

1989 No. 1148

**WATER, ENGLAND AND WALES**

**The Surface Waters (Classification) Regulations 1989**

<i>Made - - - -</i>	<i>6th July 1989</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	<i>7th July 1989</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	<i>1st September 1989</i>

The Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 104(1) of the Water Act 1989(a) hereby make the following Regulations:—

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Surface Waters (Classification) Regulations 1989 and shall come into force on 1st September 1989.

**Classification of waters**

2. The classifications prescribed by these Regulations apply only in relation to inland waters (including any lake or pond which, by virtue of an order made under section 103(5) of the Water Act 1989, is to be treated as a relevant lake or pond).

3. The classifications DW1, DW2 and DW3 and the criteria for those classifications set out in the Schedule to these Regulations shall apply for classifying waters by reference to their suitability for abstraction by water undertakers for supply (after treatment) as drinking water.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

6th July 1989

*Michael Howard*  
Minister for Water and Planning  
Department of the Environment

6th July 1989

*Peter Walker*  
Secretary of State for Wales

**SCHEDULE**

**Regulation 3**

*Criteria for the classification of waters*

The limits set out below are maxima

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
<i>No. in Annex II to 75/440/EEC</i>	<i>Parameters</i>	<i>DW1</i>	<i>DW2</i>	<i>DW3</i>	
2	Coloration (after simple filtration)	mg/l Pt Scale	20	100	200
4	Temperature	°C	25	25	25
7	Nitrates	mg/l NO <sub>3</sub>	50	50	50
8(1)	Fluorides	mg/l F	1.5		
10	Dissolved iron	mg/l Fe	0.3	2	
12	Copper	mg/l Cu	0.05		
13	Zinc	mg/l Zn	3	5	5
19	Arsenic	mg/l As	0.05	0.05	0.1
20	Cadmium	mg/l Cd	0.005	0.005	0.005
21	Total chromium	mg/l Cr	0.05	0.05	0.05
22	Lead	mg/l Pb	0.05	0.05	0.05
23	Selenium	mg/l Se	0.01	0.01	0.01
24	Mercury	mg/l Hg	0.001	0.001	0.001
25	Barium	mg/l Ba	0.1	1	1
26	Cyanide	mg/l Cn	0.05	0.05	0.05
27	Sulphates	mg/l SO <sub>4</sub>	250	250	250
31	Phenols (phenol index) paranitraniline 4 aminoantipyrine	mg/l C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH	0.001	0.005	0.1
32	Dissolved or emulsified hydrocarbons (after extraction by petroleum ether)	mg/l	0.05	0.2	1
33	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons	mg/l	0.0002	0.0002	0.001
34	Total pesticides (parathion, BHC, dieldrin)	mg/l	0.001	0.0025	0.005
39	Ammonia	mg/l NH <sub>4</sub>		1.5	4

*Note*

(1) The value given is an upper limit set in relation to the mean annual temperature (high and low).

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations prescribe the system of classifying the quality of inland waters (as defined in section 103(1)(c) of the Water Act 1989) according to their suitability for abstraction by water undertakers for supply (after treatment) as drinking water.

The classifications DW1, DW2 and DW3 reflect the mandatory values assigned by Annex II to Council Directive 75/440/EEC, (OJ No. L 194, 25.7.75, p.26) (concerning the quality required of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water) to the parameters listed in the Schedule to the Regulations.

The classifications are relevant for the purposes of setting water quality objectives for rivers, lakes and other inland waters under section 105 of the Act and for ascertaining the treatment to which the water is to be subjected before it is supplied for public use, in accordance with Part VI of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 1989 (S.I. 1989/1147).