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Legalization of Water Quality Standards as a Guarantee of Protection of the Right to Sustainable Life

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Abstract: *Water is essential for all forms of life, and its importance is also emphasized in Islamic teachings. The quality of water that is not guaranteed can affect health or even the validity of worship. Base on the problem, the existence of water becomes important, especially in efforts to ensure the hygiene of water quality standards in order to provide security for its users. The existence of water requires guaranteed protection from supply to distribution. In fact, it is not governed by strict regulations that ensure legal certainty. This study aims to describe the level of urgency of legalizing water and sanitation quality standards in the form of higher and legally binding regulations. Empirical legal methods by taking primary and secondary data sources in conducting problem analysis. Observations and interviews were conducted to obtain primary data, while secondary data was obtained from legislative and conceptual approach are used to strengthen arguments in ensuring that the concepts offered remain in the correct legal corridor. The findings show the inconsistency of the government in recognizing the existence of water that is important for life but the implementation of systematic quality standard supervision, even the application of sanctions for violators cannot be carried out because the legal instrument is only limited to the regulations of the Minister of Health. The need to establish regulations in the form of Government Regulations on water quality standards and sanitation is a crucial consideration for safeguarding public health and well-being.*

Introduction

Water's status as an economic commodity is closely linked to its reality as a resource that has been, is, and will continue to become increasingly scarce. Among the underlying factors is the uneven distribution of water reserves between one region and another in the hemisphere. The contribution of water to economic and social development is also considered very vital (Fauzi, 2004). Quoting from the 2020 National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) report, several regions in Indonesia, such as South Sumatra, West Nusa Tenggara, and South Sulawesi will experience a shortage or crisis of clean water in 2045. Meanwhile, in Java and Bali, the availability of clean water will enter a rare to critical status in most regions. The report also shows that the proportion of water crisis areas will increase from 6 percent in 2000 to 9.6 percent in 2045. This condition is also reflected in the report of the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) released in 2020. According to BPS data, the availability of water per capita per year in Indonesia in 2035 will only be

181,498 cubic meters. This figure is significantly lower than the per capita water availability in 2010, which was still at 265,420 cubic meters per year.

The decline in water availability has led to the concept of treating water as an economic commodity. Placing water as an economic commodity is a reality that cannot be denied. In urban or rural communities, water has been commercialized by being traded, either in the form of jerry cans, tanks, or distributed through pipes and people will buy it either voluntarily or by force. It can also be witnessed that drinking water made in the form of bottles or glasses is also traded (Molle & Blanchard, 2022). The government or private sector as business actors who provide clean water, in fact, build clean water management facilities and distribute them to homes, offices, business premises, and public facilities through pipes, all of which require costs, and consumers who use and/or utilize them are charged (Van Winckel et al., 2021). All of these are facts that cannot be ignored that water has truly become an economic commodity. If we look at it from a legal perspective, it can be said that water transactions are legal facts accepted by society. Not only have legal sanctions never been enforced, but even moral sanctions have never arisen in society where someone is punished simply for selling or purchasing water (Suni & Legono, 2021).

The acceptance of water as an economic good by society does not mean it can be governed solely by market logic based on supply and demand without any state control or intervention. This logic sees conditions when people's purchasing power is non-existent or business actors want to gain more profit, then business actors will boycott the availability of hygienic water, what will happen is that consumers will be harmed (Carrard et al., 2024). This fact shows that even though the position of water as an economic good has been accepted by the community, but considering the special nature of water which is very essential for human life, the management of water, especially in large quantities, cannot only be left to pure market mechanisms as applied to economic goods in general. Regulation and supervision in the utilization of water must involve the role of the state in it (Asshiddiqie, 2004). This is essential to ensure that the use and utilization of water are not exploited solely for maximum profit.

