 - 25

between 26 – 50

between 51 - 100

10

15

25

above 100 35