

## **MINISTERIAL DECISION NO. ( 243/97)**

**On**

### **Issuing Regulations for Organizing the Use of Water Desalination Units in Wells (1). (2).**

In accordance with Royal Decree No .(82/88) on considering water Supplies as national wealth,

And Royal Decree No. (100/98) on establishing the Ministry of Water Resources and defining its specialities,

And Ministerial Decision No. 13/95 on issuing Regulations for Organizing Wells and Aflaj,

And in accordance with the requirements of Public interest,

#### **It is Decided**

**Article (1) :** The Provisions of the attached Regulations shall be Put into effect in organizing the use of water desalination units in wells.

**Article (2) :** The Decision shall be published in the Official Gazette and become effective as of its publishing date.

**Hamid bin Said bin Mohammed Al-Aufi  
Minister of Water Resources**

**Issued on: 23/6/1418 A.H.**

**Corresponding to: 25/10/1997**

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(1) Amended by Ministerial Decision No. 263/2000, issued in the Official Gazette (Volume 679), issued on 17 Jamada Al-Thania 1421, corresponding to 16 September 2000.

(2) Article one of Decision No. 263/2000 stipulates that: the terms "permit" and "permits" shall be replaced by the terms "license" and "licenses" wherever they occur in the above mentioned Regulations for Organizing the Use of Water Desalination Units in Wells.

# REGULATIONS ON THE USE OF WATER DESALINIZATION UNITS ON WELLS

## Chapter one

### General Provisions

- Article (1):** Unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the meanings assigned to each one of them:
- The Minister :** The Minister of Water Resources
- The Ministry :** The Ministry of Water Resources
- The Department :** The Regional Water Resources Department
- Water Desalination Units :** The apparatus through which dissolved salts are separated from water in order to render it suitable for the intended uses.
- Waste brine :** Substances resulting from desalination process which are harmful to water resources.
- The Permit :** The permit granted under these regulations for operation, replacement or installation of a desalination unit on a new or existing well or for drilling of a new well to dispose of waste brine.
- The Applicant :** Any individual, group, institution, company, or governmental or non-governmental organization who submits an application for operation, replacement or installation of a desalination unit on a well or for drilling of a new well to dispose of waste brine.

- Registration Certificate :** A document showing the registration of a new or existing desalination unit or waste brine disposal well, issued by the Department to the owner of such unit or well.
- Registration Plate :** The plate issued by the Department, which carries the registration number and any other information.
- Article (2):** As from the effective date of these Regulations, no desalination unit shall be operated, maintained or installed on a well and no well shall be drilled for disposal of waste brine, without obtaining the necessary permit from the Department.
- Article (3):** Registration of existing and new desalination units, pursuant to the provisions of these Regulations, shall only be made on wells inventoried and registered in accordance with the Regulations on Wells and Aflaj.
- Article (4):** Any person who acquires a water desalination unit or a well for disposal of waste brine registered according to the provisions of these Regulations shall ask the Department to register the same under his name within a period of three months.
- Article (5):** The Department shall have the right to specify the productive capacity and the uses of the licensed desalination unit. In order to do so, the Department may compel the owner to install a water meter on the outlet of the unit.

(1) Amended by The Ministerial Decision No 263/2000

## **Chapter Two**

### **Registration of existing desalination units installed on wells**

**Article (6):** The application for registration of existing desalination units installed on wells shall be submitted to the Department in the prescribed form within six months of the effective date of these Regulations. The application shall specify the methods of disposal of waste brine and the storage of chemicals used in desalination process.

**Article (7):** After conducting the necessary examination and verifying that disposal of waste brine and storage of chemicals used in desalination process are in conformity with the prescribed requirements, the Department shall issue the Registration Certificate and the Registration Plate of the unit.

## **Chapter Three**

### **Permits for installation of new desalination units**

**Article (8):** The application for operation, replacement or installation of a new desalination unit shall be submitted to the Department in the prescribed form.

