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 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 on the expiry of 60 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation revokes the pH and aerobic or anaerobic heterotrophic bacteria standards that have no incidence on health, relaxes the procedures for a return to compliance after standards have been exceeded, establishes posting standards that are to apply if an outdoor establishment is unable to provide drinking water that meets the standards of quality, and lastly, requires an operator's declaration to be filled out by all persons responsible for drinking water distribution systems.

The purpose of the draft Regulation is to facilitate the application of the Regulation currently in force without reducing the protection of the health of the population; consequently, it will have no new financial impact on the persons to whom it applies. On the contrary, water analysis costs will decrease for all persons responsible for distribution systems and the capital requirements of certain small operators will be considerably lower.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Didier Bicchi, Head, Service des eaux municipales, 675, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 8° étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7; telephone: (418) 521-3885, extension 4852; e-mail: didier.bicchi@menv.gouv.qc.ca, before the expiry of the 60-day period. Additional information is also available on the website of the Ministère de l'Environnement at www.menv.gouv.qc.ca

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation may do so by submitting written comments before the expiry of the 60-day period to the Minister of the Environment, 675, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, 30° étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7.

THOMAS J. MULCAIR, 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, 1st par., subpars. *e*, *h*.1, *h*.2, *j* and *l*, s. 45, s. 45.2, par. *a*, s. 46, pars. *a*, *b*, *d*, *o*, *o*.1, *o*.2, *p* and *t*, s. 86, s. 87, par. *a*, and s. 109.1)

- **1.** The Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water is amended in section 1
- (1) by striking out the paragraph numbers before the definitions and placing the definitions in alphabetical order;
- (2) by inserting the following definitions in alphabetical order:

"disinfection reserve" means a constant-volume reservoir of water or a water main used explicitly for water disinfection;

"drinking water" or "water intended for human consumption" means water intended for ingestion by human beings;

"person responsible for the operation of a drinking water facility" means a person whose ordinary or occasional duties concern the operation or operating follow-up of drinking water collection, treatment or distribution equipment, including a tank truck, and includes a person responsible for repair work on mains and the person responsible for placing the distribution system into service after repair work or work to extend the system;

"variable reserve" means a variable-volume reservoir of water used for fire protection or during shortage or peak periods, or for disinfection;

- (3) by replacing the second sentence of the definition of "distribution system" by "In the case of a building connected to a waterworks system, any mains supplying the building and located downstream from the shut-off valve serving the building are excluded.";
 - (4) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"Where this Regulation requires a number of persons to be determined, the method in Schedule 0.1 must be used.".

^{*} The Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water, made by Order in Council 647-2001 dated 30 May 2001 (2001, *G.O.* 2, 2641), was last amended by the regulations made by Orders in Council 301-2002 dated 20 March 2002 (2002, *G.O.* 2, 1669) and 586-2004 dated 16 June 2004 (2004, *G.O.* 2, 2023).

- **2.** Section 2 is amended by adding "or by the Act respecting the Société des alcools du Québec (R.S.Q., c. S-13)" at the end.
- **3.** Section 3 is amended by adding the following paragraphs:

"Where the owner or operator of a campground, outfitting operation, vacation rental cottage, rest area or seasonal tourist establishment that does not offer restaurant services puts water at the disposal of users that does not comply with the standards referred to in the first paragraph and is not intended for human consumption, the owner or operator must, in order to prevent any misunderstanding or confusion on the part of the users, inform the users by means of a pictogram to that effect that must be placed at the entrance to the establishment as well as within sight of the taps for the water that is not intended for human consumption.

Where the quality of the water not intended for human consumption is likely to be altered by volatile organic substances or to contain more than 130 fecal coliform bacteria or *Escherichia coli* bacteria per 100 ml, the owner or operator of the immovable must also place a pictogram to that effect within sight of the bathtub taps and shower heads in the immovable."

4. Section 4 is amended by replacing "one residence" in paragraphs 1 and 3 by "20 persons or less".

5. Section 5 is amended

- (1) by replacing "Water supplied by a distribution system must have undergone, before being supplied," in the first paragraph by "Drinking water must have undergone";
- (2) by replacing subparagraph 2 of the third paragraph by the following:
- "(2) one sample of water per week is collected for at least 90 consecutive days and at least 90% of the samples have fewer than 20 fecal coliform bacteria per 100 ml of water collected;
- (2.1) one sample of water is collected at least once a month for at least 90 consecutive days and none of the samples has a concentration greater than 80 μ g/L of simulated trihalomethanes. The simulation must be carried out in accordance with the protocol in the document entitled Methods for taking and preserving samples for the application of the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water, published by the Ministère de l'Environnement;".