The privatization of water management has been examined by Priscila et al. in their paper titled *'Talks about Privatisation of Water and Sanitation: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Contributions to a UN Report.'* This study critiques privatization policies and concludes with the assertion that global collaboration is necessary to align perspectives on water's economic value in the context of future sustainable development (Neves-Silva et al., 2024). Another study conducted by Daniel et all with the title of the publication article is, 'Factors related to the functionality of community-based rural water supply and sanitation programmes in Indonesia', this study emphasises the benefits of government water supply and sanitation programmes for urban communities. the results are 87% of urban communities stated very useful (Daniel et al., 2023). The next research that has been published related to water is the writing of Faiznur Fatin Ishak and Ibnor Azli Ibrahim, entitled 'Water According to Sharia Perspective and Its Speciality as an Image of the Prophet's Miracle. The results of the study, which are based on the

interpretation of the interpretation of the Quran and hadiths, state that Islam considers the importance of water for Muslim life, both for consumption and for worship (Ishak & Ibrahim, 2019). Research published in the journal by Lisa et all entitled "Relationship between water and sanitation and maternal health: Evidence from Indonesia", provides a picture of the low access to clean water and adequate sanitation, especially for pregnant women and newborn women. The availability of clean water and good sanitation requires real contributions. This is important to do, especially for women who have an important role in maintaining family health in Indonesia (Cameron et al., 2021). The fundamental difference of this article lies in the in-depth study of the urgency of water and sanitation for the lives of the community, especially the Palembang community, which is predominantly Muslim and needs proper water and sanitation to carry out their worship. The government's role in regulation and oversight is a key solution to ensuring water quality and sanitation hygiene.

Given the private sector's primary focus on profit, water privatization in various sectors is often associated with tariff increases. A market mechanism is formed where water "flows to those who are economically capable", requiring the participation of the state at least as a regulator and supervisor. The concept of regulation related to supervision of safety and hygiene of water quality standards becomes important (Molle & Blanchard, 2022). This is motivated by the desire to strengthen the role of the state in providing protection for its citizens. Overall, this article aims to provide insight into the importance of local government involvement in carrying out its function as a regulator, policy maker, supervisor, and manager of the availability of clean water and proper sanitation. Regional regulations serving as implementation guidelines for overseeing water hygiene and sanitation in Palembang City are part of efforts to ensure the safe use and management of water for the community's well-being.

Method

This discussion focuses on the study of positive law, involving the collection, explanation, systematization, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of legal norms. The aim is to provide a rationalized understanding of the legal framework governing the standard quality requirements for water health in household and industrial consumption, ultimately serving as a means of consumer protection (Shidarta, 2020). The regulations used in the discussion are The 1945 Constitution, Law Number 7 of 2004 concerning Water Resources, to the Regulation of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia Number 32 of 2017. The discussion also examines whether or not the law functions in society, by conducting observations and interviews with people as a consumer, business actors who use water in running their business (such as swimming pool, SPA, restaurant and mall business actors, including managers of places of worship), related institutions in this case the Health Office of South Sumatra Province and Palembang City The analysis is carried out using a statute approach based on legislation and regulation. Observations were conducted at 23 swimming pools, 19 SPAs, 35 restaurants, 7 malls, and 21 places of worship in Palembang. In general, the analysis is carried out using

a doctrinal method to determine how legal subjects should carry out their obligations and obtain their rights (Rachmad Baro, 2017). The analysis will lead to conclusions regarding the application of the legalization concept for standard water quality requirements in household and industrial use as a consumer protection measure. This study adopts an inductive approach, examining specific legal issues related to the commercialization of water by business entities. Legalization is essential to ensure consumer safety and provide guarantees for those who utilize or consume water-based products offered by businesses (Sunggono, 2006).

Results and Discussion

The Urgency of the State's Role in Water Management

For urban communities, water availability is a critical issue, as groundwater sources are insufficient to meet their clean water needs. Hygienic water and proper sanitation is a challenge for the global community as its availability is decreasing day by day (Bose et al., 2024). The World's concern about the scarcity of clean water availability for life and living is implemented through the International Conference on Water and the Environment held in Dublin, in which the Dublin Principles were born (Quispe-Coica & Pérez-Foguet, 2022). The Dublin Principles outline four key recommendations that can be implemented at local, national, and international levels.

