

# **Trade Waste Management Plan**

This plan is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Liquid wastes are produced by a variety of industrial, commercial and domestic activities. The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* provides a general prohibition against the pollution of the environment by the discharge of such wastes, except where the person or agency holds an environmental authority permitting such discharge. All discharges to receiving waters are required to be treated to a standard that will maintain or enhance receiving water quality and environmental values.

Liquid waste generated by industry, small business and commercial enterprises is referred to as trade waste. The *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* prohibits the unauthorised discharge of wastes, other than domestic sewage, into the sewerage system. The options for producers of trade waste are to have it treated at an approved treatment facility, obtain approval from Tablelands Regional Council to discharge to the sewerage system, or to obtain an environmental authority under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 to treat the waste themselves before discharge to the environment.

Tablelands Regional Council provides a sewerage system primarily for transporting and treating domestic sewage. Payment for this service is collected through sewerage charges on each rateable property. This system may also be used, with the approval of Tablelands Regional Council, for the acceptance and treatment of trade waste. As trade waste and seepage water imposes an additional load on the sewerage system, trade waste charges apply.

In the past, residential ratepayers have had to bear the extra costs involved with the treatment of commercial & industrial discharges. The purpose of the Trade Waste Plan is also to remove this burden and provide a true user pays system.

Tablelands Regional Council is required to meet the conditions of the environmental authority (licence), issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for its sewerage system including the disposal and reuse of treated effluent and biosolids. Tablelands Regional Council is also required by the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* and the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009* (EPP (Water)) to fully assess the effect of trade waste on the sewerage system and the environment before issuing a trade waste approval.

Under the Environmental Protection Act, Tablelands Regional Council is held responsible for any pollution from stormwater outfalls under its control. The discharge of trade waste to stormwater drainage is prohibited under the *Local Government Act 2009*. The stormwater system must only be used for the disposal of uncontaminated stormwater runoff.

Domestic sewage consists mostly of water which, after treatment to reduce biodegradable material, suspended solids and nutrients, can be disposed of in accordance with its environmental authority requirements. Tablelands Regional Council is actively seeking opportunities to reuse and recycle treated effluent and biosolids.

Trade waste may have an organic strength many times that of domestic sewage and may overload the treatment facility. Trade waste may also contain other substances such as high levels of fats and grease, heavy metals, organic solvents and chlorinated organic substances which sewerage systems are not designed to treat. These substances may:

- pose a serious risk to the safety and health of sewerage workers;
- damage the infrastructure of the sewerage system;
- inhibit biological processes at the treatment plant;
- · accumulate in biosolids, making their reuse difficult or impracticable; or
- pass through the plant untreated resulting in environmental contamination.

To ensure the continued protection of our environment and waterways, Tablelands Regional Council's policy is to accept, subject to conditions, biodegradable waste into the sewerage system provided that:



- the system is of adequate capacity to effectively collect, transport and treat the waste;
   and
- all practicable waste minimisation, recycling and reuse options have been applied by the trade waste generator.

Discharge of waste containing substances in amounts liable to be toxic or hazardous to the sewerage system, treatment process, personnel or the environment is prohibited. Tablelands Regional Council may consider the acceptance of trade waste containing toxic or hazardous substances and non-degradable pollutants to sewer only after the waste has been pre-treated by on site "best practicable treatment" to ensure sewer admission limits are not exceeded.

In order to maintain community confidence in Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage operations, and in line with national practice, trade waste approvals are available for public scrutiny. Commercially confidential details may be withheld.

# 2. **DEFINITIONS**

#### Agreement

See trade waste agreement

### **Arrestor / Interceptor**

An apparatus designed to intercept and retain silt, sand, oil, grease, sludge and other substances in a waste discharge.

# **Tablelands Regional Council**

In this plan a reference to Tablelands Regional Council means Tablelands Regional Council or any person appointed or authorised by Tablelands Regional Council to act on behalf of Tablelands Regional Council as the case may require.

#### **Biosolids**

The treated solids (sludge), mainly organic, produced by sewage treatment.

#### **Domestic sewage**

Faecal matter and urine of human origin and liquid household wastes from water closet pans, sinks, baths, basins and similar fixtures designed for use in private dwellings.

# **Effluent**

The liquid discharged following a wastewater treatment process.

#### Generator

See trade waste generator

## **Human wastes**

Human faecal substances and urine.

#### **Licenced Waste Transporter**

A licenced waste transporter in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1994 and Environmental Protection Regulation 2008



#### Owner

As defined in the Local Government Act 2009.

#### **Permit**

See trade waste permit

#### **Premises**

A lot as defined in section 1.3.5 of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, and includes a lot that has a building situated on it, or that is wholly or partly contained in, or that wholly or partly contains, a building.

# **Premises Group**

The land comprised in 2 or more premises all the owners of which have mutual rights and obligations under the Body Corporate and Management Act 1997 (BCCMA) or the Building Units and Group Titles Act 1980 (BUGTA) for the purpose of their respective ownerships, and includes the common property forming part of

- (a) if the premises are lots included in a community titles scheme under BCCMA the scheme land for the scheme; or
- (b) if the premises are lots under BUGTA the parcel of which the premises form part.

#### **Prohibited substances**

A substance prescribed in Schedule 1 of the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008.

#### Regulated waste

Non-domestic waste as mentioned in Schedule 7 of the *Environmental Protection Regulation* 1998 (whether or not it has been treated or immobilised) and includes

- a) for an element any chemical compound containing the element; and
- b) anything that has contained the waste.

# Seepage Water

Water that seeps from the ground into that part of a structure that is built below ground level. Examples of structures built below ground level—underground carparks, basements, lift wells Managed as a trade waste discharge.

# Sewage

The wastewater from the community including all faecal matter, urine, household and commercial wastewater that contains human waste.

# **Sewerage or Sewerage System**

Infrastructure used to receive, transport and treat sewage or effluent, and consisting of some or all of the following:

- a) sewers;
- b) access chambers;
- c) vents;
- d) engines;
- e) pumps;
- f) structures;
- g) machinery;
- h) outfalls;
- i) works not mentioned in (a) to (h).



