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## KEY INDICES TOWARDS A SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT GUIDELINE FOR THE WATER SUPPLY SECTOR IN SRI LANKA

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**Abstract:** The National Water Supply Board of Sri Lanka (NWSDB) presently practices the National Procurement Agency guideline primarily at water supply sector procurement undertakings. This practice is perceived with fundamental complications while implementing water supply projects effectively and efficiently at present practice. Thus, this research discusses necessary modifications for a specific procurement guideline for the water supply sector with key indices to address from the new procurement guideline for NWSDB Sri Lanka. Accordingly, the objectives were achieved in the light of qualitative approach, with a comprehensive literature review followed by ten semi-structured interviews done at subject experts in the National Water Supply sector. The collected data were analyzed using the content analysis. This study has been initiated with a literature review, in which nineteen uniqueness variables of the water supply projects identified with eight new variables for improvements over proposed specific guideline. Twenty one problems & challenges in tender practice with fifteen new problem variables identified. Further, twenty problems and fourteen new problem variables, attained at expert interviews. Thus, findings have precisely pointed out the need of a specific procurement guideline for the water supply sector of Sri Lanka. Strategies listed out as indices, that to be addressed at a specific procurement guideline development.

**Keywords:** Procurement Guideline, National Water Supply Board of Sri Lanka, Water Supply.