

Trade Waste

Self-monitoring programs



As a trade waste approval holder, you may be required to routinely self-monitor the quality of the trade waste discharged from your premises. By self-monitoring, you are improving process control and demonstrating compliance with trade waste approval conditions.

Self-monitoring requirements

Self-monitoring is the sampling and analysis of nominated parameters within the trade waste discharge of a premises by the trade waste approval holder. Monitoring data obtained from self-monitoring programs complements the data obtained by Queensland Urban Utilities through our routine audit monitoring.

Queensland Urban Utilities' routine audit monitoring is generally performed at a fixed frequency. The frequency of self-monitoring however, depends on the trade waste risk classification for the premises determined using the risk assessment methods described in the Trade Waste Environmental Management Plan. The higher the risk the more self-monitoring is required.

You can find the requirements for trade waste self-monitoring (including parameters to be monitored) in your trade waste approval conditions.

Use of self-monitoring data

Trade waste self-monitoring data is included in the calculation of trade waste quality charges (for the relevant trade waste quality assessment period), but specific monitoring data may be excluded at the request of the approval holder at the discretion of Queensland Urban Utilities.

You will need to provide justification for excluding specific self-monitoring data (and may need to include evidence of a process aberration at the time of sampling). Where excluded self-monitoring data indicates a short term over-strength discharge, costs may be calculated and billed as a special disposal.

Self-monitoring data must be lodged to Queensland Urban Utilities prior to the date nominated within the relevant trade waste approval.

Initial compliance self-monitoring programs

If you are an approval holder who is discharging for the first time into Queensland Urban Utilities' sewerage system, or you have significantly upgraded or altered your trade waste pre-treatment system, you may be required to ensure sampling and analysis of trade waste discharged from your premises is carried out once per fortnight for a minimum period of twelve (12) weeks after first discharging trade waste (initial compliance monitoring). Trade waste monitoring requirements are detailed in your trade waste approval conditions.

Where an initial compliance monitoring program has been requested, an initial compliance report must be sent to Queensland Urban Utilities within 16 weeks of first discharging trade waste to sewer.

The initial compliance report must contain the following information:

- a record of the time, date and name of the sampler for all samples collected

- a record of the concentration of the analysed contaminants for all sampling events within the 12 week monitoring period
- a record of all water meter and/or trade waste effluent flowmeter readings at time of collection of all grab samples or, for composite samples, at time of sample commencement and sample finishing
- a calculation of the sampling period mass load for all analysed contaminants for all composite samples
- a statement of compliance or non-compliance with trade waste approval conditions with associated comments.

Within 90 days following the trade waste approval issue date, the trade waste discharge must comply with the Trade Waste Environmental Management Plan (TWEMP) and applicable trade waste approval conditions.

Periodic compliance self-monitoring programs

Approval holders with self-monitoring conditions included in their trade waste approval must ensure that -

- sampling and analysis of trade waste effluent discharged from the premises is conducted in accordance with trade waste approval conditions
- periodic monitoring reports are forwarded to Queensland Urban Utilities within seven days of receipt (by the approval holder) of the finalised laboratory results, and should include the following information -
 - a record of the time and date and concentration of the analysed contaminants for all sampling events conducted since the previous [Periodic Compliance Report](#);
 - a record of all water meter and/or trade waste effluent flow meter readings at time of collection of all grab samples; or for composite samples, at the time of sampling commencement and sampling finishing
 - a calculation of the sampling period mass load for all analysed contaminants for all composite samples
 - a statement of compliance or non-compliance with trade waste approval conditions

Self monitoring during non-compliance events

If trade waste self-monitoring indicates the occurrence of a breach of trade waste approval conditions, approval holders must notify Queensland Urban Utilities.

Notice of breaches must be given—

- by telephone (as soon as practically possible) and
- in writing, within seven days of the date of the breach, setting out –
 - the nature of the breach
 - an explanation of the cause of the breach
 - trade waste effluent analysis results and/or flow measurements
 - actions you have taken to control the non-compliant discharge
 - any proposed actions to prevent its recurrence.

Repeat trade waste sampling must be done within two (2) working days of receiving the first laboratory report (either draft or otherwise) detailing the results indicating a breach.

A breach sampling report must be sent to Queensland Urban Utilities within fourteen (14) days of the initial breach event detailing the following minimum information:

- a laboratory report detailing the chemical analysis results for the repeat sampling event and any associated trade waste flow measurements
- comment on whether or not the trade waste discharge is in compliance or not
- what future actions, if any, will be undertaken.

Monitoring standards

- Trade waste effluent sampling must be representative of the trade waste effluent from the normal on-site daily operations. All trade waste samples are to be taken in accordance with the DERM (2009) Monitoring and Sampling Manual 2009, Version 2. ISBN 978-0-9806986-1-9 (available at www.derm.qld.gov.au).
- Samples are to be taken as 24 hour flow-weighted composites unless otherwise stated in the specific conditions of the relevant trade waste approval.

More information

You can download forms and addresses for written notifications from Queensland Urban Utilities' website www.urbanutilities.com.au or call us on 13 26 57. If requested, a trade waste officer will contact you to provide assistance.

A controlled version of this fact sheet is available at the Queensland Urban Utilities website at www.urbanutilities.com.au or phone Queensland Urban Utilities on 13 26 57.

