

**Ministerial Decision No. (187/2001)**  
**Issuing the Regulations for Organizing the Issuance of**  
**Environmental Approvals and the Final Environmental Permit**

- Based on the Law on Conservation of the Environment and Prevention of Pollution issued by Royal Decree No. (10/82) and its amendments,
- and the Ministerial Decision No. (300/93) regulating the issuance of environmental permits,
- and the approval of the Ministry of Finance,
- and according to the requirements of public interest.

**Have decided**

**Article (1)** : The provisions of the attached Regulations for Organizing the Issuance of Environmental Approvals and the Final Environmental Permit shall come into force.

**Article (2)** : The aforementioned Ministerial Decision No. (300/93) and all other provisions contradicting or contravening this decision shall be considered void.

**Article (3)** : This decision shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into effect from 1 August 2001.

**Dr. Khamis Bin Mubarak Bin Essa Al-Alawi**  
Minister of Regional Municipalities, Environment and Water Resources

**Regulations for Organizing the Issuance of  
Environmental Approvals and the Final  
Environmental Permit**

**Article (1)** : In application of the provisions of these regulations, the words and phrases shall have the following meanings unless stipulated otherwise :

Environmental approval shall include :

- Preliminary Environmental Approval :

To be granted to the establishment to commence the construction process and the approval shall include specifications environmental conditions to be fulfilled prior to starting operation and shall be valid for one year renewable for a similar period.

- Temporary Environmental Approval :

To be granted to industrial establishments located outside industrial areas specified by the competent authorities and to projects complementary to the infrastructure ones. The approval, in all cases, shall be valid for one year renewable for similar periods until the existence of an industrial area or completion of the infrastructure project as appropriate.

- Environmental Permit to Infrastructure Projects :

To be granted to infrastructure projects not requiring follow-up after completion of construction. The approval shall be valid for one year renewable for similar periods until completion of the project.

- Final Environment permit :

To be granted to the establishment after fulfillment of the conditions stated in the preliminary environmental approval and shall be valid for two years and renewable for a similar period or other specified periods.

- Article (2)** : The establishments, subject to the provisions of these regulations, shall be classified into categories according to the materials used in production, production capacity and the degree of their impact on the adjacent environment as indicated in the attached annex. Every category stated in the said annex shall have its own environmental conditions according to the level of environmental impact arising from its construction and operation.
- Article (3)** : The owner of an establishment shall apply to the Ministry on the form approved by the Ministry and in addition enclose an environmental impact study prepared by a consulting office approved by the Sultanate, if required by the Ministry.
- Article (4)** : The Ministry official shall as a preliminary step toward issuance of the environmental approval, inspect the proposed site to determine the environmental conditions that must be fulfilled.
- Article (5)** : The owner of the establishment shall be bound to implement the required conditions and shall inform the Ministry of the same and after ensuring that all conditions were implemented prior to issuance of environmental approval or final Environmental Permit.
- Article (6)** : Fees against the issuance of the environmental approval and the final environmental permit as per the attached table shall be collected.
- Article (7)** : The establishments mentioned in the attached annex if the nature of their activities so require - as evaluated by the Ministry - shall be bound to conduct an Environmental Audit (EA) by specialized companies approved by the Sultanate according to the requirements of the ISO 14000 series for environmental management system, every two years from the date of receiving their final environmental permits.

**Article (8)** : Without prejudice to the penalties stipulated by the mentioned Law on Conservation of the Environment and Prevention of Pollution, the Ministry may close down the establishment if it practiced its activity without environmental approval or final environmental permit or after their expiry dates.

### **Annex Dividing the Establishments into Categories**

#### **Category One**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Small block Factories (Less than ten thousand tonnes)    | 8 Water filtration and distilled water (Less than 10 million liters) |
| 2 Carpentry, blacksmith and aluminum workshops             | 9 Furniture Factories  |
| 3 Flour and spice mills                                    | 10 Bakeries and Sweets manufacturing (less than thousand tonnes)     |
| 4 Ready made clothes factories                             | 11 Ice plants (Less than five thousand tonnes)                       |
| 5 Tissue paper industry                                    | 12 Gas cylinder storage and sale.                                    |
| 6 Foodstuff and coffee packaging (Less than 500 tonnes)    | 13 Car wash and oil change workshop                                  |
| 7 Tissue paper factories (cutting-up to 2 million packets) | 14 Small poultry farms   |
|  | 15 Small printing press  |

### Category Two

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Chemicals plants                   | 11 Petrochemicals plants                                   |
| 2 Pharmaceutical manufactories       | 12 Aluminium factories                                     |
| 3 Detergents manufactories           | 13 Chalks plants   |
| 4 Marble, tiles and ceramic plants   | 14 Water purification and desalination stations            |
| 5 Oil and gas projects               | 15 Organic fertilizers                                     |
| 6 Power stations projects            | 16 Tanning projects and leather industries                 |
| 7 Textile and Spinning Manufactories | 17 Crushers and screens                                    |
| 8 Quarries                           | 18 Mining  |
| 9 Plaster production                 | 19 Large block factories (ten thousand tonnes and more)    |
| 10 Perfumes and air fresheners       | 20 Large scale printing press (3 thousand tonnes and more) |

### Category Three

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Poultry farms                      | 11 Agriculture production and animal fodder |
| 2 Water treatment stations           | 12 Fisheries packging                       |
| 3 Slaughter houses                   | 13 Commercial and fishing ports             |
| 4 Dairy production                   | 14 Fish farming                             |
| 5 Marine clubs, harbours and bridges | 15 Roads                                    |
| 6 Artificial lakes                   | 16 Commercial and residential complexes.    |
| 7 Water supply networks              | 17 Hospitals and health centers             |
| 8 Storage and recharge dams          | 18 Permanent and temporary worker's camps   |
| 9 Electricity and telephone lines    | 19 Petrol stations                          |
| 10 Livestock sheds                   |   |

**Table**  
**Issuance of Environmental Approvals and the**  
**Final Environmental Permit Fees**

No.	Type of Activity	Fees in R.O.
1	Preliminary Environmental Approval : Category One Category Two Category Three	3 5 7
2	Temporary Environmental Approval : Category One Category Two Category Three	3 5 15
3	Environmental Permit for Infrastructure Projects	25
4	Final Environmental Permit Category One Category Two Category Three	5 10 30