



# **Act regulating Supply of Drinking Water. Programme Clean Water**

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# Belarus



# *Legal aspects of water supply:*

- 1. The Law of the Republic of Belarus «About drinking water supply» № 271-3 of 24th June 1999**

(amended by the Law № 114-3 of 31st December 2009),

- 2. The Water Code of the Republic of Belarus – The Law № 191-3 of 15th July 1998**

(amended by the Law № 109-3 of 4th January 2010)

- 3. The Law of the Republic of Belarus «About environmental protection» № 1982-XII of 26th November 1992**

(amended by the Law № 127-3 of 6th May 2010)

- 4. The Law of the Republic of Belarus «About sanitary-and-epidemic well-being of the population» № 2583-XII of 23th November 1993**

(amended by the Law № 78-3 of 28th December 2009)

# *The Law of the Republic of Belarus «About drinking water supply»*

## ***THE MAIN GOALS:***

- to identify rights, liabilities and responsibilities of state bodies, local authorities, water supplies and water users in the field of drinking water supply,
- to establish state guaranties for reliability and safety of drinking water supply and responsibilities for violations in this field,
- to set economic base for drinking water supply.

# ***THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY POLICY***

***(article 5):***

- state guarantees of primary drinking water supply to meet the demands of life, and health protection,
- state control and regulation of drinking water supply;
- the accountability of the enterprises of drinking water supply to local authorities, to state bodies of housing and communal services, to state bodies responsible for the control of using and protection of waters, to state body in the field of the prevention and elimination of extreme events and a civil defense within the terms of their reference;
- safety, reliability and controllability of drinking water supply systems from the point of view of their technological features;

# ***THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY POLICY***

***(article 5):***

*(cont.)*

- choice of drinking water supply sources on the basis of national uniform obligatory technical requirements and standards;
- primary use of groundwater as a source of drinking water supply;
- water use and supply payment on the basis of a pricing policy;
- governmental financial support for the development of drinking water supply systems and for the manufacturing of water equipment, pipes, accessories, reagents, materials and devices.



# *The Law of the Republic of Belarus*

## *«About drinking water supply»*

### *Definitions:*

- *Drinking water* - water corresponding to sanitary norms on organoleptic, microbiological and chemical properties and safe for life and health.
- *Centralized system of drinking water supply* - a complex of devices and constructions for maintenance with potable water of all consumers.
- *Decentralized systems of drinking water supply* (a dug well, a borehole, a water-folding column, water-purifying installation etc.) are used for providing with potable water of consumers in case of absence of centralized systems of drinking water supply.

## *Statistical data (end of 2008):*

### *centralized water supply systems:*

- in 100 % of urban and 23,2 % of rural **settlements**,
- provides water to 85 % of the **population**, incl.
  - ↳ 96 % of **urban** population
  - ↳ 56 % of **rural** population.
- single extent of a street water supply systems :
  - ↳ **in urban** area - 10,1 thousand km,
  - ↳ **in rural** area - 14,1 thousand km.

### *centralized systems of water disposal:*

- 98 % of urban and 7,4 % of rural settlements,
- single extent of a street sewerage network:
  - ↳ **in urban** area - 3,8 thousand km,
  - ↳ **in rural** area - 3,4 thousand km.



# *The Law of the Republic of Belarus* *«About drinking water supply»*

## **Economic bases**

### *Patterns of ownership*

- the systems of drinking water supply can be in state (republican and municipal) properties, and also in the property of legal and physical persons (chapter 3 article 11),
- passing of property or change of a pattern of ownership are permitted in case of such transition or change will not break a mode of functioning of these drinking water supply systems,
- centralized (for common us) systems of water supply and sanitation – in a state ownership of corresponding territorial level (municipal).

# *The Law of the Republic of Belarus* *«About drinking water supply»*

## **Management and development of the centralized system :**

- within the competence of local authorities,
- development carried out on the basis of mid-term and long-term perspective documents (general plans, development schemes, etc.),
- participation of stakeholders in planning, development, protection of water supply systems and sanitary services is stipulated by the Laws «About drinking water supply», «About environmental protection».

# *The Law of the Republic of Belarus*

## *«About drinking water supply»*

- water of systems of drinking water supply is a subject to obligatory conformity declaration (article 17),
- requirements to the quality of water are established by the Ministry of Public Health at the state level and supervised by public health services,
- the system of national sanitary norms applies the precautionary principle (based on the concept of maximum permissible concentrations), standards should be based scientifically and need to be periodically revised,
- requirement to the suppliers to regularly monitor the quality of drinking water,
- protection of the sources of drinking water supply from any adverse effects and pollution – the sanitary protection zones and a set of measures (restrictions on land-use and other human activities) (chapter 4 articles 20 – 29),
- the quality of sewage treatment and its conformity to the standards is supervised by the Ministry of environmental protection and its territorial bodies.