The first Dublin Principle states that freshwater is a finite and vulnerable resource, essential for sustaining life, development, and the environment. Water is a life-supporting element, effective water resource management requires a holistic approach, linking social and economic development with protection of natural ecosystems. Effective land and water management which includes water catchment areas or groundwater aquifers. *Second*, water development and management should be based on a participatory approach, involving users, planners and policy-makers at all levels. The participatory approach involves raising awareness of the importance of water among policy makers and the general public. This means that policies are taken at the lowest level, with full public consultation and involving planners and implementers of water-related projects. *Third*, women play a central part in the provision, management and safeguarding of water. This principle emphasizes the full inclusion of women. The rationale is that women's important roles as providers and users of water and as guardians of the environment are rarely reflected in institutional arrangements for water resources development and management. Acceptance and implementation of this principle require positive policies to address women's specific needs and to equip and empower women to participate at all levels in water resources programming, including decision-making and implementation, in ways determined by them. *Fourth*, Dublin Principle asserts that water holds economic value in all its competing uses and should be recognized as an economic good.

The principles of water scarcity and water as an economic good served as the main foundation for discussions at the International Water Conference. These principles even influenced the World Bank to shift its water policy

direction in 1993. Previously, before 1993, the World Bank focused its investment on water resource infrastructure, becoming legal and institutional reforms to make the world water market mechanism more efficient (Guedes et al., 2024).

At the International Conference on Water, Ryutaro Hashimoto, Chairman of the 3rd World Water Forum, emphasized the need to eliminate water scarcity, food contamination, poor living conditions, and flood risks to achieve global harmony. He highlighted the forum as an opportunity to make the Earth a more livable and sustainable place (Pereira & Marques, 2021). Efforts to eliminate water scarcity are used as the basis for world policy, international financial institutions and rich countries lead water scarcity into the concept of a capitalist economy, where based on the economic principle the rarer a product is, the higher its economic value. Along with the increase in population and economy (Neves-Silva et al., 2024), the economic function becomes stronger, this is indicated by the increasingly supply, on the one hand, while on the other hand the need for water continues to increase (Bose et al., 2024). This means that the demand for water will increase and thus the economic opportunities in water will also strengthen. The challenge with water resources lies in the fact that water has no substitute, yet its role is far more vital to human life than any other natural resource (Manan, 2003).

Global water policies have also shaped Indonesia's approach to water management. The Indonesian government, through the Decree of the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, has implemented a water resources policy known as the National Water Resources Policy Direction (National SDA Policy). This policy is outlined in the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Decree No. KEP-14/M.EKON/12/2001 on the National Water Resources Policy Direction. In general, the national SDA policy carries five main missions for reforming Indonesia's water resources management, namely: *First*, sustainable water resources conservation. *Second*, fair utilization of water resources for various community needs that meet quality and quantity. *Third*, control of water damage. *Fourth*, empowerment and enhancement of the role of the community, private sector, and government. *Fifth*, it emphasizes the need for greater transparency and accessibility of data and information in water resources management.

Water resource policy reform aims to involve the private sector in Indonesia's water management. Referring to Article 33 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution (UUD-1945), water management is controlled by the state as a form of protection and guarantee of the fulfillment of the basic rights of the Indonesian people to the availability of water. The state's right to control water resources is further stated in Law No. 7 of 2004 concerning Water Resources (UUSDA) in Article 6, which states:

1. Water resources are controlled by the state and used for the greatest prosperity of the people.
2. Control of water resources as referred to in paragraph (1) is carried out by the Government and/or regional government while still recognizing the customary rights of local customary law communities and similar rights, as long as they do not conflict with national interests and laws and regulations.

3. The customary rights of customary law communities over water resources as referred to in paragraph (2) remain recognized as long as they still exist and have been confirmed by local regional regulations.
4. On the basis of state control as referred to in paragraph (1), water use rights are determined.

