



Office of the Water Authority

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Distribution : To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorized Persons

Dear Sir,

WSD Circular Letter 2/97 Licensing of Plumbers

With the introduction of the Waterworks (Amendment) Regulation 1992, the old examination system for licensing of plumbers was replaced by the existing qualification system with effect from October 1993. Apart from introducing the qualification system, the Waterworks (Amendment) Regulation 1992 also includes the following requirements:-

i) Regulation 34(3A) - Renewal of Plumber's Licences

If a licensed plumber fails to renew his licence for 5 or more years, the Licensing Authority shall not renew his licence unless the Licensing Authority is satisfied that the applicant for renewal has adequate knowledge of the type of work involved in respect of the licence which is sought to be renewed and the provisions of the Waterworks Ordinance relating to such work.

ii) Regulation 34(2) - New Applications for Plumber's Licences

If an applicant for a plumber's licence relies in his application on any qualification referred to in Regulation 33(1) that he obtained 5 or more years before the date of his application, the Licensing Authority shall not issue a plumber's licence unless he is satisfied that the applicant has adequate knowledge of the type of work involved in respect of a plumber's licence and the provisions of the Waterworks Ordinance relating to such work.

To comply with the requirement of Regulation 34(3A) on renewal cases, our current policy is that the applicants may be required to attend an examination organized by this Authority and pay the necessary examination fee as stated in WSD Circular Letter 2/92 dated 18 December 1992.

However, you may be aware that flexibility is currently adopted by this Authority on the requirement of Regulation 34(2) regarding new application cases with qualification obtained 5 or more years before the date of application. Applicants of this

type are usually granted plumber's licences without having their knowledge of plumbing works and the Waterworks Ordinance re-examined. This relaxation is due to the consideration that some applicants may have difficulties in fully complying with the above requirement during the transition from the examination system to the qualification system.

In view of the fact that the qualification system has been put into full operation for a considerable time, I wish to inform you that with effect from **1st January 1999** the requirement specified in the Regulation 34(2) will be strictly enforced. This will mean that as from 1st January 1999, applicants with qualification obtained 5 or more years before application may be re-examined by this Authority to ascertain whether their knowledge in plumbing works and the Waterworks Ordinance is still updated. The applicants who are required to undergo an examination shall also be charged the necessary examination fee.

Yours faithfully,



(CHAN Chi-chiu)
for Water Authority

(with Chinese Translation)

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