

## Draft Regulation

Environment Quality Act  
(R.S.Q., c. Q-2)

### Quality of drinking water — Amendments

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1) and with section 124 of the Environment Quality Act (R.S.Q., c. Q-2), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Government upon the expiry of 15 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation proposes three amendments to the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water. The purpose of the first amendment is to reduce the number of bacteriological controls for distribution systems supplying between 21 and 1000 persons: the number of those controls will decrease from eight to two per month. That reduction becomes necessary due to the substantial increase of transportation fees and of fees related to the analysis of water samples and the urgency to reduce the financial expenses of the persons in charge of those systems. Even with that reduction, the frequency of bacteriological analyses for those distribution systems (two per month) will remain one of the most severe in America and will still ensure appropriate protection of public health.

The purpose of the second proposed amendment is to extend over a longer period of time the backfitting of certain distribution systems to the regulatory requirements related to filtration of surface water supplied by those systems considering that the design and setting up of the required equipment necessitate longer time limits than those provided for.

Lastly, the purpose of the third proposed amendment is to grant an additional time period to implement everywhere in Québec the qualification program developed for the persons in charge of the operation of the distribution systems and facilities for the collection and treatment of supplied water to allow those persons to obtain the required qualification.

The grounds underlying the abovementioned amendments justify that the publication period of the draft Regulation be reduced to 15 days in compliance with sections 12 and 13 of the Regulations Act.

Further information may be obtained by contacting

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Any person having comments to make on the draft Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 15-day period, to the Ministère de l'Environnement, at the abovementioned address.

ANDRÉ BOISCLAIR,  
*Minister of State for Municipal Affairs  
and Greater Montréal, the Environment and Water and  
Minister of the Environment*

## Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water\*

Environment Quality Act  
(R.S.Q., c. Q-2, s. 31, pars. e, h.1 and h.2, s. 45,  
s. 45.2, par. a, s. 46, pars. a, b, d, m, o, o.1 and o.2, s. 87,  
pars. a and b, s. 109.1 and s. 124.1)

1. Section 11 of the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water is amended

(1) by substituting the following table for the table in the first paragraph:

“

Users	Minimum number of samples to collect or to have collected per month
21 to 1000 persons	2
1001 to 8000 persons	8
8001 to 100 000 persons	1 per 1000 persons
100 001 persons and more	100 + 1 per group of 10 000 persons exceeding 100 000 persons

”;

\* The Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water was made by Order in Council 647-2001 dated 30 May 2001 (2001, G.O. 2, 2641).

and

(2) by adding the words “; if the number of samples is less than four, they shall be collected at an interval of at least seven days” at the end of the last paragraph.

**2.** Section 53 is amended

(1) by substituting the following for the first paragraph:

“**53.** The distribution systems the water supplied by which on the date of coming into force of this Regulation comes in whole or in part from surface water and is not subject to any treatment including flocculation, slow filtration or membrane filtration shall be exempt from the application of the provisions of section 5

— until 28 June 2005 where they supply less than 50 000 persons;

— until 28 June 2007 where they supply 50 000 persons or more.”;

(2) by substituting the words “, no later than 28 June 2002” for the words “, within three months of the coming into force of this Regulation” and the words “period of exemption provided for in the first paragraph” for the words “one-year period provided for above” in the second paragraph; and

(3) by inserting the words “the second paragraph of” after the words “pursuant to” in the third paragraph.

**3.** Section 55 is amended by substituting the words “thirty-sixth month following the month of” for the words “twelfth month following”.

**4.** This Regulation will come into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.