

# SANITARY REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AQUEDUCTS

THE PEOPLE OF PORTO RICO  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

SAN JUAN, P. R., April 17, 1926.

*Administrative Bulletin No. 287.*

BY THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF PORTO RICO  
A PROCLAMATION

*Sanitary Rules and regulations No. 82. Aqueducts, construction, reconstruction, modification or extension of, in the Island of Porto Rico, regulations governing; promulgated.*

The following rules and regulations, having been approved by the Insular Board of Health on March 2, 1926, and by the Executive Council on April 6, 1926, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 81, approved March 14, 1912, are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, MODIFICATION OR EXTENSION OF AQUEDUCTS IN THE ISLAND OF PORTO RICO.

Section 1.—No aqueduct shall be constructed, reconstructed, or extended in Porto Rico unless the project for said aqueduct is duly approved by the Commissioner of Health.

Section 2.—The project for such aqueducts shall be filed in triplicate with the Department of Health. When approved, a copy shall be filed in the office of the Commissioner of Health, another in the office at the Local Health Officer where the aqueduct is to be built and the third copy shall be returned to the interested party. If the project is rejected the reasons for such rejection shall be given in writing to the party interested.

Section 3.—All projects for aqueducts shall consist of the following documents:

- (a) History of the project.
- (b) Plan of the proposed improvement, which plan shall comprise all such details as may be necessary to represent an exact idea of the work.
- (c) Technical specifications.
- (d) Estimate.

Section 4.—Unless construction of such aqueduct is commenced within six months from the date on which the permit is issued, such permit shall be renewed.

Section 5.—The Commissioner of Health shall direct his technical employees periodically to examine the work of construction, reconstruction, modification or extension of the aqueducts, and shall refer such report as may be rendered by the aforesaid technical employees to the contractor or person in charge of the work and to the Commissioner of the Interior or person or corporation constructing the aqueduct, for proper action according to the technical specifications.

If the Commissioner of Health or his proper delegate finds in the construction of any aqueduct that the conditions stipulated in the permit are not being fulfilled, the Commissioner or his delegate may direct suspension of the work, or any part thereof, after service of written notice on the party interested; and said work shall not be continued until all conditions stipulated in the aforesaid permit are fulfilled.

Section 6.—Projects for all aqueducts shall be based on an estimate of a per capita and daily consumption of fifty gallons. The Commissioner of Health is hereby empowered to alter such estimate when so required by circumstances. Moreover, in approving any project for an aqueduct, the Commissioner of Health may require the same to develop, within the urban zone, a minimum pressure of fifteen pounds per square inch at the street level.

Section 7.—All aqueducts built thereafter whose supply of water is taken from superficial sources exposed to contamination, shall be equipped with a purification plant. All water for public consumption shall have the following conditions: (a) Normal physical characteristics: odorless, colorless and tasteless; (b) its chemical characteristics shall be those of potable water; (c) such water shall not contain pathogenic elements.

Section 8.—Whenever he deems it necessary, the Commissioner of Health may require that an aqueduct supplying water to a town shall have a properly equipped bacteriological laboratory.

Section 9.—The Commissioner of Health and his representatives shall exercise proper supervision and general inspection of aqueducts in the Island of Porto Rico, and natural or artificial persons having charge of the management of said aqueducts, shall consider and execute all orders issued by said Commissioner or his representatives in connection with such aqueducts.

Section 10.—No aqueduct or extension or modification thereof shall be put into the public service without due authorization of the Commissioner of Health.

Section 11.—Connection of a public aqueduct with another of a private nature is prohibited.

Section 12.—Aqueducts shall be devoted to urban service, provided that persons in charge of aqueduct may grant permits for connection in the rural zones, provided such connections will not reduce the volume and pressure to such extent as to interfere with the regular urban service.

Section 13.—All regulations or parts of regulations in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 14.—Any violation of the provisions of these regulations shall be punished under section 33 of "An Act to reorganize the Sanitation Service," approved March 14, 1912.

Being so promulgated, and having been published in two newspapers of general circulation in the Island, in accordance with section

13 of Act No. 81, approved March 14, 1912, the said rules and regulations entitled "Rules and Regulations governing the construction, reconstruction, modification or extension of the aqueducts in the Island of Porto Rico," approved by the Executive Council on April 6, 1926, on and after this date have the force and effect of law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of Porto Rico to be affixed, at the city of San Juan this seventeenth day of April, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six.

[Seal]

GEORGE C. BUTTE,  
*Acting Governor.*

Promulgated according to law, April 17, 1926.

E. J. SALDAÑA,  
*Executive Secretary of Porto Rico.*

