

## Kahramaa replacing old water pipelines

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DOHA: Public utility Kahramaa (Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation) is replacing water pipeline networks in the old localities.

Pipelines that were installed before 1990 have already been replaced and the remaining will be replaced over the next three years.

A total of 900 kilometres of water pipelines will be replaced as part of the ongoing project, the director of the water network at Kahramaa, Engineer Ali Saif Al Malki, told Al Sharq in an interview.

About complaints received from households about the quality of tap water, he said the Corporation sent its men to these homes to collect samples from their storage tanks as well as from the pipelines in the neighbourhood.

These samples are then sent for tests to Kahramaa's laboratory. The findings in all cases invariably suggest that the problem is mostly with the storage tanks of these homes.

People should clean the tanks and keep the covers of these tanks tightly closed, Al Malki said. Talking about monitoring the quality of tap water, he said samples are taken by the Corporation on a daily basis and sent for tests.

"We monitor the quality of tap water closely to ensure that it meets World Health Organization's specifications," he said.

An expert, Dr Saad Ibrahim, meanwhile, said that tap water is much better for use than bottled water. He, however, cautioned that people should not use expensive filters to purify the tap water since it would remove essential minerals.

And competent agencies should be allowed to install water filters in homes, he added.