

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE QUALITY STANDARDS TO BE MET BY SAFE WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS

Introduction

The Gold Standard methodology on “*Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC)*” includes an Annex on safe water supply. Within this Annex is a monitoring parameter on ‘**quality of treated water**’ for projects implementing safe water supply technologies. The annex states that the water quality testing may be conducted either in the field or by transportation to laboratories and requires third party endorsement on the appropriateness of the testing approach. This rule update provides requirements for the treated water quality standards to be met by safe water supply projects.

Requirements

As a first option, safe water supply projects are required to meet host country standards (where available) on treated water quality.

In cases where host country standards are not available, point of use household water treatment projects are required to meet the “Highly Protective Level” performance requirements as outlined in Table 1, page 7 of the WHO’s [Health Based Targets And Microbiological Specifications](#) document¹.

Point of use household water treatment projects where the baseline treatment does not achieve “Highly Protective Level” could be allowed to achieve only an “Interim Level” if there is credible and sufficient evidence to demonstrate that no water borne epidemiological diseases exist in the region due to the pathogen classes that cannot be treated by the proposed technology.

Such projects would have to undergo a full Pre-feasibility Assessment (PFA) by The Gold Standard which would be initiated upon providing the necessary evidence and paying the PFA fee.

These guidelines are mandatory for all safe water supply projects with the time of first submission after 31 January 2014. The Gold Standard will shortly provide an update on whether these guidelines would also be applicable for projects with time of first submission before this date.

¹ http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/2011/evaluating_water_treatment.pdf