



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Division of Environmental Quality
Safe Drinking Water Program



Siting and Design Review Requirements for Public Water Systems

This document summarizes the portion of the CNMI Drinking Water Regulations regarding the **design and design review** of public water systems (PWS). DEQ reviews designs, including drawings and specifications, to ensure that the completed facility will produce water that meets the standards of the Drinking Water Regulations. The design review process consists of four steps: (a) the applicant submits a Notice of Intent; (b) the Division reviews and takes action on the Notice of Intent; (c) the applicant prepares final drawings and specifications; (d) the Division reviews and takes action on the final drawings and specifications. [CNMI Drinking Water Regulations §1200.3]

- (a) Applicant's Notice of Intent: Before owners can enter into a financial commitment for construction or modifications to a PWS, they must notify DEQ in writing of their intent (completing the Notice of Intent form and attaching the requested supporting documentation will meet the requirements of this part of the regulation). Modification to an existing PWS does not include routine maintenance and service of hydrants, valves, or replacement of equipment, pipe, and appurtenances [§ 1200.3(a)(1)].
- (b) Division Review and Action on the Notice of Intent: The Division shall review a Notice of Intent to construct or modify a public water supply system for completeness and either:
 - (1) Fully or conditionally approve the Notice for the preparation of final plans and specifications for the proposed facility;
 - (2) Notify the applicant that additional information is required;
 - (3) Deny the proposal to construct giving written appropriate reasons for the denial.
- (c) Preparation of Final Drawings and Specifications by the Applicant: Final Plans and Specifications shall be based upon accepted engineering practices and shall generally follow the intent expressed in the approved notification.
- (d) Review and Approval of Final Plans and Specifications: No PWS can be constructed or modified without the Director of DEQ approving the Final Plans and Specifications. DEQ will review the Final Plans and Specifications and either:
 - (1) approve the plans and specifications for construction; or
 - (2) request the owner make changes in the plans and specifications

Final Inspection and Issuance of Certificate to Operate: Prior to operation of a PWS that has been newly constructed or modified, the facility must be inspected by DEQ, significant deficiencies identified be corrected and a Certification of Operation issued.

Disclaimer

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Safe Drinking Water Program
Notice of Intent
To construct or modify a Public Water System

Instructions: 1) complete this form and attach the requested supplemental information. 2) submit this notice and the attachments to the DEQ office. 3) DEQ will review this Notice and respond within 30 days with either an approval to prepare final plans and specifications, a request for more information, or a denial to construct with written appropriate environmental reasons for the denial.

<p style="text-align: center;">Water system owner</p> Name: Address: Phone: Fax: e-mail:	<p style="text-align: center;">Entity performing construction/modification</p> Name: Address: Phone: Fax: e-mail:
<p>Short description of scope of work of project:</p> <p>*Attach a sketch showing the project location</p>	
<p>Water source type (circle one): spring stream fresh water well sea water well roof rainwater catchment ground rain water catchment other PWS (CUC)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Estimated capacity of source: _____ gallons per day or gallons per minute</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*Attach an 8-1/2 x 11 portion of a topographic map section showing the location of the proposed water source</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Wells</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Estimated depth: _____ feet</p> <p>Proposed pump (circle one): submersible jet line shaft other</p> <p style="text-align: center;">If other please specify:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rain Water Catchment</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Horizontal area of proposed catchment _____ square feet</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Roof catchments: proposed roofing material _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ground catchments: description of topography and nature of vegetation: _____</p>
<p>Raw water storage capacity _____ gallons</p>	<p>Treated water storage capacity _____ gallons</p>
<p>Existing population served by project:</p>	<p>Anticipated population served by project in 10 years:</p>
<p>Description of proposed treatment:</p> <p>*Attach a schematic diagram of the treatment process if multiple processes are used</p>	
<p>Proposed method of wastewater disposal (circle one): underground injection subsurface seepage infiltration pond surface water stream community sewer</p>	
<p>Budget estimate:</p>	<p>Source of funds:</p>

*Attach the following information if applicable to this Notice: 1) sketch of project site; 2) map of water source location; 3) schematic diagram of treatment

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