Provisions on the Administration of the Prevention and Control of Pollution in Protected Areas for Drinking Water Sources


Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1 To safeguard the people's health and the development of the economic construction, drinking water sources shall be protected. This Provisions is formulated pursuant to the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution.

Article 2 This Provisions is applicable to the management of prevention and control of pollution in domestic and drinking water surface and ground sources for centralized water supply throughout the country.

Article 3 Protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources are classified according to the water quality standards and the requirements for protection. Protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources are generally classified into first-grade protection zones and second-grade protection zones, and when it is necessary, quasi-protection zones may be added. Protection zones at all grades shall have clear geographical demarcations.

Article 4 In the protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources and quasi-protection zones, the water quality standards shall be clearly prescribed and the standards shall be met within a limited time.

Article 5 The establishment of protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources and pollution prevention and control in these zones shall be incorporated into the local economic and social development plans and plans for the prevention and control of water pollution. The establishment of protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources that cover different regions and prevention and control of pollution in these zones shall be incorporated into the local economic and social development plans and plans for the prevention and control of water pollution of the relevant river basins, regions and cities.

Article 6 For rivers, lakes, reservoirs and water channels that cross the borders of different regions, those in the upper reaches shall not impair the requirements for water quality standards of protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources in the lower reaches.

Chapter II Delineation and Protection of Protection Zones for Domestic and Drinking Water Surface Sources

Article 7 A protection zone for domestic and drinking water surface sources shall include water and land-based areas. Its boundary shall be demarcated after quantitative estimation of the water quality based on the characteristics of different water areas and the concrete local conditions, ensuring the water quality standards in the protection zone being met while planned amount of water is supplied under the hydrologic and pollution load as designated in the plan.

Article 8 Certain water and land-based areas near the intake of a domestic and drinking water surface source shall be delineated as the first-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water surface source. Water quality standard in the first-grade protection zone shall not be lower than category II of the GB 3838-88 Standards for the Environmental Quality of Surface Water stipulated by the State, and shall meet the requirements of the GB 5749-85 Drinking Water Health Standards stipulated
by the State.

**Article 9** Certain water and land-based areas beyond a first-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water surface source shall be delineated as the second-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water surface source. Water quality standards in the second-grade protection zone shall not be lower than category III of the GB 3838-88 Standards for the Environmental Quality of Surface Water stipulated by the State, and shall guarantee that the water quality in the first-grade protection zone will meet the prescribed standards.

**Article 10** Certain water and land-based areas beyond a second-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water surface source shall be delineated as the quasi protection zone for domestic and drinking water surface source. Water quality standards in the quasi protection zone shall guarantee that the water quality in the second-grade protection zone will meet the prescribed standards.

**Article 11** These rules shall be followed in the protection zones for domestic and drinking water surface sources and the quasi-protection zones:

1. All activities destructive to the ecological balance of water environment and forest at the water sources, along the embankments and vegetation related to the protection of water sources are forbidden;
2. Dumping of industrial residues, urban wastes, dejection and other wastes into the water body is forbidden;
3. Vessels and vehicles conveying toxic and harmful materials, oil, dejection are generally forbidden to enter the protection zones. Where the entrance is a must, prior application shall be submitted to the relevant department for approval and register, and measures shall be taken to prevent seepage, spillage and leakage; and
4. Usage of deadly toxic and long remaining pesticides, abusive usage of chemical fertilizer and usage of the explosives and poisons to catch fishes are forbidden.

**Article 12** These rules shall be followed in the protection zones for domestic and drinking water surface sources and the quasi-protection zones:

1. In first-grade protection zones:
   - New and expansion construction projects irrelevant to water supply and water source protection shall are forbidden.
   - Dumping of waste water into the water body is forbidden and existing outlets for pollutants discharge shall be removed;
   - Docks irrelevant to water supply shall not be constructed and vessels are forbidden to berth;
   - Piling and depositing of industrial residues, urban wastes, dejection and other wastes are forbidden;
   - Mounting of oil depots is forbidden; and
   - Planting and breeding of domestic fowls and animals are forbidden; net- and box-breeding activities shall be strictly controlled.
2. In second-grade protection zones:
   - New and expansion construction projects discharging pollutants into the water body are forbidden.
   - Reconstruction projects shall reduce the amount of pollutants discharged;
   - Existing outlets for pollutants discharge shall reduce the amount of pollutants discharged to guarantee that water quality in the protection zone meets the prescribed water quality standard; and
   - Construction of docks for loading and unloading wastes, dejection, oil and other toxic materials is forbidden.
3. In quasi-protection zones:
   - Direct or indirect discharge of waste water into the water bodies shall meet the standards stipulated by the State and the local governments. When the total discharge fails to meet the required water quality standard in the protection zones, the pollutants discharge shall be reduced.
Chapter III  Delineation and Protection of Protection Zones for Domestic and Drinking Water Ground Sources

Article 13  Protection zones for domestic and drinking water ground sources shall be demarcated according to the geographical location, hydrological and geological conditions, quantity of water supply and means of exploration and distribution of the pollution sources.

Article 14  Water quality in protection zones for domestic and drinking water ground sources shall meet the GB 5749-85 Drinking Water Health Standards stipulated by the State. Boundary of each protection zone for ground water source shall be demarcated according to the local hydrological and geological conditions, and shall guarantee that the required water quality standards are met while planned amount of water is being extracted.