# **Stormwater Drainage**

Means infrastructure used to receive, store, transport or treat stormwater, and consisting of some or all of the following

- (a) drains;
- (b) channels;
- (c) pipes;
- (d) chambers;
- (e) structures;
- (f) outfalls;
- (g) works not mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (f).

#### **Trade Waste**

The water-borne waste from business, trade or manufacturing premises, other than:

- (a) waste that is a prohibited substance; or
- (b) human waste; or
- (c) stormwater.

## Trade waste agreement (Agreement)

Trade waste approval for the discharge of liquid waste classified as Category 3. It states the terms and conditions to be met by the approval holder with respect to the discharge of trade waste into Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage system.

#### Trade waste approval

Written approval by Tablelands Regional Council for a person to discharge trade waste to Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage system. See *Trade waste agreement* and *Trade waste permit*.

#### Trade waste generator

Any person, occupier, company or body whose activity produces or has the potential to produce trade waste.

#### Trade waste officer

Trade waste officer means a person holding appointment as a trade waste officer of Tablelands Regional Council

# **Trade waste permit (Permit)**

Trade waste approval for the discharge of liquid waste classified as Category 1 or 2. It states the terms and conditions to be met by the trade waste generator and the owner with respect to the discharge of trade waste into Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage system.

# 3. OBJECTIVES

- To safeguard public health and the environment.
- To prevent harm or injury to sewerage employees.
- To safeguard the sewerage system against damage, blockage or surcharging.
- To exclude non-biodegradable and potentially harmful substances that may:
  - lead to non-compliance with the conditions of Tablelands Regional Council's environmental authority issued by the EPA;
  - cause the treatment process to fail;
  - render effluent or biosolids unacceptable for reuse or disposal;
  - cause physical damage to infrastructure; or



- cause any other detriment to the environment.
- To equitably recover the cost of services to commerce and industry including the cost of conveyance, treatment and disposal and, maintenance and repair of damage to the sewerage system.
- To provide operational data on the volume and composition of industrial and commercial
  effluent to assist in the operation of the sewerage system, the design of augmentations or
  new sewerage systems, and waste management reporting.
- To encourage waste minimisation and cleaner production, including waste prevention, recycling, and pre-treatment.
- To promote water conservation.
- To assist Tablelands Regional Council to meet its statutory obligations.
- To conform with the National Water Quality Management Strategy Guidelines for Sewerage Systems, Acceptance of Trade Wastes (Industrial Wastes), Agriculture and Resource Management of Australia and New Zealand and Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council, November 1994.

#### **Process**

Tablelands Regional Council aims to achieve these objectives by a process which is transparent, equitable, accountable, abreast of best practice, and responsive to changing community needs and concerns.

# **Management Plan Instruments**

The objectives will be achieved using a combination of Management Plan instruments, including:

- sewer admission limits (acceptable concentration / mass limits for sewerable wastes);
- conditional trade waste approvals (permits and agreements);
- "user pays" pricing; and
- · effluent improvement programs.

# 4. CONTROL OF TRADE WASTE

A list of legislation relevant to trade waste control and acceptance to sewer is given in Appendix 1. This is not a complete listing of all legislation pertaining to the control of trade waste.

It is an offence to discharge trade waste to the sewer unless a trade waste approval has been issued by Tablelands Regional Council, under section 180 of the *Water Supply (Safety And Reliability) Act 200*8.

Any person wishing to discharge trade waste to sewerage must apply for a trade waste approval (see section 8).

A trade waste approval is the written approval from Tablelands Regional Council that states the requirements and conditions under which discharge to sewer is allowed. Three types of approval are referred to in this plan – a trade waste permit (Permit) for Category 1 & 2 wastes and a trade waste agreement (Agreement) for Category 3 wastes.

It is an offence for a person to discharge waste (including trade waste) other than uncontaminated stormwater to stormwater drainage (*Local Government Act 2009*).

# 4.1 SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION OF TRADE WASTE APPROVAL

Grounds and procedures for suspension or cancellation of a trade waste approval are defined in section 183-184 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 200*8.



Terms and conditions of a trade waste approval in respect of any matter occurring before the suspension or cancellation, including the payment of charges owing, shall continue to have force and effect after the suspension or cancellation of the trade waste approval.

#### 4.2 PENALTIES AND RECOVERY OF COSTS

Tablelands Regional Council may prosecute any person who commits a breach of the relevant Acts and Regulations, or who refuses or neglects to comply with any direction or requirement by Council pursuant to the relevant Acts and Regulations. Penalties are set out in the appropriate Acts and Regulations, and include substantial fines.

Tablelands Regional Council may recover costs of repairing the damaged sewerage system from a person causing damage to the system by discharging unauthorised material, making an unauthorised connection or interfering with infrastructure.

#### 5. SEWER ADMISSION LIMITS

Any waste discharged to Council's sewers shall at all times comply with the Trade Waste Sewer Admission Limits as set out in Appendix 2 unless otherwise specified in the Permit or Agreement. These limits are subject to periodic review.

The sewer admission limits, unless otherwise specified in the Permit or Agreement, are absolute maximums.

The dilution of trade waste with water to achieve compliance with the sewer admission limits is prohibited.

The trade waste stream and domestic waste stream should, where ever practicable, discharge separately to the sewer. Where there is a common discharge pipe, allowance for the domestic component will be made to estimate the actual trade waste component strength.

# 5.1 EFFLUENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

For Category 1 and 2 wastes, the installation of a properly sized, approved best practice pretreatment device, together with an acceptable maintenance program in accordance with the trade waste approval conditions will, in most cases, be deemed to provide a satisfactory effluent with respect to the General Limit Parameters(s) (Appendix 2).

Council may, at its discretion, negotiate with a trade waste generator to accept waste to sewerage that exceeds the Sewer Admission Limit(s) for certain General Limit Parameter(s) (Appendix 2). Additional charges (section 7.1.) may apply for such parameters.

