

Liquid hauled waste

Once-off trade waste discharge guideline

A once-off trade waste discharge is a single discharge event or a short series of events arising from an unexpected or non-routine occurrence. It generally falls outside the normal trade waste management process and may include but is not limited to:

- dewatering of construction sites
- draining of commercial swimming pools
- wastewater disposal from a failed industrial process
- contaminated stormwater.

1. Application for discharge

Customers wishing to make a once-off trade waste discharge must lodge an application using the once-off trade waste discharge application form and pay the appropriate application fee.

It is important to complete all sections of the application form and supply as much information as possible to help speed up the process, such as the location of discharge or nearest sewer point you would like to discharge to. Any National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) approved sample results relating to the wastewater or technical drawings of pre-treatment systems should also be attached to your form.

Once the application fee has been received, your application will be assigned to our Hauled Waste Officer for assessment.

2. Application assessment

When considering an application for once-off trade waste discharges we take into account a number of factors. As well as assessing the characteristics of the wastewater being discharged, NATA-endorsed analysis specific to the type of wastewater is required, and we assess the capability of the sewerage network receiving the waste and the suitability of any pre-treatment that may be present prior to the discharge point.

We aim to provide authorisations for once-off trade waste discharges within twenty working days of receiving the application fee or receiving the NATA-endorsed sample results, whichever comes later. This timeframe may be extended if your application is incomplete.

Please include as much detail as possible in your application and ensure it is lodged as early as possible to ensure your project/ discharge is not impacted by the time required for the assessment. The Hauled Waste Officer will assess details such as:

- the source of the wastewater being discharged
- NATA-endorsed sample results as specified in accordance with the possible contaminants that may be present in the wastewater
- the capacity of the receiving sewer, and the flowrate and volume limits for discharge (minimum 10 working day turnaround)
- any proposed pre-treatment systems if applicable.

We will be in touch if we need further details when we assess your application.

All wastewater will be expected to comply with our [Restricted Wastewater Acceptance Standards](#). If authorisation is refused, issues will need to be addressed by treating the wastewater to a standard that we can accept or you may need to engage a licensed liquid waste contractor to dispose of your wastewater.

3. Authorisation to discharge

If your wastewater is accepted for discharge into our sewerage network you will be issued a once-off trade waste discharge authorisation. This authorisation will contain the conditions which must be strictly followed throughout your discharge.

Typical information and discharge conditions you will find within your authorisation are:

- details of the entity discharging the wastewater
- details of the material allowed to be discharged
- maximum contaminant limits acceptable for the discharge
- maximum flowrates and volumes allowed to be discharged
- minimum pre-treatment requirements of the discharge if applicable and how the system should be managed
- details of any sampling or auditing requirements
- any discharge restrictions that may be in place for rain events or peak times
- charging and billing information
- various standard clauses.

Our Hauled Waste Officer may choose to attend a discharge event depending on the risk to our network and may take further compliance sampling during the discharge.

Once your discharge is complete you will be invoiced for the total costs.

4. Discharge fees and charges

Once-off trade waste discharges are chargeable at the non-domestic hauled waste rate for the volume of wastewater and weight of key treatment contaminants contained within the discharge. The weight of contaminants is calculated using the concentrations from laboratory analysis and the metered or agreed upon volume of the discharge to sewer.

Any costs for sampling or auditing carried out by SA Water during the course of the discharge event are also recovered as part of the billing process.

You can find a flowchart summarising the process below.