Article 15  A first-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water ground source shall be located around the extraction wells, and this guarantees the detention time of the congregation of the water in order to prevent pollution by ordinary pathogens. Recharge areas directly influencing water quality of the extraction wells can also be delineated as first-grade protection zones for domestic and drinking water ground sources when necessary.

Article 16  A second-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water ground source shall be located beyond the first-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking water ground source, and this guarantees enough detention time of the congregation of the water in order to prevent pollution by elements other than pathogens.

Article 17  A quasi-protection zone for domestic and drinking water ground source is located in the main recharge areas beyond the second-grade protection zone for domestic and drinking ground source, and this is to protect the quantity and quality of recharge water from the water source area.

Article 18  These rules shall be followed in the protection zones for domestic and drinking water surface sources and the quasi-protection zones:

(1) Discharging of waste water and other pollutants through seepage wells, pits, crevices and karst caves is forbidden;

(2) Storage of petroleum, natural gas, radioactive substances, toxic and hazardous chemical raw materials and pesticides with holes in the permeable strata, crevices, karst caves and abandoned mines is forbidden;

(3) In artificial recharge of the ground water, the local ground water shall not be polluted.

Article 19  These rules shall be followed in the protection zones for domestic and drinking water ground sources and quasi-protection zones:

(1) In first-grade protection zones

Construction of projects irrelevant to water extraction facilities is forbidden;

Agricultural and stock-raising activities are forbidden;

Piling and depositing of industrial residues, urban wastes, dejection and other hazardous wastes are be forbidden;

Passage of sewage conveyance channels, pipelines and oil pipelines through the zone is forbidden;

Construction of oil depots is forbidden; and

Construction of graveyards is forbidden.

(2) In the second-grade protection zones

(i) For ground water sources where aquifers are paretic water

Establishment of chemical, electroplate, leather, paper-making, pulp-making, smelting, radioactive, printing and dyeing, dyestuff, coking and oil refining and other severely polluting enterprises are forbidden, and those existing shall be ordered to eliminate pollution within a limited time, transfer to other business or move to other places;

Construction of piling sites and transfer posts of urban wastes, dejection, eutectic, toxic and hazardous wastes is forbidden, and those existing shall be ordered to move to other places;
Provisions on Drinking Water Sources

Usage of unpurified waste water to irrigate farmland shall be forbidden, and existing waste water irrigation farmland shall be order to use clean water for irrigation; and

Piling sites for chemical raw materials, minerals and oils and other toxic and hazardous mineral products shall take measures to prevent pollution caused by rain and seepage.

(ii) For ground water sources where aquifers are artesian water

The combined extraction of artesian and paretic water is forbidden and measures shall be taken to stop the paretic water.

(3) In quasi-protection zones:

Construction of piling sites for urban wastes, dejection, eutectic, toxic and hazardous wastes is forbidden, and when there is the particular need to set up the transfer posts, approval from relevant departments is required and measures shall be taken to prevent seepage and leakage;

When the recharge source is surface water body, water quality of the surface water body shall not be lower than category III of the GB 3838-88 Standards for the Environmental Quality of Surface Water stipulated by the State.

Irrigation with waste water that fails to meet the GB 5084-85 Standards for the of Irrigation Water Quality Farmland shall not be permitted, and chemical fertilizer shall be rationally used; and

Water source forests shall be protected, and destroying forest to open up wasteland and felling trees in a water source forest for reasons other than renewal is forbidden.

Chapter IV Supervision and Management of Prevention and Control of Pollution in Protection Zones for Domestic and Drinking Water Sources

Article 20 Environmental protection departments of the people’s governments at all levels together with other relevant departments shall be responsible for the prevention and control of pollution in protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources, and shall formulate and promulgate local rules for the prevention and control of pollution in drinking water protection zones as required by the local people’s governments.

Article 21 Protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources shall be delineated jointly by local environmental protection departments and departments of water conservancy, geology and minerals, health and construction and other relevant departments, and the delineation plan shall be submitted to the people’s governments at or above the county level for approval. For a protection zone that crosses the borders of provinces, municipalities and counties, the people’s governments within its range shall negotiate about its locations and the management rules, and report to the people’s government at the next higher level for approval.

Article 22 The departments of environmental protection, water conservancy, geology and minerals, health and construction shall conduct supervision and management of pollution prevention in protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources in accordance with their responsibilities.

Article 23 In case of emergency, when an accident causes or might cause drinking water source pollution, the one responsible for the accident shall promptly take measures to eliminate pollution and report to local departments of urban water supply, health and epidemic prevention, environmental protection, water conservancy and geology and minerals and other departments as well as departments in charge of the one. The environmental protection department shall organize relevant departments to investigate into and settle the matter as required by the local people’s government, and take compulsory measures with approval of the local people’s government to relieve the losses when necessary.

Chapter V Rewards and Punishments

Article 24 Units or individuals who have made outstanding achievements and contributions to the implementation of this Rules in the protection of the protection zones for domestic and drinking water sources shall be commended and rewarded. The rewarding methods shall be formulated by the environmental departments at or above the municipal level (including the municipal level) and reported
Provisions on Drinking Water Sources

to the local people's governments for approval before implementation.

**Article 25** Units or individuals who violate this Rules shall be punished according to relevant provisions in the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution and its Rules for Implementation.

**Chapter VI Supplementary Provisions**

**Article 26** This Provisions shall be interpreted by the national environmental protection departments.

**Article 27** This Provisions shall come into force as of the date of promulgation.