Article 6 paragraphs (1) to (3) have outlined the concept of state control rights in Article 33 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution. However, in Article 6 paragraph (4) the basis for state control over water resources is carried out through a water use rights scheme. This water use right is what builds the existence of water into an economic good that can be cultivated both individually and through corporations in a scheme of granting rights to the private sector (Trianingsih, 2020). The water use rights referred to include services related to water supply, such as purification, distillation, bottling, distribution, spa facilities (*solus per aqua*), sanitation, and other businesses where water serves as the primary infrastructure (Juwita, 2017).

The government's role in establishing regulatory benchmarks and overseeing the commercialization of water use rights is reflected in the implementation of Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia No. 82 of 2001 on Water Quality Management and Water Pollution Control. In addition, Government Regulation Number 66 of 2014 concerning Environmental Health (Environmental Health Law) is also enforced, healthy environmental quality is determined through the achievement or fulfillment of Environmental Health Quality Standards and Health Requirements. The right to clean and healthy water which is a positive human right requires the State to form legal provisions as a form of protection, respect, and fulfillment of the rights of its citizens (Wattimena, 2021). Meanwhile, the form of regulation and supervision of water use to meet household and industrial needs managed by the private sector is contained in the Regulation of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia Number 32 of 2017 concerning Environmental Health Quality Standards and Water Health Requirements for Hygiene Sanitation Needs, Swimming Pools, Solus Per Aqua, and Public Baths (Permenkes No. 32 of 2017). This regulation provides standard for the use of water for hygiene and sanitation needs to meet the needs of households and swimming pool industries, solus per aqua, and public baths commercialized by business actors. This regulation grants the government a role in regulating and overseeing water quality standards, with authority delegated to the Health Service at the provincial and district/city levels across Indonesia (Kasim, 2015).

Islamic Legal Perspective on the Realization of Water Quality Standard Regulations

When discussing water within the framework of Islamic teachings, the perspective inevitably centers on *sharia*, as it encompasses aspects of faith, worship, ethics (*akhlaq*), and social transactions (*muamalah*). The sharia perspective concerns human benefit in this world and in the afterlife (Ishak & Ibrahim, 2019). Islamic teachings believe that everything that happens on earth has a use, and this is also the case with the presence of water on earth. According to Islamic teachings, water has a very important position in the life and existence of all creatures on earth. The position of water in Islamic

teachings is confirmed in the Quran as the basis for the creation of all creatures. Water is considered the second greatest creation of Allah SWT after humans. Its significance in the Qur'an is illustrated in the following table 1:

Table 1. The Position of Water in the Quran

No.	The Quran Surah	Description of water position
1	Surah Al-Baqarah 2:21-22	Water is the origin of the growth of fruit which can be utilized by all creatures on earth.
2	Surah Al-Baqarah 2:164	The position of water as a means for the survival of all creatures on earth.
3	Al-Anfal 8:11	Water as a tool to purify oneself.
4	Surah Hud 11:07	Water as the basis for the creation of the 6 ages of heaven and earth.
5	Surah Ibrahim 14:32-34	Water is the origin of the growth of fruits that can be consumed by humans, water is a means that can facilitate the movement of ships as a means of transportation, and water is a habitat for living creatures.
6	Surah Al-Hijr 15:22	Water is a means of transporting and growing seeds, and water can also be consumed by all living things.
7	Surah Al-Mukminun 23: 18	The cycle of rainwater into groundwater.
8	Surah Ar-Rum 30: 48	The water cycle becomes rain and can be beneficial for the earth.

