



**AQUA NORTH CAROLINA, INC.  
SEWER USE RULE**

1. DEFINITIONS

- ***Nondomestic waste or industrial waste*** shall mean any wastewater resulting from any process of industry, manufacturing, trade, or business or from the development or recovery of any natural resource, or any mixture of such waste with water or domestic wastewater, as distinct from domestic wastewater.
- ***Domestic wastes*** shall mean a combination of water-carried wastes, consisting of wash water, culinary wastes and liquid wastes containing only human excreta and similar matter flowing in or from a building drainage system or sewer originating from residences, business buildings, institutions, and commercial establishments.
- ***Industrial waste permit or contract*** shall mean a wastewater permit or contract issued as required by Aqua to an industrial user.
- ***Industrial waste pretreatment program*** shall mean a program established by Aqua that requires dischargers to monitor, test, treat and control as necessary pollutants in their wastewater prior to discharge into the sanitary and/or combined sewer.
- ***Pretreatment*** shall mean the reduction or elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties prior to discharging into the public sewer system. This reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical, or biological processes, by process changes, or by other means, except by diluting the concentration of the pollutants unless allowed by an applicable pretreatment standard.
- ***User or Discharger*** shall mean any person that discharges, causes or permits the discharge of wastewater into a Company sanitary sewer system.
- ***Person*** shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation, institution, group, or any other legal entity.
- ***Shall*** is mandatory; ***may*** is permissive.
- ***Company*** shall mean Aqua North Carolina, Inc.

- **Waste** shall mean rejected, unutilized or superfluous substances in liquid, gaseous, or solid form resulting from domestic and nondomestic activities.
- **Wastewater** shall mean a combination of the water-carried waste from residences, businesses, buildings, institutions, and industrial establishments, together with any ground, surface, and stormwater that may be present, whether treated or untreated, discharged into or permitted to enter a sanitary sewer system.
- **Maximum allowable industrial loading** shall mean the maximum mass of pollutants that is allowed to be discharged to the treatment works from all contributory industrial users.
- **Contributory industrial user** shall mean any user that Aqua has determined discharges specific pollutants to the treatment works at concentrations greater than typical domestic/commercial wastewaters.
- **Sanitary Sewer System** shall refer to all mains, laterals, treatment plants and all appurtenances or infrastructure necessary to convey and treat wastewater.

## 2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. The User shall cooperate with Aqua in its efforts to implement or enforce its sewer use rule, including any monitoring, reporting and treatment that Aqua may deem necessary to ensure that discharges into its system are compatible with the capability of its wastewater treatment and collection system. Every User who knows or should know it will discharge Nondomestic Waste or Industrial Waste into a Sanitary Sewer System of Aqua shall notify Aqua in advance and obtain a permit or contract from Aqua if required by Aqua.
- B. It is agreed and understood that Aqua's facility is not a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW), and that the User is not entitled to, and may not claim or otherwise take advantage of, any statutory or regulatory exemptions that may apply to discharges into the sewage collection system of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).
- C. The User is required to install and maintain, at their own expense, all interconnecting lines, grease traps, pretreatment equipment, sampling wells and any lift stations required to collect sewage at connecting points per Company approval.

