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# PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT (CHAPTER 261)

# PUBLIC UTILITIES (REGULATED WORKS AND WSI DESIGN WORKS) REGULATIONS 2018

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In exercise of the powers conferred by section 72 of the Public Utilities Act, the Public Utilities Board, with the approval of the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, makes the following Regulations:

### PART 1

#### **PRELIMINARY**

#### Citation and commencement

**1.** These Regulations are the Public Utilities (Regulated Works and WSI Design Works) Regulations 2018 and come into operation on 1 April 2018.

# PART 2

#### LICENSING OF PLUMBERS

# Other eligibility requirements

**2.**—(1) For the purposes of section 40J(1)(d) of the Act, an applicant who applies for a plumber's licence on or after the 65th anniversary of his or her birth must be certified by a registered medical practitioner in accordance with paragraph (2), to be physically and mentally fit to carry out, or directly supervise the carrying out of, any regulated works.

- (2) The certification by a registered medical practitioner must be in a medical report issued by the registered medical practitioner
  - (a) not more than 3 months before the date of the application; or
  - (b) if the application is made during the currency of an existing plumber's licence, not more than 3 months before the expiry of the existing plumber's licence.
- (3) In this regulation, "registered medical practitioner" has the meaning given by section 2 of the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174).

# Form of plumber's licence

- **3.** A plumber's licence of a licensed plumber must include the following:
  - (a) the full name of the licensed plumber;
  - (b) a photograph of the licensed plumber;
  - (c) the date of expiry of the licence;
  - (d) a unique identifier assigned by the Board to the licensed plumber.

# Replacement of plumber's licence

- **4.**—(1) Where the plumber's licence of a licensed plumber is lost, destroyed or defaced or becomes obliterated, the licensed plumber must without delay notify the Board of such matter.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (4), if the Board is satisfied of any matter notified to the Board under paragraph (1), the Board may on the payment of the appropriate fee specified in the First Schedule issue a replacement of the plumber's licence to the affected licensed plumber.
- (3) The plumber's licence replaced by the Board has the same effect as the original plumber's licence granted by the Board.
- (4) The Board must not replace the plumber's licence of the licensed plumber —

- (a) if the licence is defaced or has become obliterated unless the licensed plumber returns the licence to the Board; and
- (b) if the licence is lost or destroyed unless the licensed plumber provides to the Board either of the following:
  - (i) a statutory declaration made under the Oaths and Declaration Act (Cap. 211) declaring the loss or destruction of the licence;
  - (ii) a copy of a police report concerning the loss or destruction of the licence.
- (5) Where the original plumber's licence is found after any replacement is issued under this regulation to a licensed plumber, the licensed plumber must without delay return the replacement to the Board for cancellation.
- (6) Any licensed plumber who contravenes paragraph (5) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction
  - (a) to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both; and
  - (b) in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$250 for every day or part of a day during which the offence continues after conviction.

#### Fees

- **5.**—(1) The fees specified in the second column of the First Schedule are payable in respect of the matters specified opposite in the first column.
- (2) Except as provided by paragraph (3), no fee under these Regulations is refundable.
- (3) Where the Board considers appropriate, the Board may waive, refund or remit the whole or part of a fee mentioned in item 1, 2 or 3 of the First Schedule payable or paid by any of the following individuals:

- (a) a licensed water service worker mentioned in section 21(4) of the Public Utilities (Amendment) Act 2018 (Act 11 of 2018) who applies for a plumber's licence;
- (b) a specified sanitary plumber mentioned in section 21(5) of the Public Utilities (Amendment) Act 2018 who applies for a plumber's licence.

# Production of plumber's licence, etc.

- **6.**—(1) Any individual who is carrying out any regulated works, or who reasonably appears to an authorised officer to be or to have been engaged in the carrying out of any regulated works, must on demand of the authorised officer
  - (a) produce for inspection and verification by the authorised officer, a plumber's licence held by the individual;
  - (b) inform the authorised officer whether the individual is carrying out, or has carried out, any regulated works under a plumber's licence held by the individual, or under the direct supervision of a licensed plumber; or
  - (c) attend at such office of the Board as the authorised officer may specify
    - (i) to give any information or evidence that the authorised officer may require for the purposes of these Regulations; or
    - (ii) to produce for inspection and verification by the authorised officer, a plumber's licence that the individual allegedly holds but failed to produce despite the demand of the authorised officer.
- (2) Any individual who fails to comply with paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction
  - (a) to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both; and
  - (b) in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$250 for every day or part of a day during which the offence continues after conviction.