Where such an agreement is made, Council may require the trade waste generator to undertake an effluent improvement program. This program should include:

- · a description of the effluent quantity and quality;
- provision for monitoring and reporting waste quantity and quality;
- an examination of waste prevention and recycling options;
- an examination of options for the conservation of water;
- a program involving the development of waste reduction and pre-treatment aimed at reducing contaminant levels over a period of not more than three years to the prescribed admission limits. An action program must be provided, including expected outcomes, timelines and milestones;
- a report for Council, including a summary of achievements and options.

Trade waste generators will be advised in writing if Council requires them to develop an effluent improvement program. If, at the time the trade waste approval falls due for renewal, the holder of the approval has not completed a satisfactory effluent improvement program, the approval holder is required to write to Council requesting an extension of time with reasons.



Council may issue a new trade waste approval, subject to conditions that:

- (a) a satisfactory effluent improvement program be submitted within 14 days; and
- (b) the trade waste approval may be varied after submission of the effluent improvement program as necessary to enforce the implementation of the program.

# 6. DISCHARGE CATEGORIES

All trade waste accepted to the sewer will be classified according to the following three categories for the purposes of approval, control and charging.

| Parameter                                    | Category 1<br>low strength/Low<br>Volume | Category 2<br>Low Strength/High<br>Volume   | Category 3<br>High Strength/Any<br>Volume  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Biochemical Oxygen<br>Demand (BOD₅),<br>mg/L | < 600                                    | <600  | >600   |
| Chemical Oxygen<br>Demand (COD),<br>mg/L     | < 1200                                   | <1200   | >1200  |
| Suspended Solids,<br>mg/L                    | < 600                                    | <600  | >600   |
| Total Kjeldahl<br>Nitrogen, mg/L N           | < 150                                    | < 150   | >150   |
| Total Phosphorus,<br>mg/L P                  | < 50                                     | <50   | >50  |
| Volume, kL/annum                             | Less than 500Kl Per<br>Annum             | More than 500Kl<br>Per Annum  | Any  |
| Trade Waste approval                         | Permit                                   | Permit  | Agreement  |
| Charges                                      | Annual Charge (see section 7.1.1)        | <ul> <li>Quantity based charge (see section 7.1.1)</li> <li>Minimum charge applies</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Quantity/Quality<br/>charge on total<br/>annual load (see<br/>section 7.1.1)</li> <li>Calculated<br/>Application Fee</li> </ul> |

Acceptance of waste under any category is conditional on the waste meeting Tablelands Regional Council's Sewer Admission Limits (section 5 and Appendix 2) unless otherwise specified in the trade waste approval.

It is the responsibility of the generator to install, operate and maintain "best practicable" pretreatment facilities to ensure sewer admission limits are not exceeded.

In the event of a significant change in the strength or volume of a waste approved under Category 1 or Category 2, the waste will be treated as a Category 3 waste for the purposes of charging and monitoring.



# 7. TRADE WASTE CHARGES AND FEES

Trade waste charges and fees are levied under sections 36, 973 and 1071a of the Local Government Act. Charges and fees to be levied for the ensuing financial year will be determined by Tablelands Regional Council resolution passed before or at the same time as the budget in any financial year.

Trade waste fees and charges for the current financial year are listed on the Tablelands Regional Council website under water and wastewater fees and charges and also available from Tablelands Regional Council upon request.

#### 7.1 TRADE WASTE CHARGES

Trade waste is divided into three categories for charging purposes (see Section 6.0). Charges are based on actual quality and quantity of discharge for the period, not on figures described in the permit or agreement.

Charges will be structured as set out below, with unit charging rates being adopted and reviewed annually by Council as part of its budget (see Appendix 3).

Category 1: Flat fee to cover administration, inspection, compliance testing, and

acceptance of up to 500 kL of trade wastes shall apply.

Category 2: Quantity charge on total annual volume of trade waste discharged

to the sewer to be calculated as follows:

Q.k

Where: Q is the annual trade waste volume (kL)

k is the unit charge rate (\$/kL).

The unit charge, k, is based on the cost of providing and maintaining the sewerage system for the total annual wastewater flow to the sewerage plant(s) including administration, inspection and compliance testing for trade waste control;

A minimum fee to cover administration, inspection, and compliance testing shall apply when the charges calculated by the above formula are less than the minimum fee.

#### Category 3:

A Quantity and Quality charge on the total annual discharge of trade waste to the sewer to be calculated as follows:

 $C = Qx_1n_1/1000 + Qx_2n_2/1000 + \dots$  where

- C is the total annual charge (\$),

- Q is the total annual discharge volume (kL),

-  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  are the average concentrations of pollutants  $N_1$ ,  $N_2$  (mg/L),

- n<sub>1</sub>, n<sub>2</sub> are the unit charges for pollutants N<sub>1</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> (\$/kg),

- N<sub>1</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> are the pollutants to be charged for.

 Charges shall be made for BOD<sub>5</sub> (or alternatively COD) and Suspended Solids, Oil and Grease, TKN (Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen) and TP (Total Phosphorus).

 A minimum charge to cover administration, inspection and compliance testing shall apply.



#### 7.2 EQUIVALENT ARRESTOR CHARGES

This charge applies where an existing waste stream requires the installation of an arrestor to provide best practice pre-treatment for Category 1 or Category 2 wastes, but site-specific conditions do not allow for appropriate devices to be installed.

In addition to the normal Category 1 or Category 2 charges (section 7.1.1), a charge equal to the average cost paid by other trade waste generators of similar waste type and quantity, to have arrestors installed and regularly cleaned, will apply.

#### 7.3 CHARGES FOR FOOD WASTE DISPOSAL UNITS AND MACERATORS

Trade waste Generators in Categories 1 and 2 with food waste disposal units (garbage grinders, fruit & Vegetable Peelers) and/or Macerators shall be charged a fee based on the power of the motor:

|            | Rated Power, watts |
|------------|--------------------|
| Category A | < 400              |
| Category B | 400 – 700          |
| Category C | 700 – 1000         |
| Category D | 1000 – 1500        |
| Category E | 1500 – 2000        |
| Category F | > 2000             |

# 7.4 INSPECTION AND ANALYSIS FEES

Additional inspection and testing fees, to be paid by the Generator on a sundry debtor basis, shall apply in all categories where more than the number of Council inspections and quality compliance tests allowed for under the Permit or Agreement and covered by the minimum fee are required because of non-compliance.