Source: Authors' analysis based on the Quran, 2025

Based on Table 1 above, it is evident how essential water is for Muslims. It is not only meant for consumption but also serves as a fundamental element for purification. Referring to the description in table 1 above, it can be seen based on Islamic teachings that water comes from the sky and the earth. Water that comes from the sky is called rain, snow, and dew, while water that comes from the earth is called groundwater, springs, river water, and sea water. In the Qur'an and Al-Hadith, it has been explained about the usefulness of water for life and the importance of the position of water as a means of ensuring the survival of all creatures and the balance of the ecosystem on earth (Seckler, 1998). In an effort to monitor the use and availability of water, Islamic teachings also instruct its followers about the morals or ethics of water use because the way water is used has an impact on the quality of the water. Every Muslim is responsible for using water in a rational and careful manner. The importance of the position of water indicates the importance of maintaining the quality of water so that it can be used continuously (Biswas, 1991). Islamic teachings emphasize that the responsibility for supervising water quality lies with every individual. This means that personal awareness and concern play a crucial role in ensuring the availability of quality water for all living beings.

South Sumatra Province, where the majority of the population adheres to Islam, should incorporate Qur'anic principles into regulations on water

quality standards to ensure hygienic and safe water for public use. The regulation regarding the standardization of water quality standards enacted based on the Minister of Health Regulation No. 32 of 2017 only delegates to provincial, city and district health offices to conduct periodic supervision, but does not provide mechanisms and standards of supervision that must be carried out. This condition has an impact on the weak implementation of supervision because it is not an obligation, meaning that there is no guarantee of the hygiene of the water used by the community. In fact, water hygiene is crucial for Muslims, as it serves as a fundamental requirement for the validity of worship.

Water Quality Standard Regulations as a Form of Guarantee of Safe Water Use

Water used in domestic, irrigation, and industrial settings originates from raw water sources (Loucks, 2000). Raw water is water that comes from water sources that need or do not need to be processed into clean water for domestic purposes, general and public services, and industry (Nguea, 2024). In order for raw water to be consumed by the community as clean water, special processing or handling is required. The raw water needs to be studied in the laboratory so that further processing is in accordance with the quality that meets the water quality standards in Indonesia (Alfian, 2023). To reduce costs and simplify the operation and maintenance of clean water infrastructure, water-scarce areas can share raw water sources based on the available supply (Chandranegara, 2016).

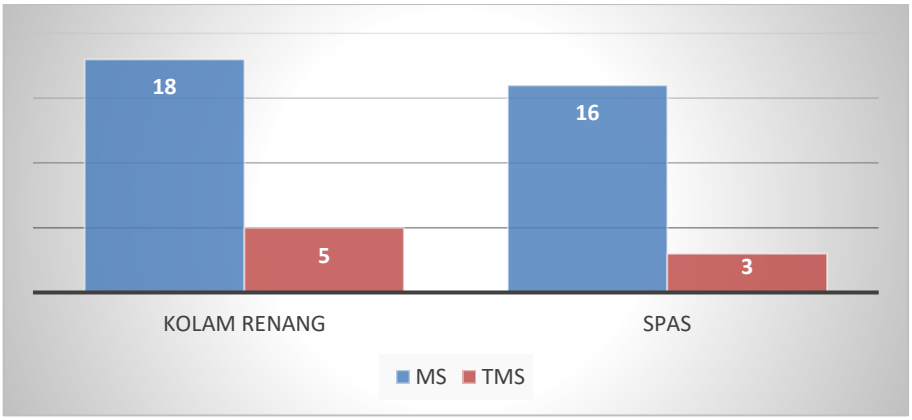
The utilization of raw water in Indonesia is categorized into several classes based on water quality standards. Water class is a water quality rating that is considered still suitable for use for certain purposes. Water quality standards are quality standards that are determined based on physical, chemical, radioactive and bacteriological properties that indicate the requirements for the quality of the water (Zhu et al., 2022). Water classes are listed in Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 82 of 2001 concerning Water Quality Management and Water Pollution Control (PP 82 of 2001). The determination of water quality standards is not only based on the designation (designated beneficial water uses), but also based on the actual conditions of water quality that may exist between one region and another. In this regulation, water quality is determined into four classes, namely: *Class one*, water that can be used as raw water for drinking water, and/or other uses that require the same water quality as the aforementioned uses. *Class two*, water that can be used for water recreation infrastructure/facilities, freshwater fish farming, animal husbandry, water for irrigating crops, and/or other uses that require the same water quality as the aforementioned uses. *Class three*, water that can be used for freshwater fish farming, animal husbandry, water for irrigating crops, and/or other uses that require the same water quality as the aforementioned uses. *Class four,* water that is designated for irrigation and other uses that require similar water quality standards.

