

Restricted wastewater acceptance standards

Released 1 March 2018

These standards define maximum contaminant concentrations and other characteristics that, according to current knowledge, can usually be accepted without compromising the risk management areas set down in our Restricted Wastewater Acceptance Framework. Copies of this framework are available on our [website](#) or by phoning our Trade Waste team on 7424 1336. It has information about how we apply or vary these standards as part of authorising discharges of restricted wastewater (such as trade waste) to our sewerage system.

Any substance not listed below is prohibited from discharge to any of our sewerage systems without prior written approval.

Physical characteristics

Temperature	Not to exceed 38 degrees C
Volume and flow rate	Determined by the receiving sewerage system capacity
Colour	Determined by our Trade Waste team
Odour	Determined by our Trade Waste team

Chemical characteristics

Biochemical Oxygen Demand BOD5 (5 days)	Determined by the treatment capacity of the receiving sewerage treatment plant
Grease and oil	≤100 mg/L
pH	Within the range 6 – 10units
Suspended Solids (SS)	≤500 mg/L
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	1500 mg/L

Metals (maximum)	mg/L	Metals (maximum)	mg/L
Aluminium (Al)	100	Lead (Pb)	10
Barium (Ba)	20	Manganese (Mn)	10
Boron (B)	25	Mercury (Hg)	1
Cadmium (Cd)	10	Nickel (Ni)	10
Chromium Total (Cr)	20	Silver (Ag)	2
Chromium Hexavalent (Cr6+)	10	Tin (Sn)	50

Copper (Cu)	10	Zinc (Zn)	10
Iron (Fe)	100		

Other substances (maximum)	mg/L	Other substances (maximum)	mg/L
Ammonia & Ammonium ion (as NH ₃)	50	Total petroleum hydrocarbons	30
Chlorine as Cl ₂	5	Phenolic compounds (as Phenol)	100
Cyanide as CN	5 (see note 1)	Phosphorous compounds (as total P)	100
Enzymes etc	(see note 2)	Radioactive substances	(see note 3)
Formaldehyde as HCHO	50	Sulphate (SO ₄)	1500
Flammable Substances	(see note 4)	Sulphide (S)	5
Herbicides	(see note 4)	Sulphite (SO ₃)	15
Pesticides	(see note 4)		

Prohibited substances

- Substances, such as fibrous material, large solid particles, materials likely to polymerise, that could block or otherwise be detrimental to the operation of the sewerage system.
- Substances, such as volatile solvents, that could generate hazardous gases or vapours in the sewerage system.
- Chlorinated hydrocarbons.
- Fluorinated surfactants.
- Discrete oil or other materials that are immiscible with water.

Notes

1. Discharge from cyanide bath is accepted only after detoxification (the acceptable level of 5mg/L in the table above refers to rinses only). Cyanide is defined as cyanide which may be destroyed by alkaline chlorination.
2. The use of solvents, enzymes, genetically modified bacteria, or odour control agents in pre-treatment facilities is prohibited unless approved by our Trade Waste team.
3. Radioactive liquid waste limits shall comply with the provisions set by the Environment Protection Agency's Radiation Protection Branch (phone 8463 7825).
4. Our Trade Waste team will determine specific discharge limits for contaminants in these groupings.