

Trade Waste Information Sheet

Failure to Comply with Effluent Strength Criteria

General

You will breach your Trade Waste Approval if you, among other things, discharge contaminants -

- in greater concentrations than the Approval allows; or
- which aren't mentioned in the Approval.

Trade Waste discharge which does not comply with your Approval can -

- threaten the health and safety of people working in or near sewers, or in treatment plants;
- corrode, block or damage sewers, leading to sewer overflows or collapse;
- damage sewage treatment processes or reduce their effectiveness;
- prevent effluent from treatment plants from complying with the Environment Protection Agency discharge licences;
- reduce or restrict opportunities to re-use treated effluent or sludge.

Non-compliance

If Whitsunday Regional Council (Council) detects that Trade Waste from your premises does not comply with your Approval, the following action may be taken:

Step 1.

After an offending sample of waste is analysed, a Trade Waste Officer will issue a Notice, the Notice will usually -

- set out how the sample fails to comply;
- require that you to remedy the problem within a short, specified period;
- require that you to set out in writing the reasons for the breach and what steps have been taken to ensure that it does not re-occur.

Council will continue to request that a sample is taken and tested at the expense of the approval holder to determine if the trade waste discharge complies with the approval conditions.

Step 2.

If further samples of effluent tested do not comply after the date specified in the Notice, Council will send a second notice which requires you to –

- review the waste treatment processes on site;
- discuss with Council the reasons for the breach and action taken or proposed to prevent a recurrence; and

Council may insist that samples of waste are continually taken for testing. If priority samples all comply with the Approval, you will be notified.

Step 3.

If any priority sample does not comply, Council may issue a Notice of Breach, setting out a date by which trade waste effluent discharge must comply with the Approval.

If any of those samples still do not comply, you must cease discharging trade waste to Council's sewer immediately and the trade waste approval may be terminated.

Before any further trade waste can be discharged to sewer, a new trade waste application must be made

Please Note;

Should you continue to discharge Trade Waste to Council's sewer system after termination date without an approval, enforcement action will be taken against you which will include steps to prosecute under *Section 193 of the Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008*.