6. Section 6 is amended

- (1) by replacing "of water supplied by a distribution system must, if it" by "for drinking water must, if the water";
 - (2) by adding the following paragraph:

"Superchlorination facilities located on the distribution system are not subject to the requirements of the first paragraph.".

7. Section 7 is amended

- (1) by replacing "Water supplied by a distribution system" by "Drinking water";
 - (2) by striking out ", before being supplied,".

8. Section 8 is amended

- (1) by striking out "or, where that facility has a disinfected water reservoir, at the outlet of that reservoir" in the first paragraph;
 - (2) by deleting the second and third paragraphs.
- **9.** Section 9 is amended by replacing "Any distribution system that supplies disinfected water" by "Every continuous disinfection treatment facility".
- **10.** The following is inserted after section 10:
- **"10.1.** A person in charge of a distribution system to which this Division applies is required to fill out the operator's declaration appearing in Schedule 3.".
- **11.** Section 12 is amended by striking out "and have as its object the analysis of facultatively aerobic or anaerobic heterotrophic bacteria, in addition to total coliform bacteria and fecal coliform bacteria or *Escherichia coli* bacteria" in the first paragraph.

12. Section 13 is replaced by the following:

"13. Where water supplied by a distribution system comes in whole or in part from non-continuously disinfected groundwater having a vulnerability index for the bacteriological protection area that is greater than 100 using the DRASTIC method, the person responsible for the distribution system must collect or have one sample of raw water supplying the distribution system collected at least once a month to test for the presence of fecal coliform bacteria or *Escherichia coli* bacteria and enterococci bacteria if works or activities that are likely

to alter the microbiological quality of the water are present within the bacteriological protection area of the collection site established on the basis of a 200-day groundwater migration time.

Where water supplied by a distribution system comes in whole or in part from non-continuously disinfected groundwater having a vulnerability index for the virological protection area that is greater than 100 using the DRASTIC method, the person responsible for the distribution system must also collect or have one sample of raw water supplying the distribution system collected at least once a month to test for the presence of F-specific coliphage viruses if works or human activities such as a sewer system, the spreading of septic tank sludge or a domestic waste water infiltration field that are likely to alter the microbiological quality of the water are present within the virological protection area of the collection site established on the basis of a 550-day groundwater migration time."

13. Section 14 is amended

- (1) by replacing "nitrates" wherever it occurs by "nitrates/nitrites and nitrites";
- (2) by adding "or, if the establishment is closed between July 1st and October 1st, in any other period" at the end of the first paragraph;
 - (3) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"This section does not apply if the distribution system is supplied by a third person required to test for inorganic substances.".

14. Section 15 is amended in the first paragraph

- (1) by striking out "de désinfection" in the French text of the first paragraph;
- (2) by adding "or, if the establishment is closed between July 1st and October 1st, in any other period" at the end of the first paragraph.

15. Section 17 is revoked.

16. Section 18 is amended

- (1) by replacing "désinfectées avec le chlore" in the French text of the first paragraph by "chlorées";
- (2) by replacing "or a house of detention" in the second paragraph by ", a house of detention or several such establishments";

(3) by replacing "one sampling of the water supplied per year, between July 1st and October 1st to control trihalomethanes" in the second paragraph by "one sampling of the water supplied per year to test for trihalomethanes, between July 1st and October 1st or, if the establishment is closed between July 1st and October 1st, in any other period".

17. Section 19 is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"This section does not apply if the distribution system is supplied by a third person required to test for the substances listed in Schedule 2.".

18. Section 22 is amended

- (1) by striking out ", a measure of the flow rate of the water as well as, in the case referred to in the third paragraph, a measure of the turbidity" in the first sentence of the fourth paragraph;
- (2) by inserting the following in the fourth paragraph after the first sentence:

"On entering that value in the register, the owner or operator must also enter the flow rate of the water and, in the case referred to in the first paragraph, the turbidity. In addition, if the reserve is variable, the owner or operator must also enter the value of the volume of water. Where the treatment sequence depends on multiple disinfectants, the value of the parameters necessary to compute the elimination level of the parasites and viruses specified in sections 5 and 6 at the time the residual disinfectant is at its lowest level must also be entered.";

- (3) by replacing "He" in the second sentence of the fourth paragraph by "The owner or operator" and "that reservoir" by "the disinfection reserve or variable reserve";
- (4) by inserting "200 persons or less," after "supplies only" in the first sentence of the fifth paragraph;
- (5) by adding the following sentence and paragraph at the end of the fifth paragraph:

"In such cases, the person responsible must keep a daily register in which the residual chlorine value, temperature, pH and, if applicable, turbidity are entered. If the reserve is variable, the person responsible must also indicate the value of the volume of water at the time of the water quality analysis.