Inspection fees shall be based on the time spent on site.

The full cost of laboratory analyses shall be recovered.

# 7.5 APPLICATION FEES

Applicants for an Agreement to discharge under Category 3 shall be quoted an application fee to cover the cost of processing the application and drawing up the Agreement.

This fee must accompany the application.

An Application fee shall be charged for applications for Category 1 and Category 2 Permits.

# 7.6 SEPTAGE AND OTHER LIQUID WASTES

Licensed liquid industrial waste disposal contractors (Section 13.0) disposing of septage, portable toilet or other approved liquid waste to the sewer under approved conditions shall be charged on a calculated volume basis (\$/kL) which takes account of both the volume and strength of the waste.



#### 7.7 ADDITIONAL CHARGE

Where Council agrees to accept to the sewer waste which has properties in excess of those defined in the General Limits (Schedule 1, Appendix 2) of the Sewer Admission Limits, an additional charge will apply for each agreed non-complying parameter. The formula for calculation shall be:

Charge = (actual/approved)<sup>d</sup> x charge rate (\$/kg) x kg pollutant

#### Where:

- **d** is a constant to be determined by Council for each non-complying parameter under consideration at the time;
- the **minimum ratio** for (actual/approved) is 1.0; and
- approved means the sewer admission limit value or other negotiated value defined in the Permit or Agreement.

The period of the charge will be the time period, based on the sampling frequency, over which the limits are considered to have been exceeded.

Exceeding the approved limit is an offence under the act.

#### 7.8 PENALTY CHARGES FOR NON-SERVICING OF ARRESTORS

Penalty charges based on equivalent arrestor charges (section 7.1.2) may be applied in the instance of non-servicing of arrestors or failing to comply with the servicing requirements in the conditions of the Trade Waste Permit.

# 7.9 REFUNDS OR TRANSFER ON CESSATION OF DISCHARGE

No refunds or transfers will be allowed on cessation of discharge.

# **8 APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

An application, signed by the Generator, must be lodged at the following times in respect of any premises where trade waste is generated or likely to be generated:

- during the processing of a Building Application for new premises or extensions intended for industrial and / or commercial usage;
- change in tenancy of such premises;
- shop fit-outs of such premises;
- during the processing of an application to strata title such premises;
- existing premises where trade waste is generated and no permit or agreement has been issued;
- change of ownership of such premises

Liquid waste disposal contractors wishing to discharge septage, portable toilet waste or other approved holding tank or liquid waste to the sewer or sewage treatment plants must apply for a Permit / Agreement.

Application forms are available from the Service Centres of the Tableland Regional Council.

Applicants may seek advice from Councils Trade Waste Officer on how to complete the Form. Failure to provide all required information may result in delays in approvals.

Applications for discharge approval under Category 3 are subject to an Agreement being negotiated and must be accommodated by the Application Fee (Section 7.5).

Applications should include details of the proposed method of pre-treatment to be used to ensure the waste meets sewer admission limits. Treatment plans should be forwarded in triplicate with the application. One copy will be returned stamped "approved – trade waste only" if satisfactory.



Any plumbing and drainage work associated with the installation of any treatment process shall be in accordance with the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*.

Applicants are referred to Council's publication "Pre-treatment Guidelines for Trade Waste Discharges" for formal guidance.

Where a waste is deemed to be non-sewerable, a Permit / Agreement will not be issued and alternative arrangements for disposal of wastes will have to be made. Advice on treatment and disposal options for non-sewerable waste may be obtained from Councils Trade Waste Officer, Council's Environmental Health Officers and Environmental Health Officers from the Department of Environment and Science.

#### 9. PERMITS AND AGREEMENTSS

# 9.1 PERMITS

A trade waste generator producing trade waste assessed as suitable for sewer discharge and classified as Category 1 or Category 2 may be issued with a written trade waste approval in the form of a trade waste permit which shall remain in force for the specified period unless cancelled sooner.

Trade waste permits are neither transferable nor refundable.

The Permit states the terms and conditions the holder of the Permit must observe to discharge trade waste to Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage system. These include, but are not limited to:

- expiry/renewal date (to be renewed annually);
- the location of the premises and nature of the occupancy;
- the type and composition of trade waste that may be discharged
- a statement that the quality of waste shall comply with Tablelands Regional Council's sewer admission limits as specified in Appendix 2 of the TWMP (or attached to the Permit) and details of any allowed variations;
- the quantity of trade waste that may be discharged;
- the rate of discharge, including maximum rate of discharge;
- the time when trade waste may be discharged;
- the period for which trade waste may be discharged;
- the method for estimating or measuring discharge volume;
- provisions for measuring and sampling discharge prior to entry to sewer;
- details of any pre-treatment required;
- conditions for maintenance of, and removal of waste from, pre-treatment equipment including the frequency of cleaning and waste transporter to be used;
- records to be kept concerning the cleaning and maintenance of pre-treatment equipment;
- a statement that trade waste charges and fees apply and shall be paid in accordance with section 7 of the TWMP; and
- any other conditions considered by Tablelands Regional Council to be appropriate.



#### 9.2 AGREEMENTS

A trade waste generator producing waste assessed as suitable for sewer discharge and classified as Category 3 may be issued with a written trade waste approval in the form of a trade waste agreement (Agreement). The Agreement shall remain in force for the specified period unless cancelled sooner.

