

Drinking Water Standards

LEGAL SUPPLEMENT to the Government Gazette of Mauritius No. 72 of 22 June 1996

Government Notice No.55 of 1996

THE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 1991

Regulations made by the Minister under section 33

of the Environment Protection Act 1991

1. These regulations may be cited as the Environment Protection (Drinking Water Standards) Regulations 1996.

2. In these regulations-

"Act " means the Environment Protection Act 1991.

"enforcing agency " means the enforcing agency specified in paragraph 2 of the Fourth Schedule to the Act.

"person responsible" has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Act.

3. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), every person responsible for the supply of water for human consumption through pipelines, bottles or other containers shall comply with the standards set out in the Schedule to these regulations.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any supplier of drinking water other than a supplier of bottled water, where failure to comply with the standards set out in the Schedule is due to any -

(a) cyclone, drought or other natural calamity;

(b) unlawful interference by a third party; and

(c) fortuitous event

(3) Where any of the events referred to in paragraph (2) occurs -

(a) every supplier shall forthwith give notice thereof to the enforcing agency; and

(b) the enforcing agency shall advise the public to take the necessary precautions.

4. Every supplier shall establish and maintain a monitoring system to control the purity of the raw water sources.

5. These regulations shall come into force on 1 July 1996

Made by the Minister on 23 May 1996.

SCHEDULE (regulation 3)

Drinking Water Standards

The standards set out in the Second Column are maximum limits for the corresponding parameters set out in the First Column, except where upper and lower limits are specified:-

First Column Second Column

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Standards</i>
Microbial	
<i>E. coli</i>	must not be detectable in any 100ml sample
Coliform Organisms	0 in 95% of samples examined throughout the year. In the case of quantities of water needed for distribution throughout the year, when not less than 50 samples are examined for each period of 30 days, 3 in an occasional sample , but not in consecutive samples
Physico-chemical	
pH	6.5-8.5
Total dissolved solids	1000 mg/l
Turbidity	5 NTU
Organoleptic	
Colour	20 Pt-Co
Taste and Odour	not objectionable
Trace metals	
Aluminium	0.2 mg/l
Arsenic	0.01 mg/l
Cadmium	0.003 mg/l
Copper	1 mg/l
Lead	0.01mg/l
Mercury	0.001 mg/l
Total chromium	0.05 mg/l
Zinc	3.0 mg/l
Nickel	0.02 mg/l
Anions	
Chloride	250mg/l
Fluoride	1.5 mg/l
Sulphate	250 mg/l
Nitrate	50 mg/l (as NO ₃)
Nitrite	3 mg/l (as NO ₂)
Pesticides	
Aldrin and dieldrin	0.03 microgram/l
DDT	2 microgram/l
Lindane	2 microgram/l
HCB	1 microgram/l
Methoxychlor	20 microgram/l
Heptachlor and Heptachlor oxide	0.03 microgram/l