**Article (9):** Upon being granted a permit to operate, replace or install a new desalination unit, the applicant shall deposit a sum of R.O 250/= with the Department to guarantee implementation of the works according to the requirements of the permit. Government establishments shall be exempted from such deposit.

**Article (10):** The permit holder shall, within 15 days of the completion of the permitted works, apply to the Department for registration of the desalination unit. After verification of the completion of the works according to the specifications in the permit, the Department shall refund the deposit and issue the Registration Certificate and the Registration Plate of the unit.

**Article (11):** No permit shall be granted for operation, replacement or installation of desalination units on wells lying within public water supply well fields and aflaj and dam protection zones.

**Article (12):** The permit shall contain details of the location, type and technical specifications of the unit as well as the validity period of the permit.

## **Chapter Four**

### **Permits for Waste brine Disposal Wells**

**Article (13):** The application for construction of a well for disposal of waste brine shall be submitted to the Department in the prescribed form.

**Article (14):** Upon being granted a permit to construct a well for disposal of waste brine, the applicant shall deposit a sum of R.O 250/= with the Department to guarantee implementation of the works according to the requirements and specifications of the permit. Government establishments shall be exempted from such deposit.

**Article (15):** A - The permit holder shall, within 15 days of the completion of the permitted works, apply to the Department for registration of the Waste Brine Disposal Well. After verification of the completion of the works according to the terms and specifications provided in the permit, the Department shall refund the deposit and issue the Registration Certificate and the Registration Plate of the well.

B - Waste Brine Disposal Well shall not be used unless the registration certificate has been issued.

**Article (16):** The permit shall include the terms and specifications set by the Department for Waste Brine Disposal Wells as well as the validity period of the permit.

## **Chapter Five**

### **Penalties**

**Article (17):** Notwithstanding any severer penalty stipulated by any other law, whoever violates the provisions of Articles 2, 4, 5 and 15-B of these Regulations shall be punished with the penalties provided for in Article (8) of the Water Wealth Protection Law promulgated by Royal Decree No.( 29/2000). In case of an offender refusing to comply with a judgment ordering the rectification of a violation, the Ministry shall rectify the violation at the expense of the offender (1).

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(1) Amended by the Ministerial Decision No 263/2000

**MINISTERIAL DECISION NO 263/2000**  
**AMENDING THE REGULATIONS ON THE USE OF**  
**DESALINATION UNITS ON WELLS**

In accordance with Royal Decree No 29/2000 on Water Wealth Protection law, and

Ministerial Decision No 342/97 issuing the Regulations on the Use of Water Desalination Units on Wells, and

In accordance with the requirements of public interest

**IT HAS BEEN DECIDED**

**Article (1)** The words "license" and " licenses" shall be replaced by the words "permit" and "permits" wherever they are mentioned in the Regulations on the Use of Water Desalination Units on Wells and the expression "inventoried and registered wells" mentioned in Article (3) of the same Regulations shall be replaced by the expression "registered wells"

**Article (2)** The provision of Article (17) of the above mentioned Regulations shall be replaced by the following provision:

"Notwithstanding any severer penalty stipulated by any other law, whoever violates the provisions of Articles 2,4,5 and 15-B of these Regulations shall be punished with the penalties provided for in Article (8) of the Water

**Article (3)** This Decision shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force from its date of publication.

Issued on 3 Jamadah 2 1421 A H

Hamid bin Said bin Mohammed Al Afi  
Minister of Water Resources

Corresponding to 2 September 2000

1. Amended by Ministerial Decision No. 263/2000 published in The Official Gazette No. (679) issued on 17 Jamadah 2 1421 A-H corresponding to September 16, 2000.
2. Article (1) of the Ministerial Decision No. 263/2000 stipulated that the words "License" and "Licence" shall be replaced by "permit" and "permits" wherever they are mentioned in the Regulations on The use of Desalination units on Wells.