

**The Water Abstraction and Impoundment (Licensing) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 2006**

PERMITTED CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES

Schedule 1(1)

The construction, alteration or operation of the following descriptions of weir namely:

- a) A weir that is not associated with an abstraction;
- b) A weir that is not capable of being operated to control the water level upstream of the weir;
- c) A weir that is not capable of being operated so as to create a height differential between the upstream and downstream water surfaces of more than one metre.

Schedule 1(2)

The Abstraction of less than 10m³ of water in any one day.

- a) There shall be a means of demonstrating that the abstraction is less than 10m³ in any one day;
- b) Water leakage shall be kept to a minimum by ensuring all pipe work, storage tanks and other equipment associated with the abstraction and use of the water are maintained in a state of good repair;
- c) Subject to paragraphs (d) and (e) the abstraction shall not cause the entry of water of a different chemical composition into any water contained in any underground strata;
- d) Drilling fluids may be introduced into a well or borehole if necessary to facilitate the drilling of the well or borehole provided this does not result in pollution of the water environment;
- e) Potable water may be introduced into a well or borehole to test the hydraulic properties of an aquifer;
- f) When a well or borehole is not being used for abstraction, it shall be back-filled or sealed to the extent necessary to avoid loss of any water contained in any underground strata.

Schedule 1(3)

The abstraction of between 10m³ and 20m³ of water in any one day.

- a) There shall be a means of demonstrating that the abstraction is less than 20m³ in any one day;
- b) The operator shall notify the Department of the location and volume of the abstraction –
 - i. In any case where he is carrying on that activity on the date of the coming into operation of these regulations, within 12 months of that date; and
 - ii. In all other cases, within 28 days of the date on which he commences the activity;
- c) Water leakage shall be kept to a minimum by ensuring all pipe work, storage tanks and other equipment associated with the abstraction and use of the water are maintained in a state of good repair;
- d) Subject to paragraphs (e) and (f) the abstraction shall not cause the entry of water of a different chemical composition into any water contained in any underground strata;
- e) Drilling fluids may be introduced into a well or borehole if necessary to facilitate the boring of the well or borehole provided this does not result in pollution of the water environment;
- f) Potable water may be introduced into a well or borehole to test the hydraulic properties of an aquifer;
- g) When a well or borehole is not being used for abstraction, it shall be back-filled or sealed to the extent necessary to avoid loss of any water contained in any underground strata.

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Schedule 1(4)

Activity

The abstraction from a borehole where the total volume of water abstracted is less than 150m³ in any period of one year and the purpose of the abstraction is either:

- a) To test the yield of the borehole or well or the hydraulic properties of an aquifer; or
- b) To sample water quality.

Conditions

- a) Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) the abstraction shall not cause the entry of water of a different chemical composition into any water contained in any underground strata;
- b) Drilling fluids may be introduced into a well or borehole if necessary to facilitate the drilling of the well or borehole provided this does not result in pollution of the water environment;
- c) Potable water may be introduced into a well or borehole to test the hydraulic properties of an aquifer;
- d) When the borehole is not being used for abstraction, it shall be back-filled or sealed to the extent necessary to avoid loss of any water contained in any underground strata.