

REFeree'S REVIEW

Program:	Master in Public Management Program
Student:	Viktorii Saplova
Title of thesis:	Assessment of the effects of private companies' involvement into provision of public utility services (the case of water supply services in Russian Federation)

Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis. Justification of the topic choice; accuracy in defining the aim and tasks of the thesis; originality of the topic and the extent to which it was covered; alignment of the thesis' topic, aim and objectives.	5	4	<u>3</u>	2
Structure and logic of the text flow. Logic of research; full scope of the thesis; alignment of thesis' structural parts, i.e. theoretical and empirical parts.	5	<u>4</u>	3	2
Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives. Adequacy of objectives coverage; ability to formulate and convey the research problem; ability to offer options for its solution; application of the latest trends in relevant research are for the set objectives.	5	<u>4</u>	3	2
Quality of data gathering and description. Quality of selecting research tools and methods; data validity adequacy; adequacy of used data for chosen research tools and methods; completeness and relevance of the list of references.	5	<u>4</u>	3	2
Scientific aspect of the thesis. Independent scientific thinking in solving the set problem/objectives; the extent to which the student contributed to selecting and justifying the research model (conceptual and/or quantitative), developing methodology/approach to set objectives.	5	<u>4</u>	3	2
Practical/applied nature of research. Extent to which the theoretical background is related to the international or Russian managerial practice; development of applied recommendations; justification and interpretation of the empirical/applied results.	5	4	<u>3</u>	2
Quality of thesis layout. Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defense, correct layout of tables, figures, references.	<u>5</u>	4	3	2

Each item above is evaluated on the following scale, as applicable: 5 = the thesis meets all the requirements, 4 = the thesis meets almost all the requirements, 3 = a lot of the requirements are not met in the thesis, 2 = the thesis does not meet the requirements.

Additional comments:

Strengths:

- (1) *Quality of data gathering and description seems to be sufficient for the preparation of the analysis in line with the chosen methodology*
- (2) *Structure and logic of the text flow is in line with the aim and objectives of the thesis*
- (3) *The thesis is prepared in line with the requirements for the layout as per Regulations for master thesis preparation and defense*

Weaknesses:

- (1) *Selection and justification of the topic as well as the purpose of the research remain unclear: the advantages of knowing whether private companies charge more or less for their services as compared with public ones have not been explained*
- (2) *The conclusions and recommendations of the thesis do not seem to be directly connected to the analysis performed. Based on the undertaken research and its description, it is not obvious, that private companies account for better performance. Since there is no ex-ante and ex-post analysis, it can be the case that private operators have taken over the utilities which were in better condition to begin with. Same applies to the tariffs – the wealthier cities are more attractive for the private companies since residents are able to pay more (which is actually confirmed by the analysis presented in the thesis).*

Master thesis of Viktorii Saplova meets the requirements of the Master of Public Management Program, and according to the reviewer's opinion deserves a "good C" grade, thus the author can be given the desired degree.

Date

May 31, 2017

Referee: *Maria Belova, PhD*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Belova', written over a horizontal line.

СОГЛАСИЕ
на обработку персональных данных

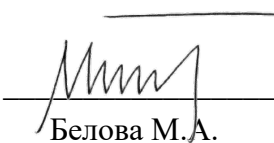
Я, Белова Мария Алексеевна,
(*фамилия, имя, отчество рецензента*)

даю согласие на обработку своих персональных данных оператору - Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение высшего образования «Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет» (далее - СПбГУ), 199034, Санкт-Петербург, Университетская наб., д. 7-9, на следующих условиях:

1. Оператор осуществляет обработку персональных данных исключительно в связи с осуществлением рецензирования и проведения защиты выпускных квалификационных работ обучающихся СПбГУ в целях реализации принципа открытости образовательной деятельности.
2. Перечень персональных данных, передаваемых Оператору на обработку:
 - фамилия, имя, отчество;
 - место работы, должность;
 - ученая степень и звание (при наличии);
 - контактный телефон и адрес электронной почты.
3. Оператор имеет право на обработку персональных данных, то есть совершение, в том числе, следующих действий: обработку (включая сбор, систематизацию, накопление, хранение, уточнение (обновление, изменение), использование, обезличивание, блокирование, уничтожение персональных данных).
4. Данным заявлением разрешаю считать общедоступными, в том числе выставлять в сети Интернет, следующие персональные данные: фамилия, имя, отчество, место работы, должность, ученая степень и звание (при наличии).
5. Обработка персональных данных осуществляется оператором в соответствии с нормами Федерального закона от 27.07.2006 № 152-ФЗ «О персональных данных» и смешанным способом.
6. Срок действия данного Согласия не ограничен.

«31» мая 2017 г.

Подпись


Белова М.А.