- D. It is agreed and understood that User may not dispose of or permit disposal of waste generated offsite by the User, or any other party, by discharge through the User's sanitary sewer system connection.
- E. Grease and oil traps shall be provided when necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease or oil when required by Aqua. All traps and drains shall be located so as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. All grease and oil traps shall be maintained by the User, at the User's expense. Prior to installation, plans shall be submitted to Aqua for approval.
- F. User shall install and maintain a waste interceptor, grease trap or pre-treatment unit of sufficient design to prevent the discharge or introduction of trash, debris, grease, oil or any other solid material having maximum dimensions equal to or greater than one and one-half inches (1½") into the sewage collection system, and that the design of such interceptor or pre-treatment unit shall be subject to approval by Aqua prior to commencement of discharge into the sewage collection system or wastewater treatment plant.
- G. The User will indemnify and hold harmless Aqua from any and all claims, demands, damages, costs, fines, expenses (including attorney's fees), judgements or liabilities arising out any damage, injury, or loss sustained by company ("Losses") on account of or in consequence of the introduction of any Prohibited Discharge, violation of any permit or contract, failure to install required Pretreatment, or failure to otherwise comply with Aqua's Sewer Use requirements by the User. Aqua shall have the right to charge the User as a part of the User's wastewater service charges any expenses or costs incurred by Aqua including but not limited to cleaning and removal on account of or in consequence of the introduction of any Prohibited Discharge, violation of any permit or contract, or failure to otherwise comply with Aqua's Sewer Use Control requirements by the User.
- H. Aqua shall have the right to terminate or otherwise refuse service in accordance with its rules and regulations to any User on account of or in consequence of the introduction of any Prohibited Discharge, violation of any permit or contract, failure to install required Pretreatment, or failure to otherwise comply with Aqua's Sewer Use requirements by the User.
- I. Aqua shall not be liable to the User for a failure to provide sanitary sewage collection services. It is understood and agreed that service interruptions may, from time to time, occur. Aqua agrees to use its best efforts to provide continuous service.
- J. If any measurement, test, inspection or analysis determines that a User has created a situation which is in violation of any statute, ordinance, rule or regulation, the User shall be required to pay all costs incurred to remedy the situation.

- K. Where necessary in Aqua's opinion, the User shall provide, at the User's expense, preliminary treatment as may be necessary to reduce the characteristics or constituents to within the maximum limits provided for in these sewer use control program or to control the quantities or rates of discharge of water or wastes. Plans and specifications and other pertinent information shall be submitted for the approval of Aqua and no construction of such facilities shall commence until said approvals are obtained in writing. Preliminary treatment facilities shall be maintained continuously to satisfactory and effective operations. Solely the User is responsible for meeting the compliance limits herein.
- L. Aqua reserves the right to refuse connection to its sanitary sewer system or to compel the discontinuance of the use of the sanitary sewer where Aqua deems the discharge of the waste harmful to the sewer system or have an adverse effect on the sewage treatment processes or Company personnel.

### 3. PROHIBITED DISCHARGES

It is prohibited for any User to discharge or permit the discharge or infiltration into any Company sewer any of the following:

- A. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than 150 degrees Fahrenheit or any substance which causes the temperature of the total wastewater treatment plant influent to exceed 104 degrees Fahrenheit. Allowable temperatures may vary by facility and will be addressed in permit or contract between the User and Aqua.
- B. Any liquid containing fats, wax, grease or oils of mineral or petroleum origin, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 mg/l, or of animal or vegetable origin in excess of 300 mg/l. Lower limits may be applied to mineral oils where necessary to prevent interference with treatment plant operations or pass through. Allowable grease levels may vary by facility and will be addressed in permit or contract between the User and Aqua.
- C. Wastes containing any substances that may affect the effluent or may cause violation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, Non-Discharge permit, or local health department permit, or the ability to meet sludge standards or beneficial reuse of sludge.
- D. Any wastewater that imparts color that may affect the effluent or may cause violation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, Non-Discharge permit, or local health department permit, or the ability to meet sludge standards or beneficial reuse of sludge.
- E. Any waste containing toxic substances in quantities sufficient to interfere with the biological processes of the sewage treatment plant, will endanger company

- personnel, will pass through the treatment works, or cause the treatment works to exceed any state or federal standards.
- F. Wastes containing a toxic or poisonous substance that could constitute a hazard to human or animals or create any hazard in the sewer system operation.
  - G. Waste discharged into the sewage collection system shall not include any hazardous waste as defined in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq., as amended, and the regulations thereunto, or in those sections of the North Carolina Administrative Code governing solid and hazardous waste.
  - H. Any pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the collection and treatment system including, but not limited to, waste streams with a closed cup flash point of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit, using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21.
  - I. Wastes containing any noxious or malodorous gas or substance that, in the opinion of Aqua, may create a public nuisance or hazard to or prevent entry to sewers for maintenance or repair.
  - J. Wastes containing any solid or viscous material that may cause an obstruction to flow or interfere with proper operation of the system. Wastes containing other matter detrimental to the operation of the sanitary sewers, sewage treatment plant equipment or structures or facilities.
  - K. Aqua reserves the right to set more stringent limitations by contract or permit with the User if Aqua determines that the limitations in this section may not be sufficient to protect the operation of the system or to comply with the water quality standards or effluent limitations of Aqua's applicable permits.

