

Draft Regulation

Environment Quality Act
(chapter Q-2)

Act respecting certain measures enabling the enforcement of environmental and dam safety legislation
(chapter M-11.6)

Water withdrawal and protection — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Water Withdrawal and Protection Regulation, appearing below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation makes various amendments aimed mainly at relaxing certain requirements applicable to agricultural activities.

An amendment is proposed to the Water Withdrawal and Protection Regulation (chapter Q-2, r. 35.2) to grant a period of 9 years instead of the current period of 5 years to send the first update to the analysis reports on the vulnerability of sources of drinking water, both ground-water and surface water. It is also provided that copies of those reports must be sent to the regional advisory panel concerned by the withdrawal.

The regulatory relief proposed is aimed at ensuring greater equity and improving the efficiency of the parties involved by implementing regulations that are simpler, more specific and more consistent, while maintaining a high level of environmental protection. The measures proposed would not generate any additional costs for enterprises.

Further information on the draft Regulation may be obtained by contacting Maude Durand, Director, Bureau de stratégie législative et réglementaire, Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs, 900, boulevard René-Lévesque Est, bureau 800, Québec (Québec) G1R 2B5; email: question.bslr@environnement.gouv.qc.ca.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Maude Durand at the above contact information.

BENOIT CHARETTE

Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks

Regulation to amend the Water Withdrawal and Protection Regulation

Environment Quality Act
(chapter Q-2, s. 46, par. 16, subpar. 1).

1. The Water Withdrawal and Protection Regulation (chapter Q-2, r. 35.2) is amended in section 68

(1) by striking out “, every 5 years,” in the portion before subparagraph 1 of the first paragraph;

(2) by adding “The first report must be sent to the Minister at the time of the application for authorization made in accordance with section 169 of the Regulation respecting the regulatory scheme applying to activities on the basis of their environmental impact (chapter Q-2, r. 17.1), amended by section 2 of the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the regulatory scheme applying to activities on the basis of their environmental impact, published as a draft in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 13 November 2024. The second report must be sent 9 years after the issuance of the authorization or, in the cases referred to in section 99, after the transmission of the report in accordance with that section, and the subsequent reports must then be sent every 5 years.” at the end of the second paragraph;

(3) by inserting “and to the regional advisory panel concerned” at the end of the fourth paragraph.

2. Section 75 is amended

(1) by replacing “The subsequent reports must then be sent every 5 years.” in the second paragraph by “The second report must be sent 9 years after the transmission of the first report and the subsequent reports must then be sent every 5 years.”;

(2) by inserting “and to the regional advisory panel concerned” at the end of the fifth paragraph.

3. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

107103