Trade waste agreements are neither transferable nor refundable

The Agreement states the terms and conditions the holder of the Agreement must observe to discharge trade waste to Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage. These include but are not limited to:

- expiry/renewal date;
- the location of the premises and nature of the occupancy;;
- a statement that the quality of waste shall comply with Tablelands Regional Council's sewer admission limits as specified in Appendix 2 of the TWMP (or attached to the Agreement) and details of any allowed variations;
- quantity of waste that may be discharged;
- rate of discharge maximum instantaneous, maximum daily;
- hours of day, days of week discharge is allowed;
- requirements for/details of effluent improvement program;
- details of self-regulation monitoring program including
  - > sampling point
  - frequency of sampling
  - method of sample collection and type of sample to be collected
  - analyses required
  - methods of analyses
  - laboratory to be used
  - data transfer and availability to Tablelands Regional Council;
- type, design and location of flow measuring equipment and requirements for calibration;
- methods to be used for estimation of data lost due to failure of sampling program or flow measurement instrumentation;
- provision for measurement and sampling of discharge prior to entry to sewer;
- pre-treatment processes to be used;
- conditions for maintenance of, and removal of waste from, pre-treatment equipment including the frequency of cleaning, waste transporter to be used;
- records to be kept concerning the cleaning and maintenance of pre-treatment equipment and disposal of waste:
- the obligation of the trade waste generator concerning any variations to operation or treatment processes that may affect discharge quantity or quality including change of business type;
- a statement that trade waste charges and fees apply and shall be paid in accordance with section 7 of the TWMP; and
- any other conditions considered by Tablelands Regional Council to be appropriate.

# 10. INSPECTION AND MONITORING

For the purpose of monitoring and auditing the conditions of discharge, Tablelands Regional Council shall routinely and randomly inspect all premises occupied by the holder of a trade waste approval. Random inspections will also be carried out when a breach of the approval is suspected.



Inspections may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Check of all chemical storage areas to ensure that they are properly bunded and are not improperly connected to sewer.
- Checks to ensure that there are no illegal stormwater connections to the trade waste system or sewerage.
- Checks to ensure that there are no illegal trade waste connections to storm water or sewer and that there is no potential for trade waste to overflow improperly to sewer, stormwater or waterways.
- Checks to ensure that pre-treatment facilities are regularly and properly serviced and standby equipment is available where necessary.
- Monitoring of strength and flow is undertaken as required under the trade waste approval.
- Assessment of work practices to ensure that they do not result in a breach of the trade waste approval or legislation.

#### 10.1 INSPECTION CHAMBERS AND / OR GAUGING FACILITY

Category 3 waste shall be discharged to Council's sewerage system via an open channel inspection chamber and/or gauging facility. The inspection chamber and/or gauging facility shall be located on the trade waste discharge line in an area which is accessible at all times to Council's officers thus allowing for sampling and/or monitoring equipment to be installed and operated.

A suitable 240 volt power outlet and a standard water supply outlet with back-flow prevention device installed in accordance with AS 3500 Part 1 and AS 2845.3 and approved by Tablelands Regional Council is required at all gauging facility sites.

For new Category 2 and 3 dischargers, the trade waste discharge line shall be separate from the domestic waste discharge line. For existing installations retrofitting is not required except where it may be done during any proposed upgrading or alterations to the installation.

If commercial or industrial premises generates trade waste but does not discharge trade waste to Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage system, a suitable inspection point shall be installed on the sanitary drain. It shall be in an accessible location within the property boundary and before connecting into the Tablelands Regional Council sewer. This is to enable checks to be made to ensure that trade waste is not being discharged to sewer.

Arrestor trap installations and other pre-treatment devices on premises discharging Category 1 and 2 waste shall have an inspection opening provided externally to the building, within the premises, at finished ground level.



# 11 DETERMINATION OF DISCHARGE QUANTITY

#### 11.1 CATEGORY 1 AND 2

The volume of trade waste discharged shall be estimated from total metered water consumption, less an allowance for domestic waste based on 136 kL/annum per pedestal and an allowance for water consumed on the property, based on a discharge factor.

Investigations by DPI Water Resources have established a basis for estimation of the proportion of water consumption discharged as trade waste by various types of trade and manufacturing processes as set out in the following table. These will form the basis of the initial discharge factor applied when a permit is issued. Where there is no discharge factor available, 100% discharge will be assumed.

# Discharge Factors for Estimating Volume of Trade Waste from Water Consumption

(Source: DPI Water Resources, Client Advisory Services Division, Technical Bulletin TB 6/1992 "Trade Waste – Waste Characterisation)

| Industry                             | Discharge % |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Cold Stores                          | 7           |
| Concrete Batching                    | 2           |
| Commercial Buildings / Office Blocks | 95          |
| Dye Houses                           | 75          |
| Hotels / Motels                      | 100         |
| Industrial Laundries                 | 92          |
| Registered Clubs                     | 100         |
| Restaurants / Food Bars              | 95          |
| Service Stations                     | 70          |
| Service Stations with Car Wash       | 80          |
| Shopping Centre's                    | 70          |
| Warehouse (dry)                      | 70          |

Where individual generators have information which would indicate a departure from these bases, application may be made for reconsideration of the discharge factor used.

High volume Category 2 generators may, and are encouraged to, install an approved flow measurement device to be calibrated as specified in the Permit conditions.

#### 11.2 CATEGORY 3

The volume of trade waste discharged to the sewer shall be measured by an approved flow measurement device calibrated as specified in the Agreement. This should be located on the trade waste discharge stream which should be separate from the domestic waste discharge stream.

Generators exempt from installing a flow measurement device shall have the volume of discharge estimated as under section 11.1.

# 12 DETERMINATION OF DISCHARGE QUALITY

# 12.1 CATERGORY 1 AND 2

Quality measurements for Category 1 and 2 discharges are required for compliance checks only. This shall be done by Council as part of the inspection and monitoring program. The cost shall be covered by the trade waste fee except where additional inspection and testing is required because of non-compliance, where Council shall charge the generator as prescribed in Section 7.4.



#### 12.2 CATEGORY 3

Quality measurements are required for both charging and compliance purposes.

For charging purposes a system of self monitoring by the discharger shall be used to collect sufficient data to enable the average mass load for the designated charging period to be calculated. Where pre- treatment is required to meet sewer admission limits for specified parameters, self monitoring will be required for those parameters, or a suitable surrogate, to confirm satisfactory pre-treatment. Requirements for self monitoring and auditing by Council shall be specified in the Agreement.

The generator shall meet all costs of self monitoring. Council shall inspect the premises and audit the test results as agreed to at Council's expense.

