

Chapter 555: STANDARDS FOR THE ADDITION OF TRANSPORTED WASTES TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

SUMMARY: This chapter requires each wastewater treatment facility owner wishing to receive transported wastes to submit an application for the approval of the Department of Environmental Protection. Approval will coincide with the term of the waste discharge license and will be given to a facility only where the addition of transported wastes will not cause a violation of a design parameter or discharge license limits, will not have an adverse effect on sludge handling practices, and will ensure proper overall operation of the treatment facility.

- 1. Scope.** This chapter applies to the treatment in a wastewater treatment facility of certain liquid non-hazardous transported wastes from septic tanks, cesspools, holding tanks, commercial and industrial processes and similar sources having characteristics substantially different from the normal influent to that facility.

These rules do not apply to the treatment of transported wastes having similar or compatible chemical composition and strength to the influent typically received by a particular treatment facility. Sanitary holding tank wastes to which no chemicals in quantities potentially harmful to the treatment facility or receiving water have been added are considered similar to the influent of a domestic wastewater treatment facility. These rules do not apply to facilities licensed pursuant to the Department's Septage Management Rules, 06-096 CMR Chapter 420.

NOTE: In addition to this Chapter, certain publicly owned treatment facilities and certain industrial waste sources are subject to industrial pretreatment rules, the *Pretreatment Program*, 06-096 CMR 528, that regulate the treatment of non-domestic wastes, including transported wastes as defined herein.

- 2. Purpose.** These rules are intended to ensure that the treatment of transported wastes in wastewater treatment plants is conducted in a safe, efficient manner that protects the physical facilities, maintains adequate treatment capacity, ensures proper overall operation and maintains acceptable effluent quality.
- 3. Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings.
 - A. Transported wastes.** "Transported wastes" or "wastes", for purposes of this rule only, means any liquid non-hazardous waste delivered to a wastewater treatment facility by a truck or other similar conveyance that has different chemical constituents or a greater strength than the influent described on the facility's application for a waste discharge license. Such wastes may include but are not limited to septage, industrial wastes or other wastes to which chemicals in quantities potentially harmful to the treatment facility or receiving water have been added.
 - B. Wastewater treatment facility.** "Wastewater treatment facility" means the facility or group of units provided for the treatment of sewage and/or wastewater and for the reduction and handling of sewage removed from such wastes. For the purposes of this rule, collector sewers, interceptor sewers, and pumping stations serving the wastewater facility are considered part of the facility.
 - C. Waste receiving facilities.** "Waste receiving facilities" mean the point(s) at which the transfer of transported wastes from conveyance vehicles to wastewater treatment facilities takes place.
 - D. Department.** "Department" means the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

- E. **Side stream treatment or storage.** “Side stream treatment or storage” means structures to which transported wastes are added that avoid their direct addition to the influent flow at a wastewater treatment facility. These processes include, but are not limited to, transported waste storage tanks, chemical conditioning, solids dewatering systems or sludge storage tanks. Transported wastes placed in these locations may subsequently be added to the influent flow at controlled rates.
 - F. **Design capacity.** “Design capacity” means the capability of a wastewater treatment facility to receive and properly treat established sustained average quantities of flow and specific pollutants. Such capacity must be determined by a Professional Engineer and approved by the Department.
 - G. **Septage.** “Septage” means any waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or other material from septic tanks, cesspools, vault privies or similar sources that concentrate wastes.
4. **Prohibitions.** Treatment of transported wastes in wastewater treatment facilities is prohibited unless approved in writing by the Department.

No transported wastes may be received by the following wastewater treatment facilities.

- A. **Minimum design capacity.** Those having a design capacity of less than 0.1 million gallons per day, except that the Department may approve receipt of transported wastes at such facilities:
 - (1) For the purpose of providing a beneficial use of stabilizing the facility’s operation, where the applicant has demonstrated the capacity to hold and meter the transported waste at rates calculated to best benefit the facility’s operation; or
 - (2) Where the facility is specifically designed to receive transported wastes as part of a centralized wastewater treatment system.
 - B. **Primary treatment.** Publicly owned facilities providing a primary level of treatment pursuant to section 301(h) of the Federal Clean Water Act; or
 - C. **Alternate to secondary treatment.** Publicly owned facilities that are subject to alternate effluent limits established pursuant to Chapter 525, section 3(VI).
5. **Application.** The owner or operator of any wastewater treatment facility wishing to receive transported wastes for treatment at that facility shall apply for approval from the Department. The completed application must include a transported waste management plan that describes:
- A. **Nature and volume.** Nature and volume of transported wastes (loading rates are to be determined pursuant to sections 7(A) and (B));
 - B. **Methods.** Methods for treatment and holding of transported wastes;
 - C. **Addition points.** Point(s) of addition of transported wastes to the treatment process;
 - D. **Facility capacities.** Present operating conditions and design capacity of the treatment facility for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and flow;
 - E. **Receiving facility design.** The design of waste receiving facilities;

- F. Measurement.** Transported wastes volume measuring methods;
- G. Sludge impacts.** Anticipated impact on sludge disposal practices;
- H. Access control.** Methods for controlling access to the waste receiving facility;
- I. Records.** Record keeping systems to be used;
- J. Formal agreements.** Mechanisms for formal agreements with haulers discharging transported wastes to the facility such as licenses, contracts or written authorizations and the means for enforcing the terms of such agreements; and
- K. Analysis.** A method for determining the characteristics of the transported wastes to be received such as through periodic inspections or sampling. Additionally, in consultation with the Department, chemical analysis is required prior to receiving transported wastes from new sources that are not of the same nature as wastes previously received. The analysis must be specific to the type of source and designed to identify concentrations of pollutants that may pass through, upset or otherwise interfere with the facility's operation.

NOTE: Transport vehicles may be subject to *Non-Hazardous Transporter Licenses*, 06-096 CMR 411 and may need to be licensed pursuant to that chapter.

6. Terms of approval. Approval granted for treatment of transported wastes in wastewater treatment facilities is subject to renewal or modification at the same time that the waste discharge license for the facility is considered for renewal unless modified during the term of the waste discharge license.

7. Criteria for approval

- A. Strength of wastes.** As a rebuttable presumption for the purposes of this rule, the strength of transported wastes is assumed to be: BOD, 7,500 mg/L and TSS, 15,000 mg/L. To rebut this presumption, wastewater treatment facilities may submit to the Department information demonstrating the strength of transported wastes it intends to receive. This may be for the aggregate of all wastes received or for specific sources or classes of sources where those sources are significantly different than the aggregate. Additionally, the facility may provide information on the strength and characteristics of transported wastes added to the wastewater treatment process following side stream treatment where the side stream treatment significantly alters the characteristics of the wastes as received from the transporter.
- B. Quantity of wastes.** Except as provided in section 8(B), the amount of transported wastes may not, in combination with other current annual average influent loadings, cause a wastewater treatment facility's design capacity for flow, BOD, TSS or other relevant pollutants to be exceeded. The volume of transported wastes received per day at a wastewater treatment facility may not exceed the following volumes in comparison to the facility's design capacity.
 - (1) Where the facility does not utilize side stream treatment or storage, the daily maximum volume received may not exceed 0.5% of the design capacity.
 - (2) Where the facility does utilize side stream treatment or storage for at least half of the transported waste, the daily maximum volume received may not exceed 1.0% of the design capacity.

- (3) A facility may propose to receive a daily maximum volume of more than 1.0% of the design capacity. The daily maximum volume must be determined by the Department based on a case-by-case review. Such a review must consider the extent to which the facility utilizes side stream treatment or storage that substantially reduces the strength or quantity of wastes added to the influent wastewater flow, and the potential impacts of the transported wastes on the wastewater treatment processes, effluent quality, receiving water conditions, the safe and proper operation of the facility, sludge quality, and the surrounding community. In addition to the information described in section 5, the application should include supplemental details regarding the following.
- (a) A description of management practices and other controls that will be followed to prevent adverse impacts from odors on the surrounding community, including attested copies of any relevant ordinances;
 - (b) A description of management practices and other controls that will be followed to prevent adverse impacts from transporter traffic on the surrounding community, including attested copies of any relevant ordinances;
 - (c) A description of the treatment method(s) to be used and the quantity of wastes consigned to each;
 - (d) The pollutant loadings in pounds per day for BOD, TSS and other identified pollutants of concern that each side stream treatment method places on subsequent wastewater treatment process units;
 - (e) A narrative description of the operational practices and procedures that will be used to minimize the impact of transported wastes on wastewater treatment processes, the quality of the effluent discharged, and sludge disposal practices. This may include operational plans for side stream treatment or storage and how they are managed in concert with overall facility operations; and
 - (f) An analysis of additional facility staffing or operational needs created by the transported wastes received and, where necessary, a description of how those needs will be met.

C. Expression of limits. The license limitations for transported wastes must be expressed as gallons per day and reflect the considerations in this rule. In addition to the daily amount, the Department shall establish a monthly total where necessary to prevent cumulative impacts to the treatment facility or receiving waters, or to reflect limitations in the capacity of side stream treatment methods.

8. Conditions of Approval

- A. Compliance.** Transported wastes may be received by or added to a wastewater treatment facility only when doing so will not contribute to non-compliance with the terms and limitations of the waste discharge license issued by the Department.
- B. Excess flows.** At times when the flow is in excess of a wastewater treatment facility's design capacity, transported wastes may be added only in accordance with a current high flow management plan approved by the Department. Such a plan shall provide that transported wastes will be introduced into the treatment process or solids handling system only when all treatment

units have sufficient capacity and are functioning properly, there are no diversions of flow within the facility and there are no effluent quality violations. The high flow management plan will, as necessary, specify limitations on the amount of transported waste to be added or the means or rates of addition.

- C. **Supervision.** Access to waste receiving facilities may be permitted only during specified hours and under the control and supervision of the person responsible for the wastewater treatment facility or his/her designated representative.
 - D. **Adverse effects.** Transported waste treatment at the wastewater treatment facility may not cause an upset of or pass through the treatment process or have any adverse impact on the sludge disposal practices of the wastewater treatment facility. Wastes that contain heavy metals, toxic chemicals, extreme pH, flammable or corrosive materials in concentrations harmful to the treatment operation must be refused. Odors and traffic from the handling of transported wastes may not result in adverse impacts to the surrounding community.
 - E. **Consistency with application.** The character and handling of all transported wastes received must be consistent with the information provided in application materials submitted to the Department.
9. **Records.** Each wastewater treatment facility which accepts transported wastes must maintain appropriate records of transported wastes received and treated. These records must include, at a minimum, the following by date:
- A. **Date.** The date wastes are received;
 - B. **Volume received.** The daily volume of wastes received;
 - C. **Source.** The source of the wastes;
 - D. **Hauler.** The hauler transporting the wastes;
 - E. **Volume added.** The daily volumes of wastes added to each waste treatment stream;
 - F. **Inspections or testing.** Results of inspections or testing conducted on wastes received; and
 - G. **Refused wastes.** For wastes refused for acceptance in the treatment facility, the information described in A-D.

All records pertaining to transported wastes treatment in a wastewater treatment facility must be maintained by the facility for a minimum of five years, unless otherwise specified in a waste discharge license.

This chapter repeals and replaces the previous 06-096 CMR 555 last amended January 29, 1989.

AUTHORITY: 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 341-D(1-B) and 1304(1)

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