

Subcommittee on Waterworks (Amendment) Regulation 2017
(“The Amendment Regulation”)

Explanatory Notes of Resolutions Proposed by the Administration

1. Section 7 amended (regulation 20 amended (pipes and fittings to be of British Standard))

Section 7(2), new regulation 20(2), after “if” —

Add

“(and only if)”.

The purpose of this amendment is to address member’s suggestion to emphasize that (a) the efficiency of the fire service or inside service in which the pipe or fitting is installed in providing a reliable and adequate supply of water; and (b) the quality of the water are the two factors that Water Authority (“WA”) would consider in exercising the respective power under regulation 20(2).

2. Section 9 amended (regulation 25 amended (power to relax regulations))

Section 9, after new regulation 25(2)—

Add

“(2A) The Water Authority may approve the installation of a pipe or fitting under subregulation (2) only if the installation does not, in the opinion of the Water Authority, adversely affect—
(a) the efficiency of the fire service or inside service in which the pipe or fitting is installed in providing a reliable and adequate supply of water; and
(b) the quality of the water.”.

The purpose of this amendment is to address member’s suggestion to clearly state that the efficiency of the fire service or inside service in which the pipe or fitting is installed in providing a reliable and adequate supply of water, and the quality of the water are the two factors that WA would consider in exercising the respective power under regulation 25(2).

3. Section 10 amended (Schedule 2 amended)

(1) Section 10(2), new Part 1, paragraphs 1, 3 and 4—

Repeal

“cast iron,”.

(2) Section 10(2), new Part 1, paragraph 21—

Repeal

“cast iron or”.

(7) Section 10(7), new Part 4, paragraph 9—

Repeal

everything after “material.”.

The purpose of these amendments is to delete the provisions related to cast iron pipe from the legislation as cast iron pipe is no longer used in the market due to its comparatively brittle nature. There is no need to delete the provisions related to cast iron fitting as cast iron is still a suitable material for making the body of a fitting which is internally lined and is not in direct contact with water.

(3) Section 10(2), new Part 1, paragraph 23—

Repeal

“for use in”

Substitute

“that, when used, may come into”.

The purpose of this amendment is to tally the wordings used in the Chinese version of the Amendment Regulation.

(4) Section 10(2), new Part 1, at the end of paragraph 23—

Add

“Note—

The products described in this paragraph include, but are not limited to, taps, valves and cold water cisterns mentioned in Parts 2 and 3 of this Schedule.”.

The purpose of this amendment is to make clear that standard BS 6920 series mentioned in this paragraph are also applicable to all non-metallic products for use in contact with water intended for human consumption in Part 2 and Part 3 of Schedule 2. Since hot water inside services, flushing apparatus, baths, lavatory basins and sinks covered under the remaining Parts of Schedule 2 are all not for use with water intended for human consumption, only the Part 2 and Part 3 of Schedule 2 are mentioned in this note.

(5) Section 10(2), new Part 2—

Repeal paragraph 1.

The purpose of this amendment is to avoid ambiguity on the resisting pressure of at least 1,600kPa and other requirements mentioned in the concerned paragraph which have already been mentioned in relevant prescribed standards of proposed paragraphs 14 to 19 of Part 2 of Schedule 2.

(6) Section 10(7), new Part 4, before paragraph 1—

Add

“1A. This Part applies to—

- (a) a water heater used for heating water not intended for human consumption; and*
- (b) a pipe or fitting that, when used, may come into contact with water heated by the water heater.”.*

The purpose of this amendment is to make clear that the water heater used for heating water in hot water inside services under Part 4 of Schedule 2 is not intended for human consumption.

Development Bureau
5 July 2017