Where additional inspection and testing is required to be done by Council as a result of non-compliance, Council shall charge the generator as prescribed in Section 7.4.

#### 13 REMOVAL OF REGULATED WASTE FROM PREMISES

Removing regulated waste from premises shall only be carried out by licenced waste transporters in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1994 and the Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 and transported, stored, treated or disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Regulation 1998 and the Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation 2008.

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged directly or indirectly to sewerage, wastes from any waste transport vehicle without Council approval. Removing and disposing of septic tank waste, portable toilet waste and other approved waste shall only be done by a licensed waste transporter. Such waste may be disposed of within the sewerage system in accordance with the approved conditions.

Waste from grease and oil arrestors, other than treated effluent from approved installations (section 14), shall not be disposed to the sewerage system. Such wastes shall be disposed of in a manner and/or at a site approved in accordance with requirements of the Environmental Protection Act and the Environmental Protection Regulation 1998 and operated in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation 2000.

All waste transporters shall be required to maintain records in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation 2000 to account for all waste collected, and disposed of within or outside Tablelands Regional Council's local government area from pre-treatment facilities.

Trade waste charges in accordance with Section 7.2.3 and Tablelands Regional Council water and wastewater fees and charges.will apply to all transported liquid and sludge waste approved for discharge to sewerage.

Advice on the disposal of liquid waste not suitable for discharge to sewerage may be obtained from:

Tablelands Regional Council Trade Waste Section P.O. Box 573 Atherton QLD 4883 Telephone: 4089 2282

# 14 ARRESTOR INSTALLATIONS

Where grease and oil arrestors are used to pre-treat waste before discharge to sewer they will be of a design and capacity approved by Council.

In a situation where a grease arrestor is required for pre-treatment but cannot be installed because of specific site constraints an additional charge (clause 7.6) will apply.



#### 14.1 GREASE ARRESTORS

Guidance on the sizing and installation of grease arrestors is available from

• Tablelands Regional Council's Pre-treatment Guidelines for Trade Waste Discharges

The maximum capacity of an individual grease arrestor shall be 2000 litres. Where the capacity requirement for a premise is greater than 2000 litres, additional arrestors shall be used, with each arrestor to be a discrete installation separately treating a defined waste stream.

In certain circumstances Tablelands Regional Council may approve the installation of an arrestor in excess of a 2,000 litre capacity. Applications must include all details relating to loadings and accompanied with detailed plans and specifications of the proposed device.

Where it is intended that several trade waste generators share the use of a grease arrestor, the following information is required to be clearly tabled on the plan submitted with the application for approval:

- the size of the arrestor;
- details of the loading to be discharged by each trade waste generator;
- the names of the businesses and shop number(s) sharing the arrestor.

Grease arrestors must be located so as to allow appropriate access for inspection, pump out and cleaning. Where practicable, a hose cock with suitable backflow prevention is to be provided for cleaning. The location must be approved by Tablelands Regional Council prior to installation.

For the purpose of odour control, Tablelands Regional Council may, at its discretion, require grease arrestors to be fitted with full length and width opening, gas tight covers and frames.

The use of solvents, enzymes, mutant or natural bacterial cultures, odour control agents or pesticides in grease arrestors is prohibited unless specifically approved by Tablelands Regional Council. Conditional approval may be given to allow the trade waste generator to demonstrate to Tablelands Regional Council that the product to be used does not adversely impact on the sewerage system or the environment.

Maintenance cleaning of grease arrestors shall be carried out on a regular basis in accordance with conditions of the trade waste approval by a waste transporter licensed under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 and the Environmental Protection Regulation 1998.

In a situation where a grease arrestor is required for pre-treatment but cannot be installed because of specific site constraints an equivalent arrestor charge (section 7.1.3) will apply.

All final decisions on the size and type of grease arrestors will be made by Tablelands Regional Council Trade Waste Officers.

Grease converters and grease removal systems will not be accepted as a primary source of pre-treatment but may be installed upstream of a grease Arrestor to assist in the removal of grease and cooking oils.

# 14.2 OIL ARRESTORS

Appropriately sized mineral (petroleum) oil arrestors for the treatment of oily wastewater will be approved in most circumstances. Acceptable methods include:

- coalescing plate separators;
- vertical gravity separators;
- membrane technology;
- dissolved air flotation (DAF);
- chemical precipitation;
- hydrocyclones; and
- other approved apparatus /methods.



Each application will be assessed on the nature of the oily waste to be treated, the proposed treatment method and site location.

Only "Quick Break" detergents and degreasers may be used in mineral oil separators.

Maintenance cleaning of mineral oil arrestors shall be carried out on a regular basis in accordance with conditions of the trade waste approval. Removal of oily waste shall be done by a waste transporter licensed under the Environmental Protection Act and the Environmental Protection Regulation.

Maintain detailed servicing records for the arrestor. Servicing records must be made available to Tablelands Regional Council upon inspection and /or request.

#### 14.3 OTHER ARRESTOR APPLICATIONS

Arrestor installations may be used for other trade waste treatment applications such as:

- silt separation;
- oil and grease (non- petroleum);
- cooling;
- neutralisation; and
- other specific applications approved by Tablelands Regional Council

Each application will be assessed on the nature of the waste to be treated, the proposed treatment method and site location.

Maintenance cleaning of arrestors shall be carried out on a regular basis in accordance with conditions of the trade waste approval by a waste transporter licensed under the Environmental Protection Act and the Environmental Protection Regulation.

# 15 ENZYMES / BACTERIAL CULTURES

Enzyme and bacterial cultures may be permitted for use in certain biological pre-treatment systems by way of specific application to Council. Conditional approval may be given to allow the discharger to demonstrate to Council that the product to be used does not adversely impact on the sewerage system or the environment.

#### 15.1 GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs)

Any person wishing to discharge commercial products containing genetically modified organisms to sewerage must first obtain approval for release to coastal and inland waters from the Genetic Technology Regulator, Canberra. Tablelands Regional Council may then grant approval for discharge to sewerage.

Laboratories and other facilities which culture, package or transport GMOs should have in place sufficient procedures and pre-treatment equipment to ensure that no live GMOs are discharged to sewerage.

