

# Liquid Trade Waste Policy

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<b>Strategic Pillar</b>	Infrastructure
<b>Responsible Branch</b>	Utilities

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## 1 OUTCOMES

- 1.1 Under section 68 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, any individual or entity intending to discharge Liquid Trade Waste to Council's sewerage infrastructure is required to have approval from Council prior to any discharge occurring.
- 1.2 Liquid trade wastes may exert much greater demands on sewerage systems than domestic sewage and, if uncontrolled, can pose serious problems to public health, worker safety, the community's sewerage system and the environment.
- 1.3 Impacts of poor liquid trade waste management include:
- Grease, oil and solid material, if not removed on-site, can cause blockages in the sewerage system and result in overflows of untreated sewage to the environment.
  - Strong waste may cause odour problems and corrosion of sewer mains, pumping stations and sewage treatment facilities.
  - Unknown chemicals may interfere with the biological processes used for sewage treatment.
  - Strong waste, unknown chemicals and high temperature liquids discharged to the system can injure workers involved in sewer maintenance.
  - Treatment of trade waste places additional loading on sewerage treatment facilities
- 1.4 By applying this policy, Council will demonstrate "Best Practice Management" of its sewerage network in accordance with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's Guidelines and will minimise the following risks:
- Blockages caused by excessive fats, oils and grease;
  - Corrosion of pipework from high sewerage concentrations;
  - Noxious and explosive gas build up within the network;
  - Protection of workers and the environment; and maximisation of sewerage infrastructure asset life

## 2 POLICY

- 2.1 This policy applies to all discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to Councils sewerage infrastructure by any individual, business or corporate entity or other.
- 2.2 This policy has been developed consistent with the NSW Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines.
- 2.3 In accordance with Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council's Liquid Trade Waste Code of Practice, it is our policy to:
- Prohibit certain types of liquid trade waste from being discharged into Council's Sewerage system.
  - Accept liquid trade waste that meet specified parameters.
- 2.4 Council will seek approval from the Director General of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment authorising assumed concurrence for Liquid Trade Wastes classification "B" and "S" activities and maintain systems in place to demonstrate compliance with assumed concurrence requirements.
- 2.5 For the liquid waste in Classification C, Council will seek concurrence from the Director General of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment in accordance to the NSW Liquid Trade Waste Guidelines.
- 2.6 Council is still required to forward all high-risk applications, for mandatory concurrence as defined in the NSW Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines, to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for concurrent approval.

- 2.7 Council's policy regarding the discharge of Liquid Trade Waste reflects Councils Liquid Trade Waste Code of Practice that is based on the model policy for regulation of Liquid Trade Waste provided by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.
- 2.8 Requirements for approval, monitoring, regulation and compliance are outlined in Councils Liquid Trade Waste Code of Practice. The Code of Practice will be updated with any subsequent amendments required to comply with NSW Liquid Waste Regulation Guidelines and amendments as issued by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.
- 2.9 To achieve this we will:
- Conduct trade waste inspections as required.
  - Conduct compliance inspections as required.
  - Ensure cost recovery through trade waste billing.
  - Recognise the importance of community education, especially Trade Waste dischargers.
  - Use a risk-based approach in which potential threats to sewerage operations and quality are identified and controlled.
  - Continually improve our practises by assessing performance against corporate commitments and stakeholder expectations.

### **3 SCOPE OF THE POLICY**

- 3.1 This policy applies to all discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to Councils sewerage infrastructure by any individual, business or corporate entity or other.

### **4 DEFINITIONS**

- 4.1 *Automatic Assumed Concurrence* – Council have been authorised to assume concurrence for Classification A activities. Such applications may be approved by Council without forwarding the application for concurrence.
- 4.2 *Assumed Concurrence* – Council may apply to the Director General of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for authorization to assume concurrence for Classification B or Classification S activities. Requests for assumed concurrence need to be forwarded to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. If granted, Council will no longer need to forward such applications for concurrence.
- 4.3 *Mandatory Concurrence* – For the liquid waste in Classification C, Council will need to obtain concurrence for each discharger. Such concurrence request is to be provided to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.
- 4.4 *Council* – In this document a reference to Council means the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.
- 4.5 *Discharger* – The industrial, commercial, community and state or local government entity responsible for the discharge of liquid trade waste from any premises to Council's sewerage system.
- 4.6 *Liquid Trade Waste* – All liquid waste other than sewage of a domestic nature.
- 4.7 *Sewerage System* – All Council owned sewer infrastructure including sewer mains, pumping stations, access chambers, sewerage treatment plants and other associated assets used to convey and/or treat sewage within Council's defined sewerage areas.

### **5 LEGISLATIVE OBLIGATIONS AND/OR RELEVANT STANDARDS**

- 5.1 This policy should be read in accordance with the following legislation, guidelines and Codes of Practice.
- Local Government Act 1993
  - NSW Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines 2021
  - Protection of The Environment Operations Act 1997
  - Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009
  - Plumbing Code of Australia, Australian Standards AS3500, Part 2, Sanitary Plumbing and Drainage
  - Water Supply, Sewerage and Trade Waste Pricing Guidelines - Department of Land and Water Conservation, 2002
  - Best-Practice Management of Water Supply of Sewerage Guidelines, 2007
  - Australian Sewage Quality Management Guidelines, June 2012, WSAA
  - Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
  - Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council Liquid Trade Waste Code of Practice

## **6 REVIEW**

- 6.1 The effectiveness of this policy will be measured by:
- Compliance with Councils Liquid Trade Waste administration procedures
  - Register of applications and approvals maintained in accordance with State Government requirements.
  - Cost recovery from Trade Waste Dischargers as per Council's Fees and Charges
  - Liquid Trade Waste discharger inspection procedure.
  - Evidence of compliance by selected approval recipients
  - Evidence of monitoring and inspection arrangements for state government reporting obligations.
  - Evidence of compliance to Liquid Trade Waste Regulation guideline procedures.
  - Reduction in asset renewal intervention
- 6.2 This policy will be reviewed every four years or earlier as necessary if:
- legislation requires it, or
  - Council's functions, structure or activities change