If the alarm is activated, the operator must specify the cause in the register and any remedial measures taken.".

19. Section 23 is amended

- (1) by replacing "disinfected" after "supplies" in the first paragraph by "chlorinated";
 - (2) by deleting the last paragraph.
- **20.** Section 24 is replaced by the following:
- **"24.** In the case of failure of part or all of the treatment system, the person responsible for the system must immediately inform the Minister of the failure and specify the remedial measures taken. The person must also inform the public health director of the region concerned."
- **21.** Section 25 is revoked.
- **22.** Section 26 is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"In the territories located north of the 55th parallel, the samples collected pursuant to sections 11, 14, 15, 18 and 19 must be collected at the outlet of the reservoir where the owner or operator is supplied with water.".

- **23.** Section 27 is amended by replacing the first paragraph by the following:
- "27. The owner or operator of a tank truck must fill the tank with water taken from a distribution system supplying water that complies with the standards of quality defined in Schedule 1.".
- **24.** Section 28 is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"This section does not apply to the territories located north of the 55th parallel.".

25. Section 30 is amended by replacing the second paragraph by the following:

"Every person who collects or has a water sample collected pursuant to this Regulation must certify that the sampling and preservation of the sample satisfy the requirements prescribed under this Regulation and that the sample was sent to a laboratory accredited under section 118.6 of the Environment Quality Act. The certification, entered on the analysis form provided by the Minister of the Environment, and the copies of the related analysis results must be preserved and be available to the Minister for at least 5 years."

26. Section 31 is amended

(1) by striking out "27," in the first sentence;

- (2) by replacing "reports prescribed by the Minister" in the second sentence by "forms provided by the Minister".
- **27.** Section 32 is amended
 - (1) by striking out "section 17," in the first paragraph;
- (2) by inserting ", section 27" after "section 23" in the first paragraph;
- (3) by inserting ", entered on the analysis form provided by the Minister," after "that certification" in the second paragraph.
- **28.** Section 34 is amended by replacing "second paragraph" by "second and third paragraphs".

29. Section 35 is amended

- (1) by replacing "does not comply with any of the standards of quality defined in Schedule 1 or contains total coliform bacteria" at the end of the first paragraph by "shows the presence of fecal coliform bacteria, *Escherichia coli* bacteria, enterococci bacteria or F-specific coliphage viruses";
- (2) by inserting the following after the first paragraph:

"Where the water does not comply with any of the other standards of quality defined in Schedule 1, contains more than $80 \,\mu\text{g/L}$ of trihalomethanes or shows the presence of total coliform bacteria, the laboratory must communicate that information to the persons referred to in the first paragraph as soon as possible, during working hours.";

(3) by replacing the second paragraph by the following:

"Any result showing the presence of fecal coliform bacteria, *Escherichia coli* bacteria, enterococci bacteria or F-specific coliphage viruses must be immediately communicated by the laboratory to the Minister of the Environment and to the public health director of the region concerned. If the water does not comply with any of the other standards of quality defined in Schedule 1 or contains more than $80\,\mu\text{g/L}$ of trihalomethanes, the laboratory must communicate that information to those persons as soon as possible, during working hours."

30. Section 37 is amended by adding the following sentence at the end:

"Where the presence of fecal coliform bacteria or *Escherichia coli* bacteria is detected, the persons responsible for those systems must, as soon as they are so informed, notify the users in the manner provided for in the second and third paragraphs of section 36.".