# 16 FOOD DISPOSAL UNITS, MACERATORS & POTATO PEELERS

Food waste disposal units (garbage grinders / in sink waste disposal units and/or macerators & potato peelers) are normally not allowable, but may be approved for non-domestic use by specific application to Council.

Where installation is approved, an annual charge based on motor power shall apply (Section 7.3).



# 17 COMMERCIAL SWIMMING POOLS / ORNAMENTAL PONDS

The back wash water and water from commercial and public swimming pools and ornamental ponds must not discharge to sewer without a trade waste approval. Trade waste charges in accordance with the discharge category will apply.

This TWMP approves the discharge of swimming pool backwash water to sewer for class 1A buildings (houses) as defined in the building code of Australia.

# 18 MEDICAL, CLINICAL, VETERINARY AND INFECTIOUS WASTES

Solid waste from any hospital, clinic, office or surgery of a medical or veterinary facility or laboratory, convalescent or nursing home or health transport facility; including, but not limited to, hypodermic needles, syringes, instruments, utensils, swabs, dressings, bandages, or any paper or plastic item of a disposable nature, or any portions of human or animal anatomy; shall not be discharged to the sewer.

Infectious or hazardous wastes deemed to pose a threat to public health and safety may not be discharged to the sewer without approval of Council. Such wastes shall require treatment to render them non-infectious or non-hazardous prior to discharge. When approved for discharge, trade waste charges will apply.

# 19 CONTAINMENT OF TOXIC / HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Any potentially toxic or hazardous substances shall be stored in areas where leaks, spillages or overflows cannot be drained by gravity or by any automated mechanical means to the sewer or the stormwater system.

# 20 DISCHARGE OF LIQUID WASTES FROM VESSELS, VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT

Depending on the quality, the discharge of certain galley and toilet wastes from vessels may be permitted via approved "pump out" facilities at ports and marinas. The operator of such facilities must hold an approval for discharge to sewerage.

Charges in accordance with section 7 will apply.

### The discharge of untreated bilge water is prohibited to sewer.

The discharge of toilet waste from buses, aircraft or recreational vehicles may be permitted at approved discharge locations such as bus or transport depots, terminals, and caravan parks. The owner of the premises on which such facilities are located must hold an approval for dis

Charges in accordance with section 7 will apply.

# 21 LANDFILL LEACHATE & DISPOSAL FACILITY WASTEWATER

Leachate from landfill sites and wastewater from waste treatment / disposal facilities constitutes a trade waste and may not be discharged to sewer without approval through the issue of a Trade Waste Approval.

Trade waste charges in accordance with the discharge category will apply.

# 22 DISCHARGE FROM OPEN AREAS

# The discharge of rainwater and stormwater to sewer is prohibited.

The ingress of surface water from a potentially contaminated open area to sewerage can cause severe operational problems for Tablelands Regional Council. However, there may be circumstances when it is environmentally beneficial to accept these wastes to the sewer under strict controls.



The discharge to sewer from any potentially contaminated open area that is raised or bunded may be considered, provided the quality and quantity requirements of this plan are met. Applicants should note that an open area approval is not an alternative to the appropriate management of polluted areas such as roofing or other methods to keep water away from the open area. Applicants must demonstrate to Tablelands Regional Council that all appropriate measures to keep runoff water away from the potentially contaminated open area have been taken.

A trade waste approval is required to discharge such waste.

All applications for sewer discharge from open areas must have controls incorporated in the design that will, in the opinion of Tablelands Regional Council ensure that:

- all contaminated liquid waste is pumped to sewer at a rate acceptable to Tablelands Regional Council;
- all discharge to sewer ceases automatically after a predetermined level of rainfall volume (mm) and/or intensity (mm/hr) to be set by Tablelands Regional Council;
- the "first flush" volume is collected and segregated during wet weather with additional runoff directed to the storm water system. Applicants should seek advice from Tablelands Regional Council on the required "first flush" volume to be collected;
- the "first flush" volume collected is pumped to sewer, after any necessary pre-treatment, no sooner than one (1) hour after the rain stops;
- a suitable device for the determination of sewer discharge flow and volume to be installed.
- Charges in accordance with the discharge category classification will apply.

#### 23 DENTAL FACILITIES

A Trade Waste Permit will not be required for dental facilities provided any waste waters generated are discharged to sewer through an Amalgam Separator.

Note: If Film Processing is carried out on site, a Trade Waste Permit and additional pretreatment may be required

# 24 AUTOMATIC CAR WASH WASTE

At least 50% of all water used in an automatic car wash must be re-circulated.

# 25. DISCRETIONARY POWER

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Management Plan, due to the complexity of many industrial wastes and the need to protect Tablelands Regional Council's sewerage system, employees, and the environment, acceptance of any given trade waste to sewer will always be at the discretion of Tablelands Regional Council.

#### 26. IMPLEMENTATION

This plan will become effective immediately.

# 27. RECORDS AND REPORTS

Tablelands Regional Council will develop a waste database for the purpose of maintaining, in a publicly accessible form, information on waste generation within Tablelands Regional Council's local government area. The database will list information on wastes routinely produced by commerce and industry, by location, volume and character.

A component of the database will contain trade waste information based on information produced by holders of trade waste approvals, and from monitoring conducted by or under Tablelands Regional Council direction.

The waste database will facilitate the local recycling and reuse of waste, and will assist the Tablelands Regional Council in waste management planning and reporting.



Tablelands Regional Council will report annually on the implementation of its trade waste management plan to the Environmental Protection Agency / the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy through the Total Management Planning Process.

