

1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the discharge of non-domestic sewerable wastewater to any Toowoomba Regional Council sewerage system in accordance with Council's Trade Waste Plan (TWP). The Trade Waste Plan describes how the Council will manage the discharge of sewerable trade waste in order to protect its infrastructure, the health and safety of employees working in sewerage services, and facilitate compliance with Council's environmental authorities. The Trade Waste Plan forms the basis for decisions about approving the discharge of sewerable trade waste to sewer, in accordance with the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

2 Scope and applications

This Trade Waste Policy is administered and implemented by the Trade Waste Services Section of Water Operations Branch and applies to all commercial and industrial generators, including Toowoomba Regional Council, State and Commonwealth authorities, discharging sewerable liquid trade waste to any Toowoomba Regional Council sewerage system.

3 Principles

Council is committed to providing effective Trade Waste management and is guided by strategies defined within the Toowoomba Regional Council's Corporate Plan:

- 3.2.6 Plan, deliver and manage high quality sewerage networks and treatment facilities.
- 5.1.4 Develop, implement and communicate local laws, policies, standards and codes to achieve regulatory compliance.
- 5.2.1 Identify and implement innovative process and system enhancements facilitating improved decision making and operational success.

In addition to upholding the Corporate Plan principles outlined above, Council is committed to upholding the obligations in the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

4 Content

Toowoomba Regional Council seeks to protect the health and safety of its employees working on its sewerage systems, the integrity of its sewerage systems and wastewater treatment infrastructure and facilitate compliance with its environmental authorities by developing and implementing a Trade Waste Plan. Every commercial and industrial activity that requires discharge to a Council sewerage system must apply for a trade waste approval. It is an offence under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* to discharge trade waste into a local government's infrastructure without a current trade waste approval.

4.1 Trade Waste Plan

A local government that is a sewerage service may develop and implement a plan about trade waste management that controls trade waste entering its sewerage services. Council will ensure that a TWP is prepared and implemented for all of its sewerage services. At a minimum the TWP will address the following:

- Control of trade waste;
- Trade waste discharge categories;
- Sewer admission limits;
- Trade waste improvement programs;
- Trade waste charges and fees;
- Trade waste approval application procedures;
- Trade waste approvals content and conditions;

- Inspection and monitoring
- Determination of discharge quantity;
- Determination of discharge quality;
- Specific requirements for particular commercial and industrial wastes;
- Pre-treatment requirements;
- Discretionary powers; and
- Implementation provisions.

The TWP will be approved by the General Manager of Water & Waste Services.

4.2 Review of the Trade Waste Plan

The TWP will be reviewed at the end of the first two years of operation and thereafter as required to ensure compliance with legislative changes or identified need. Amendment of the TWP will be subject to approval by the General Manager Water & Waste Services.

4.3 Trade Waste Approvals

The assessment, granting, or refusal of trade waste approvals in addition to inspection and monitoring of applicants and/or approved trade waste generators will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the TWP.

4.4 Trade Waste Charges and Trade Waste Fees

Trade waste charges and trade waste fees are levied under the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Chapter 4 Rates and charges, Part 7 utility charges Section 99.

5 Responsibilities/accountabilities

Trade Waste Services are responsible for developing the Trade Waste Plan, making decisions on trade waste applications and inspecting and monitoring applicants and/or approved trade waste generators.

General Manager Water and Waste Services Group is responsible for making decisions on any amendments to the Trade Waste Plan.

6 Relevant laws

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008

7 Related policies/documents

Members of the public can access Council policies on Council's website. If a policy listed below does not appear on the website please contact 131 872 or email info@tr.qld.gov.au to request a copy. Staff may access policies via the [Policy Register and Review Schedule](#).

Council policies

Nil

Other documents

Toowoomba Regional Council Trade Waste Plan (Doc# 3466249)

Corporate Plan 2019 - 2024**8 Related forms**

Nil

9 Definitions

Sewage - Household and commercial wastewater that contains, or may contain, faecal, urinary or other human waste

Sewerage - A sewer, access chamber, vent, engine, pump, structure, machinery, outfall or other work used to receive, store, transport or treat sewage

Sewerable liquid trade waste - Water-borne waste from business, trade or manufacturing premises, other than:

- a) Waster that is a prohibited substance; or
- b) Human waste; or
- c) Stormwater

Trade Waste Approval - A written conditional approval by Council pursuant to the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (Section 180) permitting a Generator to discharge trade waste to Council's sewerage system in accordance with conditions specified in the approval. The conditions pertaining to trade waste approval are dependent upon the category and particular circumstances of the generator and are based on the Trade Waste Management Plan.

Trade Waste Plan - A written plan prepared by Council about how sewerable trade waste will be managed. The plan includes provisions about how Council will classify, manage and approve the discharge of sewerable liquid waste to sewerage systems, and includes pre-treatment requirements, sewer admission limits and calculations for determining trade waste charges.

Wastewater treatment - Processes applied to wastewater to remove containments and allow discharge of the treated water to receiving streams under the conditions of relevant environmental authority.

10 Policy details

Policy category:	Council Policy	Policy version number¹:	5.00
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Approval authority:	Council		
Policy Owner:	Water Operations Branch – Waste and Water Services Group		
Contact officer:	Coordinator Trade Waste Services, Water Operations		
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¹ Printed copies are uncontrolled. It is the user's responsibility to ensure that any copies of policy documents are the current issue. Any delegations should be verified via the relevant Delegation Register as it takes precedence if there is a conflict. The Chief Executive Officer will, if necessary, be the sole arbiter in resolving any issues of conflict

11 Revision history

Policy version	Approval date	DM Reference
1.00	16 February 2010	3486875v2
1.01	21 June 2011	4127160v1
2.00	17 June 2014	5840007v1
3.00	08 March 2017 (Reviewed - Immaterial changes only)	6898774v1
4.00	23 April 2020 (Reviewed – No changes required)	7435206v1
5.00	2 March 2023	10725445v2