31. Section 39 is amended

- (1) by replacing "contains *Escherichia coli* bacteria or that it does not comply with one of the parameters set out in Schedule 1 respecting other bacteria" in the first paragraph by "does not meet the parameters set out in Schedule 1 respecting bacteria or where a distribution system is supplied by a third person under a boil water advisory";
- (2) by replacing "during 2 consecutive days" in the first paragraph by "over 2 days separated by less than 72 hours";
- (3) by replacing the first line in the table under the first paragraph by the following:

| 1 to 1,000 persons | 2 |
|------------------------|---|
| 1,001 to 5,000 persons | 4 |
| | " |

- (4) by replacing "during 2 consecutive days" in the third paragraph by "separated by at least 2 hours, for at least 1 day";
- (5) by striking out the last sentence of the fourth paragraph;
- (6) by adding the following sentence at the end of the fifth paragraph:

"If the analyses revealed the presence of *Escherichia coli* bacteria or enterococci bacteria in raw groundwater collected in accordance with this section, the boil water advisory may not be lifted without the appropriate remedial measures having been taken.".

32. Section 40 is amended

- (1) by striking out "pH or" in the first paragraph;
- (2) by replacing "during 2 consecutive days" in the first paragraph by "over 2 days separated by less than 72 hours".

33. Section 42 is amended

- (1) by replacing "standards of quality set out in Schedule 1" by "provisions of section 3";
 - (2) by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"If the quality of water shows a gross alpha activity greater than 0.1 Bq/L or a gross beta activity greater than 1 Bq/L, the person responsible for the distribution system or, as the case may be, the owner or operator of the tank truck must take appropriate measures as soon as possible to enable testing for the presence of radioactive substances in the water.".

34. Section 43 is amended by replacing "one residence" in paragraphs 1 and 3 by "20 persons or less".

35. Section 44 is amended

- (1) by replacing "a distribution system, a collection facility of water supplied by that system and a filtration or disinfection treatment facility of that water" in the first paragraph by "a drinking water collection, treatment or distribution facility";
- (2) by replacing "issued in matters of drinking water purification or treatment recognized" in the first sentence of the second paragraph by "recognized for the production or distribution of drinking water";
- (3) by inserting ", certificates and attestations" after "diplomas" in the second sentence of the second paragraph;
- (4) by adding the following sentence at the end of the third paragraph:

"The obligation also applies to the persons responsible for the collection of water for analysis purposes, unless they are employed by a body accredited for that purpose by the Minister under section 118.6 of the Environment Quality Act.".

- **36.** The following is inserted after section 47:
- **"47.1.** Any offence against the provisions of sections 11, 12, 14, 17 to 19, 21, 39 and 40 makes the offender liable
- (1) to a fine of \$5,000 to \$25,000 in the case of a natural person;
- (2) to a fine of \$10,000 to \$160,000 in the case of a legal person.".
- **37.** Section 48 is amended by replacing "47" by "47.1".
- **38.** Schedule 0.1 appearing as Schedule I to this Regulation is inserted before Schedule 1.

39. Schedule 1 is amended

- (1) by inserting "F-specific" in subparagraph a of paragraph 1 before "coliphage";
 - (2) by deleting subparagraph g of paragraph 1;
- (3) by inserting the following line in alphabetical order in the table in paragraph 2:

Copper (Cu) 1

- (4) by striking out the first two lines relating to gross alpha and beta activity in the table in paragraph 4;
- (5) by deleting paragraph 5 relating to parameters respecting pH.
- **40.** Schedule 3 appearing as Schedule II to this Regulation is added after Schedule 2.
- **41.** This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette* officielle du Québec.

SCHEDULE I

(s. 38)

"SCHEDULE 0.1

(s. 1)

METHOD TO DETERMINE THE POPULATION SUPPLIED

System supplying residences (single-family dwellings, mobile homes or dwellings): the average number of persons per residence in Québec is 2.5 persons; the number of residences supplied indicated by the operator on the declaration form must be multiplied by that constant to obtain the number of persons supplied. If the information is available, the operator may also indicate the number of persons residing at each address supplied. If the operator chooses to indicate that information, the sum of all the declared numbers is used rather than the aforementioned constant.

Establishment offering camping sites: the average number of persons per camping site is 2.5 persons. The number of persons supplied is determined by adding the number obtained by multiplying the number of sites in the establishment (information provided by the operator on the declaration form) by that constant to the number of employees of the establishment.

Establishment offering sleeping accommodations (examples: vacation camp, outfitting operation, hotel, etc.): the number of persons supplied is determined by adding the number of beds (in single bed equivalents) in the establishment to the number of non-residing employees of the establishment working on the premises.

Establishment offering restaurant services (including bars but excluding establishments where no drinking water is put at the disposal of patrons): the number of persons supplied is determined by adding the number of seated places in the establishment to the number of employees of the establishment working on the premises. In the case of an establishment for which the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux has issued a permit, the number of places is the number indicated on the permit.