This plan is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

**General Manager Responsible for Review:** 

General Manager Infrastructure Services

**ORIGINALLY ADOPTED:** 

**CURRENT ADOPTION:** 

**DUE FOR REVISION:** 

**REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:** 



# APPENDIX 1 - SELECTED LEGISLATION RELEVANT TO TRADE WASTE

- WATER SUPPLY (SAFETY AND RELIABILITY) ACT 2008
- PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE ACT 2002
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1994
  - Environmental Protection Regulation 2008
  - Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2009
- PLANNING ACT 2016
- RADIATION SAFETY ACT 1999
- RADIATION SAFETY REGULATION 1999
- GENE TECHNOLOGY ACT 2001 (QUEENSLAND LEGISLATION)
- GENE TECHNOLOGY ACT 2000 (COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATION)
   LOCAL LAWS COUNCIL



# **APPENDIX 2 - SEWER ADMISSION LIMITS**

The upper limits for the quality of trade waste discharged to the sewer for all categories are set out below. These admission limits shall apply from 01 July 2008. They are subject to periodic review.

# 1. GENERAL LIMITS

| Parameter                                     | Concentration   |  |
|---|---|--|
|   | Mg/L except   |  |
| Temperature *                                 | < 38°C  |  |
| pH <sup>∗</sup>                               | 6 – 10  |  |
| Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> ) | 600 mg/L  |  |
| Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)                  | 1200 mg/L   |  |
| Total Organic Carbon (TOC)                    | 1200 mg/L   |  |
| Suspended Solids                              | 600 mg/L  |  |
| Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)                  | 4000 mg/L   |  |
| Total oil/grease (Freon extractable)          | 200   |  |
| Gross Solids                                  | non faecal gross solids shall have a maximum linear dimension of less than 20mm and a quiescent settling rate of less than 3m/hr. |  |
| Colour*                                       | limited such as not to give any discernible colour in treatment discharge.  |  |
| Odour*  | not detectable in 1% dilution or causing an odour problem in Council's sewerage system.   |  |
| Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )                | 10  |  |
| Sulphate (as SO <sub>4</sub> )#               | 2000  |  |
| Sulphite (as SO <sub>2</sub> )                | 100   |  |
| Surfactants – Anionic (MBAS)                  | 500   |  |
| Aluminium (as AI)#                            | 100   |  |
| Iron (as Fe)#                                 | 100   |  |
| Ammonia plus ammonium iron (as N)#            | 100   |  |
| Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)#               | 150   |  |
| Total Phosphorous (as P)#                     | 50  |  |
| Manganese (as Mn)                             | 100   |  |

The total mass load and the capacity of the sewerage system to accept the load shall be considered for each application.

#Council may in some circumstances accept waste containing higher concentrations of these substances. Additional charges for treatment will apply.



#### 2. PROHIBITED DISCHARGES

- Prohibited substances as defined in Schedule 1 of the Water Act 2000
- Flammable / explosive substances
- Radioactive substances except as allowed under the Radiation Safety Act 1999 and the Radiation Safety Regulation 1999
- Pathological and infectious waste and Cytoxic waste as allowed for under the National Guidelines for Waste Management in the Health Industry, National Health and Medical Research Council, 1999
- Genetically modified (engineered) organisms
- Rainwater and stormwater and uncontaminated water

#### 3. SPECIFIC LIMITS - INORGANIC

| Parameter     | Concentration, mg/L |  |
|---------------|---------------------|--|
| Boron (B)     | 100                 |  |
| Bromine (Br2) | 10                  |  |
| Fluoride (F)  | 30                  |  |
| Cyanide (CN)  | 5                   |  |
| Sulphide (S)  | 5                   |  |

#### 4. SPECIFIC LIMITS - METALS

| Parameter           | Maximum Concentration | Maximum Daily Mass Load |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|                     | Mg/L                  | g/day                   |
| Arsenic (As)        | 5                     | 15                      |
| Cadmium (Cd)        | 2                     | 6                       |
| Chromium (Cr) Total | 20                    | 75×                     |
| Hexavalent Chrome   | 10                    | 30                      |
| Cobalt (Co)         | 10                    | 30                      |
| Copper (Cu)         | 10                    | 75                      |
| Lead (Pb)           | 10                    | 30                      |
| Mercury (Hg)        | 0.05                  | 0.15                    |
| Nickel (N)          | 10                    | 30                      |
| Selenium (Se)       | 5                     | 15                      |
| Silver (Ag)         | 5                     | 15                      |
| Tin (Sn)            | 10                    | 30                      |
| Zinc (Zn)           | 10                    | 75                      |

Either the concentration or mass load method may be utilised, however once the mass load is exceeded only the concentration is to be used.

# 5. SPECIFIC LIMITS - ORGANIC

Tableland Regional Council may request specific demonstrable evidence based on degradability and toxicity concerning substances listed below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>x</sup> For discharges above the Maximum Daily Mass Load, Hexavalent Cr must be reduced to trivalent Cr.



| Parameter                      |   | Maximum Concentration, mg/L                        |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Phenolic compounds (as Phenol) |   | 100  |  |
| Pentachlorop                   | henol   | 5  |  |
| Petroleum hy                   | drocarbons  | 30   |  |
| Halogenated                    | Aliphatic Hydrocarbons  | 5  |  |
| Halogenated                    | Aromatic Hydrocarbons (HAHs)  | 0.002  |  |
| Polychlorinate                 | ed Biphenyls (PCBs)   | 0.002  |  |
| -                              | ed Biphenyls (PBBs)   | 0.002  |  |
| •                              | Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)  | 5  |  |
| Pesticides:                    | General (insecticides / herbicides / fungicides)**  | 1.0  |  |
| Pesticides:                    | Organophosphates Azinphos – methyl Azinphos – ethyl Coumaphos Demeton Dichlorvos Dimethoate Disulfoton Fenitrothion Fenthion Malathion Methamidophos Mevinphos Omethoate Oxydemeton – methyl Parathion Triazophos Trichlorfon | 0.1  |  |
| Pesticides:                    | Organochlorines Aldrin Chlordane DDT Dieldrin Heptachlor Lindane  | 0.001<br>0.006<br>0.003<br>0.001<br>0.003<br>1.100 |  |

<sup>\*\*</sup> This category covers all pesticides other than those specifically listed under organophosphate and organochlorine pesticides.

# 6. OTHERS

Any substance not listed in the above tables is a prohibited discharge and may not be discharged without prior approval of the Tableland Regional Council. Council may request specific demonstrable evidence based on degradability and toxicity for any substance when assessing acceptance to sewer.