These four water classes have distinct quality criteria, including physical properties, inorganic and organic chemistry, microbiology, and radioactivity. These criteria must be met before the water can be used for its

designated purpose. Article 13 of PP 82 of 2001 regulates the form of supervision that is carried out periodically at least once every 6 months. This supervision is carried out by the city government (Mayor) or district government (Regent) which is delegated to the regional environmental supervisory officer (Article 44). Specifically to protect the existence of drinking water, the government issued Government Regulation Number 16 of 2005 concerning the Development of Drinking Water Supply Systems (PP 16 of 2005), the supervision of which is carried out by the city or district government. Further regulations regarding the supervision of drinking water quality standards are contained in the Regulation of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia Number 492/MENKES/PER/IV/2010 concerning Drinking Water Quality Requirements. Article 4 emphasizes that supervision of the quality of drinking water consumption standards is carried out externally and internally. External supervision is conducted by the District/City Health Office or the Port Health Office, while internal supervision is the responsibility of the drinking water provider.

Epidemiological studies and risk assessments conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO) have contributed to the development of standard guidelines aimed at improving water quality and its impact on public health. It is stated that in addition to drinking water, industrial water such as water for recreational industries such as swimming pools, spas, and public baths is also a potential risk of causing water-based diseases (Cetrulo et al., 2019). Therefore, it is necessary to have laws and regulations that accommodate efforts to realize environmental health in environmental media in the form of water, on the basis of this, the government issued Permenkes No. 32 of 2017. This supervision mechanism is very much needed because it is related to whether or not business actors are cheating in running their business and is related to consumer safety and comfort. Supervision by the Health Service is carried out periodically every 3 months by receiving monthly reports from business actors on the use of water quality standards, especially water used in the swimming pool, mall, spa, and public bath industries. According to data from the Palembang Health Office, supervision of 23 swimming pools and 19 SPAs has yielded the following findings:

Graph 1: Assessment of Water Quality Standards



Source: Palembang City Health Office, 2023

On the other hand, water quality supervision in restaurants, malls, and places of worship has never been conducted. This is because the responsibility for maintaining water quality standards is entirely entrusted to the Palembang Regional Water Utility (PDAM-Palembang). Direct observations carried out by researchers at 35 restaurants, 7 malls, and 21 places of worship in Palembang confirmed that the fulfillment of water needs was carried out by PDAM Palembang, so there was never an assessment of the water quality standards carried out. estaurant business activities should be an important concern because they are related to the consumption of food and drinks that will enter the human body. Regarding this, Faisal Ridha (Mei 2023) as a representative of the Palembang Health Office explained that Permenkes 32 of 2017 only mandates supervision of the water quality of swimming pools, SPA, and public baths. This condition is also a weakness in the implementation of water quality standards used in business activities which will have a direct impact on the health of consumers. The scope of water quality standard supervision by the Health Service which is only limited to 3 business activities creates new problems because there are crucial sectors that are actually exempt from supervision. In addition, the fundamental problem is also related to the results of the quality standard supervision that is carried out not being published. The results of the supervision are not published, which of course makes the element of benefit from the implementation of supervision not optimal because it cannot be widely known. Another thing that is of concern is the absence of strict sanctions for violators in terms of supervision and assessment of water quality standards. Additionally, there are no strict sanctions in place for the absence of water quality supervision.