4. GENERAL EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Maximum Allowable Limits (Grab Sample)		Maximum Allowable Limits (Composite Sample)	
BOD5 (mg/l) .....	250	.....	250
TSS (mg/l).....	250	.....	250
COD (mg/l).....	750	.....	750
TKN (mg/l).....	80	.....	80
pH (s.u.).....	6-9	.....	N/A
Arsenic (mg/l).....	0.3	.....	0.2
Barium (mg/l).....	2.0	.....	1.0
Boron (mg/l).....	4.0	.....	2.0
Cadmium (mg/l).....	0.2	.....	0.1
Chromium (Total) (mg/l).....	3.0	.....	1.0
Copper (mg/l).....	2.0	.....	1.0
Lead (mg/l).....	1.5	.....	1.0
Manganese (mg/l).....	3.0	.....	2.0
Mercury (mg/l).....	0.00001		
Nickel (mg/l).....	2.0	.....	2.0
Total Phosphorus.....	10	.....	10
Selenium (mg/l).....	0.2	.....	0.1
Silver (mg/l).....	0.2	.....	0.1
Zinc (mg/l).....	2.0	.....	2.0

A. Notwithstanding the limitations set forth in the General Effluent Limitations, Aqua may accept the discharge of wastewater with constituents in excess of such concentrations provided that Aqua determines that such increased concentrations are compatible with the wastewater treatment process and such concentration variances do not create a total contributory industrial user loading allocation above the maximum allowable industrial loading.

B. Nothing in this Rule shall be construed as preventing or precluding any special agreement or arrangement between Aqua and any User whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by Aqua for treatment, subject to the requirements of the Categorical Standards for Industrial Users. For such waste, Aqua may require the User to provide any

- additional documentation or to conduct any special studies, at the User's expense, as deemed necessary to demonstrate that such waste complies with the limitations specified.
- C. The discharge of constituents in excess of the concentration limits set forth under the General Effluent Guidelines may result in disconnection of sewer service, and reimbursement of costs incurred by Aqua prior to reconnection, as established in Aqua's tariffs approved by the North Carolina Utilities Commission. Repeat violations may result in permanent disconnection.
  - D. Aqua hereby adopts the Categorical Standards for Industrial Users in 40 CFR 403.6., provided that such categorical standards are more stringent than the General Effluent Limitations established by Aqua for the pollutant. Where Categorical Standards are less stringent than the General Effluent Limitations the General Effluent Limitations shall apply.
  - E. No User shall discharge radioactive materials into public sewers without a discharge permit. Aqua may establish, in compliance with applicable state and federal regulations, regulations for discharge of radioactive wastes into public sewers. In no instance shall the active elements, or their local concentrations permitted to be discharged into the sewers, exceed the concentration limits established by Aqua.
  - F. Dilution prohibited as substitute for treatment. Except as provided under federal law, the use of dilution as a partial or complete substitute for adequate treatment to achieve compliance with categorical or local limitations is prohibited. Aqua may impose mass-based limitations or otherwise modify the limitations to account for dilution in each case.

## 5. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES

- A. All measurements, tests, and analyses must be determined in accordance with the state approved edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, by "Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes" published by the USEPA, or by any method approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency. All compliance tests shall be completed by a lab certified by the state for the specific analysis.
- B. Where Aqua deems advisable, it may require any User discharging wastes to install and maintain, at their own expense, in a manner approved by Aqua, a suitable device to continuously measure and records flow, pH, or other parameter of the wastes discharged. The User shall install and maintain a suitable control manhole in the Users' sewer lateral to facilitate observation, sampling and measuring of wastes. Any manhole and sampling device shall be publicly accessible and in a safe location, constructed in accordance with

plans approved by Aqua and installed and maintained at the expense of the User of the premises or property to who sewer service is provided.

- C. Samples for analyses shall be by either grab sample or composite samples or a 24-hour composite sample collected and proportioned, as directed by Aqua.
- D. Copies of all operational records, analyses, shall be filed with the company unless otherwise directed by Aqua.