# *The Law «About drinking water supply»*

## *The rights of the consumers:*

- to be provided with safe drinking water according to republican quality standards for drinking water and drinking water use rates set;
- to claim for the control of quality of drinking water;
- to get true, authentic and duly information about the quality of potable water and possible faults in water supply;
- to initiate public ecological expertise according the law and to inform the corresponding state bodies about the results of such expertise;
- to be compensated for the damage caused by water of poor quality,
- to be provided with safe drinking water in case of emergencies.

# *The Law «About drinking water supply»*

## *The rights of the consumers:*

- the Law guarantees access to safe drinking water *for everyone in the territory of the Republic of Belarus in accordance with water use rates,*
- *access to safe potable water and sanitary services is provided without dependence from*
  - ↳ race, skin color,
  - ↳ gender, age,
  - ↳ language,
  - ↳ religion,
  - ↳ political convictions,
  - ↳ nationality, citizenship,
  - ↳ physical and mental capacity,
  - ↳ a state of health,
  - ↳ any other civil, social and political statuses.

# *The Law «About drinking water supply»*

## *The rights of the consumers:*

### *Access to information*

- information about the quality of potable water should be provided to the consumer free of charge on first request or to all consumers by means of mass media,
- the control over the timely information of the consumers about the water quality, incidents and irregularities in water supply is in the competence of local authorities.

# *The Law «About drinking water supply»*

## *The State Control in the field of Water Supply (Chapter 7).*

- over the organization of drinking water supply, use and protection of water sources and drinking water supply systems – local Deputy Councils, local authorities, republican state body of housing and communal services,
- over compliance with ecological requirements – state bodies on natural resources and environmental protection,
- over compliance of potable water with water quality standards and observance of the established modes activity in sanitary protection zones of water sources – bodies of the state sanitary inspection (under the Ministry of public health),
- over compliance with technical regulations, the state metrological supervision in the field of drinking water supply – state body on standardization, metrology and certification,
- building supervision at construction of facilities of drinking water supply – bodies of the state building inspection.



# **the State Program on water supply and sanitation «Clean water» for 2006-2010 years**

**adopted by the Decree of the President of Belarus № 208 of 10th April 2006**

## ***The main tasks of Program:***

### **to make progress in**

- provision of a drinking water supply of desired quantities and in safe manner,
- the rational use of drinking water resources,
- development and implementation of new technologies and devices for drinking water supply systems,
- implementation of updated means and devices of wastewater treatment and disinfection,
- improvement of the systems for the management of drinking water supply and sanitation, development of systems of control and local monitoring.

# the State Program on water supply and sanitation «Clean water» for 2006-2010 years

- *targets* for the development of water supply and sanitation for 2010 year have been established,
  - *for republic in general and for all regions,*
  - *as for all population in general and differentially for urban and rural population.*
- *a complex arrangements* have been planned:
  - *organizational,*
  - *technical,*
  - *economic and*
  - *legal.*

# **the State Program on water supply and sanitation «Clean water» for 2006-2010 years**

## ***The targets in the field of drinking water supply cover:***

- supplying water to the population by means of centralized water supply systems (development of the centralized systems of water supply both in city, and in rural settlements),
- provision of water supply systems with treatment facilities,
- technical improvement of the condition of water supply systems.

## ***The targets in the field of sanitation cover:***

- access of sanitation for the population,
- the quality of discharges of water from wastewater treatment installations,
- technical improvement of the condition of wastewater treatment installations,
- others.

# State Program «Clean water» for 2006-2010

## Targets - Access to potable water

<b>The percentage of the population having access to potable water of higher quality (to the centralized water supply)</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Targets for</b>	
		<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>
In total	<b>79,3</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>85,4</b>
Urban population	<b>91,9</b>	<b>94,4</b>	<b>96,9</b>
Rural population	<b>47,2</b>	<b>51,6</b>	<b>56</b>

# State Program «Clean water»

for 2006-2010

**Targets - Access to improved sanitation  
(centralized and local sewerage systems)**

Percentage of the population having access to improved sanitation	2004	Targets for	
		2008	2010
In total	61,9	67,5	70,3
Urban population	78,9	85,1	88,2
Rural population	18,9	23	25,0

**Thank for your attention!**



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