Regulating water quality standards through regional regulations is essential to ensure legal protection and certainty. This framework guarantees that water usage for humans and other living beings aligns with the principle of utility, as emphasized in utilitarianism theory. In the theory of expediency described by Jeremy Benthem, a policy issued by the ruler or a rule of law created must maximize usefulness, so that its implementation can be enjoyed for its benefits, advantages, happiness, and enjoyment. In Bentham concept of utilitarianism (Ridwansyah, 2024) illustrates that if an event is morally important to someone, we can make calculations about who will be affected by the action and how much pleasure and pain it can cause to those affected. Then, we can choose an action that optimizes happiness or reduces suffering (Oda & Toyama, 2002). In utilitarianism theory, Jeremy Bentham believed in the process of maximizing utility, where maximizing utility is considered equivalent to maximizing happiness, benefits, advantages, and enjoyment for as many people as possible. The relevance of utility theory in regulating water quality standards at the local government level is to provide a guarantee of protection for users. in other words, this guarantee provides certainty for the use of water in human life and other living things (Willen & Kohler, 2018). This standardization arrangement will also place the local government as the supervisor who will be responsible as the realization of the theory of the role of the state. This regulation will also ensure that the relevant agencies or institutions are responsible for providing the public with information on water quality standards. As a result, the community will have legal certainty and

protection, enabling them to file claims or demands in cases of losses related to water quality issues (Dickin & Gabrielsson, 2023).

The benefits experienced by the broader community serve as a fundamental reference for applying utilitarianism theory. However, Robert Nozick emphasized that individual rights must be accommodated in order to ensure the protection of freedom of human rights (Rahman & Maulana, 2023). The role of the state in ensuring the fulfillment of individual rights is a demand in the concept of a welfare state. The realization that can be done is by making regional regulations that can reach the protection of individual human rights. The correlation of this understanding is related to each region having its own characteristics and differences, including the patterns and conditions of its society. Different approaches must be able to be applied by adopting all individual needs in a society. The implementation of regional water quality standard regulations is carried out as an effort to meet the needs of individuals in a society. The issuance of regional regulations to enforce and supervise water quality standardization is an urgent necessity.

Regular monitoring and evaluation must be explicitly outlined in the implementing regulations. This is essential to uphold the state's role as a supervisory authority (Crocker et al., 2024). The priority of supervision of water use certainly has a different scale in each region. For rural areas, the use of irrigation water is a top priority to be fulfilled and protected by the government, but it will be different from urban areas. The priority of water use for urban communities such as Palembang is mostly intended for household and industrial scales. The use of water for industrial purposes must be regulated, particularly in terms of monitoring compliance with standard water quality requirements for consumers (Bose et al., 2024). This regulation reinforces the principle that water, as a natural resource, is protected by the state. While the private sector may be granted opportunities for water management, regulation and supervision remain under the full authority of the Indonesian government as a sovereign entity.

Conclusion

Water plays a vital role in the survival of all living beings, particularly humans. The existence of water is very much needed as a means of supporting human survival. Water as an economic object creates commercialism towards water. The government has emphasized that commercialism towards water is not in the water but in the right to use water. Water management as the realization of the right to use water can be carried out by the government and the private sector, only there needs to be supervision of water management as a form of security guarantee for users. The existence of Permenkes No. 32 of 2017 has not been able to be implemented optimally because it still has weaknesses, especially in technical matters, such as not containing a monitoring mechanism carried out by related agencies or local governments. Furthermore, the lack of oversight by specific agencies can lead to a transfer of responsibility, creating opportunities for violations or fraudulent practices, particularly by business actors who rely on water as a key resource for their operations.

Regional regulations that guarantee the fulfillment of water quality standards are essential and should be established. This is related to the role of local governments in ensuring the welfare and security of their communities. One form of supervision that can be carried out is by assessing water quality standards through certain standards set by the government. It is no less important that supervision of water quality standards needs to be carried out periodically and continuously. Regulations regarding supervision of water quality standards are only limited to the delegation of tasks to local governments, but do not require supervisors to publish the results of their assessments to the public, not to mention the absence of sanctions for business actors who carry out water management fraudulently or illegally. The discourse on the need for additional regulations regarding the publication of the results of water quality standard supervision to the public makes the duties of supervisors transparent and accountable. Additionally, incorporating regulations on fines for water quality managers and supervisors who are negligent or act in bad faith should be considered. This measure aligns with efforts to uphold justice in the legal system.

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