

# **THE SEWAGE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS 1996**

In accordance with the powers vested in the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and the mandate of the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority, the Minister of Health and Welfare hereby makes the following regulations.

## **1. Title and Commencement**

- (1) The Regulations may be cited as the Sewage Disposal Regulations 1996.
- (2) The Regulations shall come into force on the first day of April, 1996.

## **2. Purpose**

- (1) The purpose of these regulations is to require any sewage disposal undertaking to provide a service which has adequate capacity for all its customers, and to treat and dispose of sewage in a way which will protect public health and environmental quality

## **3. Licensing**

- (1) No person, company or organisation shall undertake the disposal of sewage (or other waste water) except pursuant to a licence issued by the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority on such terms and conditions as the Authority may specify.
- (2) Any licence issued by the Authority to a sewage disposal undertaking shall be for a term of 12 months and may be renewed, varied or declined as the Authority may decide, taking into account the performance of the undertaking in complying with these regulations.
- (3) Any sewage disposal undertaking which is aggrieved by the terms or conditions of a licence issued, renewed, varied, or declined by the Authority may appeal to the Minister of Health and Welfare for a review of that decision.

## **4. Scope and Applications**

- (1) The Regulations shall apply throughout the Republic of Maldives, to any sewage disposal undertaking, whether private or public, which undertakes the disposal of sewage.

## **5. Service Criteria**

- (1) All sewage disposal undertakings shall comply with the service criteria prescribed in the First Schedule to these regulations, together with such other conditions as the Authority may specify.

## **6. Quality Criteria**

- (1) All sewage disposal undertakings shall comply with the quality criteria prescribed in the Second Schedule to these regulations, together with such other conditions as the Authority may specify.

## **7. Monitoring**

- (1) Every sewage disposal undertaking shall monitor the performance of the sewage disposal system under its control.
- (2) Such monitoring shall include information on the volume, rate of flow, number of people served, raw and treated effluent quality, overflows, disruptions, operating costs, complaints and any other information relevant to the performance of the sewage disposal system

## **8. Record Keeping**

- (1) Every sewage disposal authority shall keep adequate records of the monitoring of its sewage disposal system as required by Regulation 7 of these regulations.
- (2) Every sewage disposal undertaking shall submit a monthly record of the monitoring of its system no later than the twentieth day of the month following the month to which the record relates, to the Director of the Maldives Water and Sanitation Authority.

## **9. Tariffs and Charges**

- (1) The Authority shall, in consultation with the sewage disposal undertaking, and any other government agencies, determine the tariffs and charges to be paid for the disposal of sewage and for connection to the sewage disposal system.

## **10. Offences**

- (1) Every person commits an offence against these regulations who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of these regulations, or with any requirement, direction, notice, or approval made or given by the Maldives Water Sanitation Authority under these regulations. Every such person is liable, upon conviction, to such penalty as the Maldivian Penal Code may prescribe.
- (2) For the purpose of this regulation, the continued existence of any work or thing in a state contrary to any of the provisions of these regulations shall be deemed to be a continuing offence.

### **Explanatory Note**

These regulations are administered in the Ministry of Health and Welfare by the Maldives Water Sanitation Authority

## First Schedule

### Service and design criteria for sewage disposal Systems serving more than 500 people

The design and construction of sewerage systems for the collection and transmission of foul sewage shall be in accordance with the document Construction Guide for Separate Foul Sewerage Systems (1996) issued by the Maldives Water Sanitation Authority, and with such other documents which the Authority may issue from time to time.

## Second Schedule

### Quality criteria for sewage treatment and disposal systems serving more than 500 people

Population size	Effluent Quality Requirements
0-1000	Substantial removal of grease, oil, fats, and suspended solids.
1000-2000	Removal of grease, oil, fats, and suspended solids. Maximum concentration of suspended solids not to exceed 100 mg/l.
2000-5000	Maximum concentrations of BOD (5-day) and suspended solids not to exceed 50 mg/l.
Over 5000	BOD (5-day) concentration of not more than 20mg/l and a suspended solids concentration of not more than 30mg/l

#### Notes:

- (1) The above effluent quality criteria are applicable to situations where effluent is disposed of to ground, or lagoons with an initial dilution ratio of less than 20 to 1

Where the initial dilution ratio at the point of discharge exceeds 20 to 1, the effluent quality requirement shall be as for populations in the range 2000-5000 i.e. removal of grease oil, fats and sedimentation, with a maximum concentration of suspended solids not to exceed 50 mg/l

- (2) The Authority may specify additional or alternative quality criteria as the case may require