

THEMATIC TITLE	LEGAL MEASURES FOR QUALITY CONTROL OF VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION
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ABSTRACT

This research aims at studying on laws relating to quality control of village water supply, concept of quality control of village water supply, basic concept of decentralization, public service, people's participation and administrative review system, hierarchy of laws and general means of quality control of water supply in United States of America and Japan. The study analyzes and searches for appropriate suggestions to revise Thai laws applicable to control quality of village water supply properly and efficiently for the people's good sanitation

Water supply is a provision of public service. In Thailand, a public service of water supply has been provided by state-owned enterprises, local administrative organizations and private sector. In particular, local administrative organizations undertake powers and duties of provision of public services by law. One of these services is a mission to provide village water supply which is expectedly clean and adequate. The study finds that current laws rendering powers and duties of provision of water supply to local administrative organizations are only the Determining Plans and Process of Decentralization Act B.E. 2542 (2009), the Municipality Act B.E. 2496 (1953) and the Sub-district Council and Sub-district Local Administrative Organization B.E. 2535 (1992). Nonetheless, none of law can be specifically applied to the quality control of village water supply. As regards a legal measure in the Notification of the Department of Health titled Quality Criteria

of Drinkable Water Supply B.E. 2553 (2010) indirectly applied nowadays cannot be efficient enough to control and manage this problem. As a result, several problems including a problem of water supply quality standard, a problem of the people's participation in controlling quality of water supply and a problem of regulatory state agency cause directly damage to the people's health and sanitation, social and economic development of the country.

According the study of various concepts, theories and regulations in comparison to the laws of foreign countries stipulating definite standard on quality control of water supply i.e. United States of America and Japan. This paper suggests some solutions by enactment of law having specific provisions to control and examine water supply quality, determining quality criteria of village water supply which is minimum safety standard for the people's consumption and enabling the local administrative organizations to be practicable, by determination of a measure to solve substandard quality of village water supply pursuant to specified criteria and by determination of rights and promotion of the people's participation in acknowledgment and access into information of the quality of village water supply. In addition, an agency in charge or being appropriate should be provided to regulate and coordinate related actions relating to control of the quality of village water supply for enabling the local administrative organizations to carry out efficiently under identical standard and for enabling local people and communities to have good livelihood, good health and sanitation.