

Compiler:	Environmental Specialist	Signature:	Abdullah Al Muqbali	March 2024
Owner:	EHS Manager	Signature:	Nathalie TREMBLY	March 2024
Reviewer:	EHS Manager	Signature:	Nathalie TREMBLY	March 2024
Approver:	Chief Operating Officer	Signature:	Agnello BORIM	March 2024

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1.CONTEXT

Oman is classified among the arid to semi-arid countries. Water must be managed at all stages of the life cycle of smelting operations. Water management is a collective responsibility across the plant. In line with its EHS Policy, Sohar Aluminium has realised the importance to have a proper system in place to protect surface and groundwater from pollution.

Seawater is the only source for meeting all water requirements in Sohar Aluminium (SA) facilities. Seawater is drawn from the Sohar Industrial Area (SIA) intake system, pumped to SAPP and treated in the Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant located at the Sohar Aluminium Power Plant in Plot 23 of SIA. The treated water (Permeate) from the RO plant is distributed for fire protection, cooling, process, domestic and drinking requirements at the Sohar Aluminium smelter and power plant through a piping network. The water need for the port terminal facility is met through piping network supplied by Majis Industrial Service Company (MISC).

A first flush pond and a retention pond have been constructed at the smelter site to prevent possible contamination of groundwater and surface water from the runoff from Sohar Aluminium premises. Both these ponds are lined with High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) liner and are appropriately sized to accommodate all the discharges and rainfall from the smelter area.

The drainage channels are stone pitched to ensure that all the surface runoff reaches the ponds and not seeps through the ground for the sake of environmental protection.

2.PURPOSE

To ensure conservation and proper management of the quantity and quality of water at all areas of Sohar Aluminium and to facilitate efficient recycling, reuse and appropriate disposal of treated water with a view to minimize impact/load on the water resources of the region.

3.SCOPE

This standard covers the management of consumption, treatment, and storage, distribution of water and provision of quality service water to various Sohar Aluminium facilities.

The wastewater releases management is covered separately under the Environmental Releases Management and Environmental Monitoring Standards.

4.KEY PRINCIPLES

- Water used for any of the operation, process, cooling, or fire protection shall be deemed as process water or mill water.
- Water used in kitchen, bathrooms, and in the drinking water dispensers shall be deemed as drinking water.

5.ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUTHORITY

Role	Accountability	Authority
COO	Standard owner(s). Set context. Ensure standard is achieving its purpose.	Authorise standard design, implementation and change.
Manager EHS	Standard custodian Provide expert advice on standard design and operation.	Recommend change or improvement. Audit
Manager EHS	Standard design, ongoing monitoring and improvement. Standard Control	Recommend design, change or improvement. Monitor / Review
Managers	Standard operates correctly in their Department	Leadership
EHS	High quality services and support to Departments in relation to this standard.	Provide advice.

6. STANDARD PROCEDURE

STEP	PROCESS	ACCOUNTABLE
1	All work area shall aim to minimize the quantity of water consumed and maximize reuse of wastewater through treatment where feasible.	Departmental Manager
2.	A water distribution network diagram has been prepared and kept up to date at least on an annual basis.	Central Maintenance
3.	No new tapping from the water mains shall be taken by any individual or department without approval from the Utilities department.	Area Superintendent
4.	Water consumption at the main consumption points is metered and monitored periodically.	Central Maintenance
5.	The quality of the process water and drinking water is tested and monitored periodically in critical areas and their conformance to Omani legal requirements and/or Omani drinking water standard OS 8/1998 shall be ensured.	Central Maintenance
6.	Efficiency of each water treatment facility shall be assessed and reported to the Environment department on an annual basis.	Central Maintenance
7.	Leak checks shall be undertaken at regular intervals covering the entire network and storage facilities at least once in 3 years.	Central Maintenance
8.	Only storm water shall enter the first flush pond and a flow meter is provided at the inlet of the pond to measure the quantity of the incoming water.	Utility Superintendent
10.	Groundwater within Sohar Aluminium premises is tested and monitored periodically to ensure that the groundwater is not contaminated with pollutants from Sohar Aluminium operations activities.	Environment Department

7. RECORDS & REPORTING

The water quantity and quality records shall be maintained in order to demonstrate compliance with this standard. Each work area shall report the water consumption on a monthly basis to the Environment department.

8. REVIEW OF THE STANDARD

The Water Management Standard shall be periodically reviewed or at least each three years. It may be also reviewed at any time in response to changes in legislation, standards, operations, or improved knowledge and understanding of EHS requirement.

The previous copies of the document are retained in the document management system.

9. REFERENCES

- Environmental Monitoring & Reporting Standard
- RD 114/2001: law on the Conservation of Environment and Prevention of Pollution
- RD 115/2001: Law on the Protection of Sources of Potable Water from Pollution
- OS 8/1998 Omani Drinking Water Standard
- ISO 14001

10. APPENDICES

- None

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