# Prescribed time for representations against suspension or cancellation of plumber's licence

7. For the purposes of section 40L(1)(b) of the Act, the Board must, in the written notice stating that the Board intends to suspend or cancel the plumber's licence, specify a time for making written representations that is not less than 14 days after the date of such written notice.

# Return of plumber's licence on suspension or cancellation

- **8.**—(1) Every individual whose plumber's licence is suspended or cancelled by the Board must return the plumber's licence to the Board not later than 14 days after the date that the suspension or cancellation takes effect under section 40L(4) of the Act.
- (2) Any individual who fails to comply with paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction
  - (a) to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both; and
  - (b) in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$250 for every day or part of a day during which the offence continues after conviction.

# PART 3

# DUTIES CONCERNING REGULATED WORKS AND WSI DESIGN WORKS

Division 1 — Definitions

#### **Definitions of this Part**

- 9. In this Part
  - "notifiable sanitary works" means the sanitary works specified in the Second Schedule;
  - "working day" means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday.

# Division 2 — General duties

# Duty to notify Board of wastage, pollution or contamination of water supplied by Board

- 10.—(1) A licensed plumber or professional engineer must, in the course of any specified activity or inspecting any water service installation, notify the Board of any water service installation that is causing or likely to cause any wastage, pollution or contamination of water supplied by the Board.
  - (2) In this regulation, "specified activity" means
    - (a) in relation to a licensed plumber carrying out, or directly supervising the carrying out of, any limited WSI design works or WSI works; and
    - (b) in relation to a professional engineer carrying out any WSI design works.

# Duty to notify of failure to comply

- 11.—(1) Where a licensed plumber or professional engineer mentioned in paragraph (2) is for any reason unwilling or unable to carry out any of his or her duties under this Part, the licensed plumber or professional engineer (as the case may be) must notify the Board in writing of such fact within 14 days after he or she stops carrying out any such duty.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1), the following are the licensed plumber and professional engineer concerned:
  - (a) a licensed plumber who is engaged by an owner or occupier under section 40G(5) of the Act to carry out any sanitary works or WSI works;
  - (b) a licensed plumber or professional engineer who is engaged by an owner or occupier under section 40G(6) of the Act to carry out any limited WSI design works;
  - (c) a professional engineer who is engaged by an owner or occupier under section 40H(1) of the Act to carry out any WSI design works that are not limited WSI design works.

# Division 3 — Duties of licensed plumbers

# Duty to submit notices before start of certain works

- **12.**—(1) This regulation applies in relation to
  - (a) any WSI works that may result from any limited WSI design works carried out by
    - (i) a licensed plumber; or
    - (ii) an individual acting under the direct supervision of a licensed plumber; and
  - (b) any notifiable sanitary works.
- (2) For the purposes of section 40O(1)(b)(i) of the Act, every licensed plumber must submit to the Board a written notice under paragraph (3)
  - (a) in respect of any WSI works mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) before the start of those works; and
  - (b) in respect of any notifiable sanitary works not less than 7 working days before the start of those works.
  - (3) The written notice must
    - (a) be in such form and manner as the Board may require; and
    - (b) be accompanied by one or more plans showing the particulars of those works, including any drawing, diagram or calculation concerning such works.

# Duty to submit certificates of satisfactory completion

- 13.—(1) This regulation applies in relation to WSI works and notifiable sanitary works mentioned in regulation 12 where completed.
- (2) For the purposes of section 40O(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, every licensed plumber must submit to the Board a certificate of satisfactory completion under paragraph (3)
  - (a) in respect of completed WSI works without delay after the completion of such works; and

- (b) in respect of completed notifiable sanitary works not later than 7 working days after the completion of such works.
- (3) The certificate of satisfactory completion must
  - (a) be submitted in such form and manner as the Board may require;
  - (b) be accompanied by any plan or other document as the Board may require to satisfy the Board that the WSI works and notifiable sanitary works are completed in accordance with the requirements imposed by or under the Act, or by or under the Sewerage and Drainage Act (Cap. 294), as the case may be; and
  - (c) in the case of completed WSI works, contain a certification by the licensed plumber that the water service installation to which those works relate is watertight and is suitable for conveying potable water.

# Duty to comply with Board's direction

- **14.**—(1) The Board may, after receiving a written notice from a licensed plumber under regulation 12, give a direction under paragraph (3) to the licensed plumber.
- (2) The Board may, after receiving a certificate of satisfactory completion from a licensed plumber under regulation 13 in respect of any WSI works or notifiable sanitary works
  - (a) inspect those works; and
  - (b) following the inspection of such works, give a direction under paragraph (3) to the licensed plumber.
  - (3) A direction under paragraph (1) or (2)
    - (a) may require the licensed plumber to do, or to refrain from doing, such things as are specified in the direction or are of a description specified in the direction;
    - (b) may be verbal or in writing;

- (c) is to take effect at such time, being the earliest practicable time, as is determined by or under that direction; and
- (d) may be revoked at any time by the Board.
- (4) Every licensed plumber must comply with a direction of the Board given to him or her under this regulation.

# Division 4 — Duties of professional engineers

# **Duty to submit notices before start of WSI works**

- **15.**—(1) This regulation applies in relation to any WSI works that may result from any WSI design works carried out by a professional engineer.
- (2) For the purposes of section 40P(1)(b)(i) of the Act, every professional engineer must, before the start of any WSI works mentioned in paragraph (1), submit to the Board a written notice
  - (a) in such form and manner as the Board may require; and
  - (b) accompanied by one or more plans showing the particulars of those works, including any drawing, diagram or calculation concerning such works.

# Duty to submit certificates of satisfactory completion

- **16.**—(1) This regulation applies to WSI works mentioned in regulation 15 where completed.
- (2) For the purposes of section 40P(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, every professional engineer must, without delay after the completion of the WSI works, submit to the Board a certificate of satisfactory completion
  - (a) in such form and manner as the Board may require; and
  - (b) with a certification by the professional engineer that
    - (i) the WSI works carried out on a water service installation (called in this paragraph the relevant water service installation) are in compliance with the requirements imposed by or under the Act;

- (ii) the relevant water service installation, and its associated electrical devices and equipment, have been tested and are safe and acceptable for operation; and
- (iii) the relevant water service installation has been tested to be watertight and is fit to convey potable water.

# FIRST SCHEDULE

Regulations 4(2) and 5

#### **FEES**

First column	Second column
1. For each course or training required by the Board under section 40J(1)(a) of the Act	\$280
2. For each assessment, examination or test required by the Board under section 40J(1)(a) of the Act	\$20
3. For a plumber's licence granted under section 40J(3) of the Act	\$90
4. For each refresher course or training required by the Board under section 40N(a) of the Act	\$54
5. For replacement of a plumber's licence under regulation 4	\$21.40

# SECOND SCHEDULE

Regulation 9

#### NOTIFIABLE SANITARY WORKS

- 1. The following are notifiable sanitary works if they are not part of any works subject to a clearance certificate requirement:
  - (a) the carrying out of any sanitary works (whether temporary or permanent) that affect any common sanitary pipe, inspection chamber or public sewerage system;
  - (b) the installation or replacement of any grease trap;
  - (c) the connection of any temporary sanitary facility to any sewerage system.

#### SECOND SCHEDULE — continued

#### 2. In this Schedule —

- "clearance certificate requirement" means the requirement under section 33 of the Sewerage and Drainage Act (Cap. 294) for a qualified person to apply for a clearance certificate of the Board, and to submit plans of the works to which the application relates;
- "common sanitary pipe" means any discharge pipe or drain-line that conveys sewage or sullage water from 2 or more premises, or units within any premises, to a sewerage system;
- "public sewerage system" has the meaning given by section 2 of the Sewerage and Drainage Act;
- "works" has the meaning given by section 2 of the Sewerage and Drainage Act.

Made on 27 March 2018.

CHIANG CHIE FOO Chairman, Public Utilities Board, Singapore.

[MEWR S030/01/124 Vol. 15; AG/LEGIS/SL/261/2015/14 Vol. 1] (To be presented to Parliament under section 72(4) of the Public Utilities Act).