

## Trade Waste Policy

Policy Type	Governance Policy	Version:	3.0
Responsible Officer	Development and Governance Manager	Date Approved:	21/06/2023
Review Officer:	Supervisor Building & Plumbing Compliance	Review Due:	21/05/2027
Author:	Development and Governance Manager	Commencement:	21/06/2023

### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the discharge of non-domestic 'sewerable' wastewater to Mareeba Shire Council wastewater system in accordance with Council's *Trade Waste Plan* (TWP).

### 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all commercial and industrial Generators discharging sewerable liquid trade waste to any Mareeba Shire Council wastewater system. This policy should be read in conjunction with Council's TWP.

### 3. POLICY STATEMENT

Council will ensure the continued protection of the environment and waterways, while providing a service to the commercial and industrial sector. Council will conditionally accept trade waste into the sewerage system provided that the waste:

- Does not contain substances in amounts that are or may be toxic or hazardous to the efficient operation of the sewerage system, treatment processes, personnel or the environment; and
- Is not discharged in a quantity that may exceed the system's capacity to collect, transport and treat the trade waste.

Each 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* (Qld) to discharge trade waste into a local government's infrastructure without a current trade waste approval.<sup>1</sup>

Council will manage trade waste using a combination of instruments, including:

- *Trade Waste Plan*;
- Trade waste approvals;
- Established risk management processes;
- Cost reflective trade waste charging structure; and
- Compliance and enforcement.

The TWP 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 wastewater services, protection of our environment and waterways, and facilitate compliance with Council's registered environmental authorities. The TWP forms the basis for decisions about approving the discharge of sewerable trade waste to sewer, in accordance with requirements under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld).

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<sup>1</sup> See *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* ss 191, 193(1).

#### 4. REPORTING

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No additional reporting is required

#### 5. DEFINITIONS

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**Generator** – means a business, trader or manufacturer who may produce sewerable liquid trade waste in the course of business, trade or manufacturing

**Sewage** – means household and commercial wastewater that contains, or may contain, faecal, urinary or other human waste

**Sewerage** – means 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** – means water-borne waste from business, trade or manufacturing premises, other than:

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

**Trade Waste Approval** – means a written conditional approval issued by Council pursuant to the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld), permitting a Generator to discharge trade waste to Council's sewerage system in accordance with conditions specified in the approval.<sup>2</sup> The conditions pertaining to trade waste approval are dependent upon the category and particular circumstances of the Generator and are based on Council's *Trade Waste Plan*.

**Trade Waste Plan** – means 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 / service** – means the processes applied to wastewater to remove containments and allow discharge of the treated water to receiving streams under the conditions of relevant environmental authority.

#### 6. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES

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*Compliance and Enforcement Policy* (MSC)

*Compliance and Enforcement Manual (Building & Plumbing Sub Manual)* (MSC)

*Environmental Protection Act 1994* (Qld)

*Local Government Act 2009* (Qld)

*Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld)

*Trade Waste Plan* (MSC)

*Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld)

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid ss 180(1)(a), 181.

## **7. REVIEW**

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It is the responsibility of the Manager Development & Governance to monitor the adequacy of this policy and implement and approve appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed every four (4) years or as required by Council.