Educational institution (including day care centres): the number of persons supplied is determined by adding the accommodation capacity of the establishment to the number of employees of the establishment working on the premises.

Health and social services institution or house of detention: the number of persons supplied is determined by adding the accommodation capacity of the establishment to the number of employees of the establishment working on the premises.

Public place (rest areas and tourist information centres that do not offer restaurant services are part of this category): 1,000 persons are considered to be supplied. If it is possible to consult a register, the number of persons supplied is determined by the number of visitors on the busiest day of the preceding year.

Place not accessible to the public where the employer puts drinking water at the disposal of employees through piping, the number is the number indicated by the person responsible on the declaration form.".

Schedule 3 Québec (s. 10.1)

Declaration form for persons responsible for a production or distribution system for water intended for human consumption

| For use by the Department N° de dossier : | Direction régionale : Nº de réseau : | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 PERSONS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| RESPONSIBLE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Identification of the owner | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Systems under the responsibility of the owner All the drinking water production and distribution systems | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Treatment | Distribution system | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of the owner (individual, municipalit | y, body, legal person, etc.) | CIDREQ ¹ No. (if available) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Address (No., street, post office box) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Municipality | | Province Postal code | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of the representative | Mr. 🗆 🕴 | /ds. ☐ First name | | | | | | | | | | |
| Position | | E-mail (if available) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone No. | Ext. | Fax No. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Usual name of the establishment or system Same as indicated in section 1.1, or: | Usual name of the establishment or system Same as indicated in section 1.1, or: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Same address as indicated in section Address (No., street, post office box) | 1.1, or: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Municipality | | Province Postal code | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone No. | - Ext. | Fax No. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 Identification of the operator | r, if different from the owner | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Systems under the responsibility of the operator All the drinking water production and distribution systems Treatment system Water intake Distribution system | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of the operator (individual, municipa | CIDREQ ¹ No. (if available) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Address (No., street, post office box) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Municipality | | Province Postal code | | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of the representative | Mr. | First name | | | | | | | | | | |
| Position | E-mail (if available) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone No. | - Ext. | Fax No. | | | | | | | | | | |

 $^{^{\}rm l}$ Register of sole proprietorships, partnerships and legal persons.

| 1.3 Identification of the person responsible for the sampling , if different from the operator or owner | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-------|-------|-------------------------------------|----------|--------|-------|--------|-----------|----------|------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------|-----|-------|---------------|----------|----------|-------|--------|-------|------|------|------|-----|-----------|
| Nan | Aame Mr. Ms. First name | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Position | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1.4 | Identification of the person responsible for analysis on the premises , if different from the operator, owner or person responsible for the sampling | | | | | | | | | | | | son | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Na | Name Mr. Ms. First name | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| V VI | etc.) Enterprise (business, industry and other non-tourist commercial establishment, etc.) | | | | | | | | | | | | home | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 3 | OPERATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION | N SYSTEM | | | |
|-------------|---|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Operation : | | | | | |
| | Yearly | | | | |
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Draft Regulation

An Act respecting immigration to Québec (R.S.Q., c. I-0.2)

Selection of foreign nationals — Amendments

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the selection of foreign nationals, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The purpose of the draft Regulation is to integrate new provisions as regards the investment agreement between a foreign national and the broker or trust company which require the broker or trust company to open a separate account for the investor, prohibit a change in broker or trust company, require the investment to be reimbursed to the investor on cancellation of the selection certificate or on denial of the application for visa or permanent residence, introduce a 90-day deadline for investment of the funds and require the foreign national be identified by means of various particulars.

The draft Regulation provides for a three-party agreement between the broker or the trust company, Investissement-Québec or one of its subsidiaries, and the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration to ensure compliance with the laws dealing with the laundering of proceeds of crime, the financing of terrorist activities and lobbying.

The draft Regulation also modifies the selection critieria to include the notion of management experience required of an investor.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Robert Gauthier, Director General, Direction générale de l'immigration économique, 800, place Victoria, C.P. 216, bureau 2.70, Montréal (Québec) H4Z 1E3; telephone: (514) 873-2446; fax: (514) 864-3291.

Any interested person having comments to make on the matter is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, 360, rue McGill, 4° étage, Montréal (Québec) H2Y 2EP.

MICHELLE COURCHESNE, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration