

Unvalidated References:
Public Health Act 1973

This reprint of this Statutory Instrument incorporates all amendments, if any, made before 25 November 2006 and in force at 1 July 2001.

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Legislative Counsel
Dated 25 November 2006

INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

Chapter 226K.

Public Health (Underground Water Tanks) Regulation 1973

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Public Health (Underground Water Tanks) Regulation 1973

MADE under the *Public Health Act 1973*.

Dated 200 .

1. INTERPRETATION.

In this Regulation, unless the contrary intention appears, “underground water tank” means a water tank any part of which is below the level of the surrounding ground.

2. USE OF TANKS.

Except with the prior written approval of the Minister, a person must not use an underground water tank except in accordance with this Regulation.

Penalty: A fine not exceeding K40.00 and in addition, in the case of a continuing offence, a fine not exceeding K4.00 for every day during which the offence continues.

3. FLOORS.

The floor of an underground water tank shall be of concrete at least 150mm thick, with impervious rendering finished to a smooth surface by a steel trowel.

4. WALLS.

(1) The walls of an underground water tank shall be of concrete or brick, constructed in accordance with this section.

(2) Unreinforced concrete walls shall be—

- (a) in the case of a tank of a capacity not exceeding 25,000l—not less than 150mm in thickness; and
- (b) in the case of a tank of a capacity exceeding 25,000l—not less than 200mm in thickness.

(3) Reinforced concrete walls shall be—

- (a) in the case of a tank of a capacity not exceeding 25,000l—not less than 115mm in thickness; and
- (b) in the case of a tank of a capacity exceeding 25,000l—not less than 150mm in thickness.

(4) Brick walls shall be—

- (a) in the case of a tank of a capacity not exceeding 25,000l—not less than 225mm in thickness; and
- (b) in the case of a tank of a capacity exceeding 25,000l—not less than 350mm in thickness.

(5) All brickwork shall be properly laid and bonded in mortar to the satisfaction of the Local Medical Authority.

(6) The top of each wall shall be at least 150mm above the level of the surrounding ground.

(7) The inside of walls shall be imperviously rendered and finished to a smooth surface by a steel trowel.

5. TOPS.

The top of an underground water tank shall be of reinforced concrete of sufficient strength to support a pressure of 20kPa, and if it is cast in slabs the edges of the slabs shall be bevelled or rebated to make a water-tight seal.

6. MANHOLES.

(1) A manhole shall be installed in the top of an underground water tank.

(2) The manhole shall be constructed of cast iron or reinforced concrete as prescribed for the top of tanks.

(3) A manhole shall—

- (a) be fitted with a close-fitting lid, capable of being sealed; and
- (b) project at least 225mm above the top of the tank; and
- (c) be provided, to the satisfaction of the Local Medical Authority, with overflow-ventilation holes in each side, completely protected by bronze fly-wire and with the bottoms of the holes not less than 50mm above the top of the tank.

7. INLETS.

The inlet into an underground water tank shall be cast through, and shall project at least 100mm above, the top of the tank.

8. PUMPS.

Where a pump is fitted to an underground water tank, the discharge pipe shall be so arranged, to the satisfaction of the Local Medical Authority, that water cannot fall on to the manhole or enter the overflow-ventilation holes.

9. SITING.

An underground water tank shall not be sited within 9m of a pit latrine, aqua privy, chemical closet or septic tank.

10. WASHING OUT.

Before being used, the interior of an underground water tank shall be thoroughly washed out, to the satisfaction of the Local Medical Authority, with a 20:1,000,000 solution of chlorinated lime in water.

11. INSPECTION.

An underground water tank shall not be used until it has been inspected and approved by the Local Medical Authority.

12. USE OF TOP OF TANK AS FLOOR, ETC.

The top of a tank shall not be used as a floor, or for the storage of any goods or things, unless—

- (a) it has been totally covered, to the satisfaction of the Local Medical Authority, with concrete mortar rendering not less than 10mm in thickness, laid at the one time; or
- (b) it has been cast in one piece, and has been finished to a smooth surface by a steel trowel.

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