

## List of Terminology

Approval (License)	Special license issued by the government which makes a certain private activity legally effective. Water supply business is not legally effective unless the water utility gets approved by the government (there are some exemptions by prefectural governor). Once a water utility is approved, it has obligation to supply water for public health.
Basic Act on Water Cycle	Basic law aims to maintain and restore the water cycle. The law stipulates that the national government shall make a Water Cycle Basic Plan with comprehensive measures. The Act promotes the coordination of water-related administrative organizations.
Bulk Water Supply	A water supply system that provides raw water to individual water supply utilities. The Bulk Water Supply Utilities should be publicly owned in principle; there are no private bulk water suppliers in Japan.
Business plan	A plan for water business management. It includes management policies, institutional management, financial plans, operation plans, etc. for some years. Most large-scale utilities formulate it as a mid-term plan every five years.
Consolidation of Water Utilities / Regional Collaboration of Water Utilities	Providing water supply for a wider area by merger or joint operation of neighboring water utilities. Water utilities in Japan have been managed by municipal government and their businesses have been limited in their jurisdictions. However, consolidation or collaboration of water utilities is required for scale of economy in Japan.
Construction design plan	A plan which gives comprehensive instruction for water supply construction. The application for the Approval (License) for water supply operations requires a construction design plan including (1) maximum and average volumes of daily water supply, (2) type of water sources and water intake points, (3) water purification process, etc. When changes occur in these matters water utilities have to notify the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare.
Fully Distributed Cost Method	A pricing method for allocating total costs to the services.
Health Center	Administrative organization which promotes community health. The Health Center is established by Prefecture and large city where is designated by the Community Health Act. The Health Center supervises water utilities in its jurisdiction.
high economic growth period	The period from 1954 to 1973 when Japan rapidly became the world's second largest economy. After the World War II recovery period of 1945-49 and the Korean War in 1950-53, the Japanese economy entered into a period of high growth. From the mid-1950s to the early 1970s, the average real growth was roughly 10%. This very high and sustained growth transformed the Japanese economy and society significantly. By around 1970, Japan overtook West Germany and became the second largest economy in the capitalist world measured by GNP size.
Local Public Enterprise Act	The Act is designed to establish special provisions for structures of an enterprise managed by a local public entity, finances of such enterprise, status and treatment of employees serving in the enterprise, and other basic standards for the operation of the enterprise.
Master plan	A plan which gives comprehensive instruction for water supply utilities. The application for the Approval (License) of water supply requires a master plan including (1) Service area, water supply population and water supply volume, (2) Outline of planned water supply facilities, (3) Total amount of construction expenses and their planned fund source, etc. When changes occur in these matters water utilities have to notify the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare.
Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare	Minister of State who is the head of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The Cabinet of Japan consists of approximately 14 Ministers of State and the Prime Minister.
Ministerial Ordinance about Water Quality Standard	Order of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare enacted by its minister concerning water quality standards. It stipulates the parameters in detail.

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	National administrative organization which promotes economy and industry in Japan. Its name was changed from Ministry of International Trade and Industry in 2001. The Ministry deals with industrial water for promotion of infrastructure for regional economy and industry.
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW)	Administrative organization which provides regulations on health, medical care, employment, etc. The Ministry was formed with the merger of the former Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Ministry of Labour in 2001. The Water Supply Division is part of the Department of Environmental Health and Food Safety.
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	National administrative organization which is responsible for fundamental framework of Japan, such as the various organizations relating to the economic and social activities of the nation. The Ministry was created in 2001 by the merger of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and the Management and Coordination Agency.
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)	Administrative organization which provides development and conservation of country land and construction of infrastructures, etc. The Ministry was formed with the merger of Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Transport and two Agencies in 2001. The Water and Disaster Management Bureau is in charge of river and sewerage facilities.
Ministry of the Environment	National administrative organization which promotes global environmental conservation, pollution control, and nature conservation. The Ministry was formed at the cabinet level in 2001 from the sub-cabinet level Environmental Agency established in 1971.
Non-Revenue Water (NRW)	It consists of unbilled authorized consumption, apparent/commercial losses (unauthorized consumption, customer metering inaccuracies and systematic data handling errors) and real losses (leakage).
Order for the Water Supply Act	Rules by the state government which are necessary for enforcing the Water Supply Act. It stipulates qualifications of the Technical Administrator for Waterworks and so on.
Ordinance for Enforcement of the Water Supply Act	Rules by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare which are necessary for enforcing the Water Supply Act. It stipulates documents to be attached to applications for Approval (License) and so on.
Prefecture	The first level of administrative division of Japan. Each Prefecture has a Governor and an Assembly. The Assembly is able to issue ordinances.
River Act	Basic law of river management in Japan, including flood control and water resources development. It stipulates the classification of river, river administrator and so on.
Self-Supporting Accounting System	Management system that aims to make a business unit manage itself with its own financial means. In this text, self-supporting accounting system means that a water utility is managed by tariff revenue.
Small Scale Public Water Supply	Waterworks served a population of 101 to 5,000. Small Scale Public Water Supply does not mean a technically simple system just a system that supplies a small population.
Volumetric Rate	The water rates charged according to water volume consumed. Two-part tariffs consisting of the minimum rates and volumetric rates are generally used in Japan.
Water Rights	Special license by the river administrator. The river administrator is able to approve an exclusive use of a designated amount of water for certain purpose; electric power, irrigation and water supply etc. "Water Rights" is a customary name and it is not the legal word used in the River Act.
Water Supply Act	A basic law of waterworks in Japan since 1957. It stipulates fundamental concepts of water supply in Japan such as water quality standards, facilities standards and Approval (License).
Water Supply Vision	A long-term plan (vision) to indicate the future direction the water supply should consider the major changes in the business environment. Each water utility makes their Water Vision according to their own situation. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has recommended that since 2005.