

1995 No. 11

WATER AND SEWERAGE

**The Surface Waters (Classification) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1995**

Made 16th January 1995

Coming into operation 1st March 1995

The Department of the Environment, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by section 4B of the Water Act (Northern Ireland) 1972(a) and now vested in it(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Surface Waters (Classification) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 and shall come into operation on 1st March 1995.

Interpretation

2. In these regulations "waters" means surface fresh waters used or intended for use in the abstraction of drinking water.

Classification of waters

3. The classifications prescribed by these regulations shall apply to the waters of any waterway.

4. The classifications DW1, DW2 and DW3 and the criteria for those classifications set out in the Schedule shall apply for classifying waters by reference to their suitability for abstraction by the Department for supply (after treatment) as drinking water for the purposes of regulation 22(3) of the Water Quality Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994(c).

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of the Environment on
16th January 1995.

(L.S.)

R. W. Rogers

Assistant Secretary

(a) 1972 c. 5 (N.I.) as amended by the Water and Sewerage Services (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 (S.I. 1993/3165 (N.I. 16) Art. 16)

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 504 Art. 4

(c) S.R. 1994 No. 221

SCHEDULE

Criteria for the classification of waters

The limits set out below are maxima

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>No. in Annex II to 75/440/EEC</i>	<i>Parameters</i>	<i>DW1</i>	<i>DW2</i>	<i>DW3</i>
2	Coloration (after simple filtration) mg/l Pt Scale	20	100	200
4	Temperature °C	25	25	25
7	Nitrates mg/l NO ₃	50	50	50
8(1)	Fluorides mg/l F	1.5		
10	Dissolved iron mg/l Fe	0.3	2	
12	Copper mg/l Cu	0.05		
13	Zinc mg/l Zn	3	5	5
19	Arsenic mg/l As	0.05	0.05	0.1
20	Cadmium mg/l Cd	0.005	0.005	0.005
21	Total chromium mg/l Cr	0.05	0.05	0.05
22	Lead mg/l Pb	0.05	0.05	0.05
23	Selenium mg/l Se	0.01	0.01	0.01
24	Mercury mg/l Hg	0.001	0.001	0.001
25	Barium mg/l Ba	0.1	1	1
26	Cyanide mg/l CN	0.05	0.05	0.05
27	Sulphates mg/l SO ₄	250	250	250
31	Phenols (phenol index) paranitraniline 4 aminoantipyrine mg/l C ₆ H ₅ OH	0.001	0.005	0.1
32	Dissolved or emulsified hydrocarbons (after extraction by petroleum ether) mg/l	0.05	0.2	1
33	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons mg/l	0.0002	0.0002	0.001
34	Total pesticides (parathion, BHC, dieldrin) mg/l	0.001	0.0025	0.005
39	Ammonia mg/l NH ₄		1.5	4

Note (1) The value given is an upper limit set in relation to the mean annual temperature (high and low).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations prescribe the system of classifying the quality of waters in waterways (defined in section 30 of the Water Act (N.I.) 1972) according to its suitability for abstraction by the Department of the Environment for supply (after treatment) as drinking water.

The classifications DW1, DW2 and DW3 reflect the mandatory values assigned by Annex II to Council Directive 75/440/EEC (O.J. No. L194, 25.7.75, p. 26) (concerning the quality required of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water) to the parameters listed in the Schedule to the regulations.

The classifications are relevant for the purposes of setting waterway water quality objectives for ascertaining the treatment to which the water is to be subjected before it is supplied for public use, in accordance with Part VI of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994 (S.R. 1994 No. 221).

Copies of the above mentioned EC Council Directive and the regulations may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 16 Arthur Street, Belfast BT1 4GD.