

What is trade effluent?

Trade effluent refers to any liquid waste discharged from premises that are involved in a business, trade or industrial process.

Why must the discharge of trade effluent into sewers be controlled?

Used water including trade effluent is a precious resource in Singapore. Every drop of used water collected must be fit for reuse.

Discharging trade effluent containing prohibited substances or excessive concentration of regulated substances may pose the following risks:

- 1 Endanger the safety and health of workers maintaining the public sewerage system
- 2 Impact the used water treatment operations at Water Reclamation Plants (WRP)

What should I do if my business generates trade effluent?

Premises which discharge trade effluent into the public sewerage system are required to obtain a permit (Written Approval) from PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.

How do I apply for a Written Approval?

Application can be done via an online system, GoBusiness at <https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/licences>. Documents required for submission include type of trade, name and quantum of chemicals used, procedure to manage spent chemicals and design details of wastewater treatment plant.

My company has a Written Approval, do I need to inform PUB of any changes to my company?

Businesses are required to inform PUB in the following scenarios:

- 1 Change in company's name, address, process or operation
- 2 Change in plant layout or machinery, which affects the amount or nature of trade effluent discharged
- 3 Change in company's status e.g. from sole proprietor to private limited
- 4 Company has ceased operations

Legislative Requirements

It is important to ensure that your trade effluent complies with the Sewerage and Drainage Act and its Regulations. Illegal discharge of trade effluent containing dangerous or hazardous substances into the public sewerage system carries a maximum fine of \$50,000 and/or imprisonment up to 12 months for first time offender, and a maximum fine of \$100,000 and/or imprisonment up to 12 months for repeat offenders.

Scan the QR code below or contact 1800-CALL PUB (1800-2255-782) for more information.



A GUIDE TO DISCHARGING TRADE EFFLUENT INTO SEWERS

TRADE PREMISES & WORKERS



Guidelines to effective management of trade effluent



Ensure **proper storage of materials and compliance** to relevant requirements by authorities, especially for flammable or hazardous materials e.g SCDF, NEA etc.



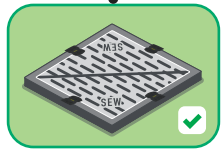
Engage an NEA-licensed toxic industrial waste collector to **dispose toxic industrial waste** e.g. used oil and spent chemicals. List of NEA's Licensed Toxic Industrial Waste Collectors is available at www.NEA.gov.sg



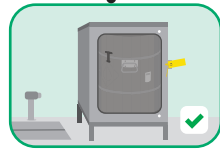
Store used oil and spent chemicals in containers and dispose by engaging an NEA-licensed toxic industrial waste collector.



Conduct regular **site checks of wastewater treatment plant** and keep records for inspection by PUB officers.



Ensure manhole and last inspection chamber are **closed at all times**.



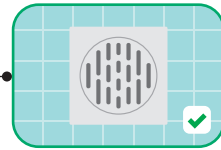
Ensure monitoring system is **locked at all times and is not tampered with**.



Conduct monthly **sampling and laboratory analysis** of treated trade effluent. Keep analysis reports of treated trade effluent and produce them when asked by PUB officers.



Ensure trade effluent, used oil, spent chemicals and other industrial waste are **not disposed into the toilets, floor traps and other inspection chambers in the premise**.



Conduct regular **toolbox meetings and training** on proper disposal of chemical waste.



Use **absorbent kits** to contain any spillage and do not wash chemicals or diesel leak into sewers.



Provide **proper washing area** for materials.



Ensure **proper containment of flammable materials**.



Maintain **proper documentation** e.g. Written Approval (WA) and Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

