

Environmental Protection and Management (Trade Effluent) Regulations

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT
(CHAPTER 94A, SECTION 77)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT (TRADE EFFLUENT)
REGULATIONS

Rg 5

G.N. No. S 160/1999

REVISED EDITION 2008

(31st January 2008)

[1st April 1999]

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Environmental Protection and Management (Trade Effluent) Regulations.

Definition

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, “controlled watercourse” means a watercourse from which water supplied by the Public Utilities Board under the Public Utilities Act (Cap. 261) is obtained but does not include a watercourse from which water is pumped into a main of the Public Utilities Board.

Particulars to be furnished

3.—(1) An applicant applying for a written permission under section 15 of the Act shall furnish the Director-General —

- (a) particulars of the trade, manufacture, business or building construction carried on or to be carried on by him and in the course of which the trade effluent is wholly or partly produced or of which the trade effluent is the waste or refuse;
- (b) details of all the processes or operations employed or to be employed by him, to produce the final products of the trade, manufacture, business or building construction;
- (c) particulars of all the raw materials and chemicals used or to be used in the processes or operations;
- (d) details of the layout of all the machinery, plant and equipment used or to be used in the premises in which the trade, manufacture, business or

building construction is or shall be carried on, as the case may be;

- (e) an estimate of the amount of water consumed or used or to be consumed or used in the trade, manufacture, business or building construction;
- (f) particulars of the physical, organic and chemical nature of the trade effluent; and
- (g) such other information relating to the discharge of trade effluent as the Director-General may require.

[S 485/2011 wef 01/09/2011]

(2) In his application for a written permission, the applicant shall furnish the Director-General such other information as the applicant considers to be relevant to the consideration of his application.

[S 485/2011 wef 01/09/2011]

(3) A person to whom a written permission has been granted or renewed shall not discharge trade effluent into any watercourse or land otherwise than in accordance with these Regulations.

[S 485/2011 wef 01/09/2011]

(4) A person to whom a written permission has been granted or renewed shall, within 14 days of a change in —

- (a) a process or operation referred to in paragraph (1)(b); or
- (b) the layout of the machinery, plant and equipment referred to in paragraph (1)(d),

which affects the amount or the physical, organic or chemical nature of the trade effluent discharged and which has been made after the Director-General has granted the written permission, notify the Director-General in writing of the change in the process or operation, or the layout of the machinery, plant and equipment, as the case may be.

[S 485/2011 wef 01/09/2011]

(5) Any written permission granted by the Director-General to discharge trade effluent into any watercourse or land —

- (a) shall be subject to such conditions as the Director-General may impose;
- (b) may be revoked, or suspended for any period, by the Director-General without assigning any reason; and
- (c) shall cease to be valid when the person to whom a written permission has been granted or renewed fails to comply with these Regulations or any condition imposed by the Director-General in granting the written permission.

[S 485/2011 wef 01/09/2011]

Trade effluent to be treated

4. All trade effluent shall be treated before it is discharged into any watercourse or land, unless an exemption is specifically granted by the Director-General.

Control mechanism for discharge of trade effluent

5. A person who discharges trade effluent into any watercourse or land shall, in connection with the discharge, install such sampling test points, inspection chambers, flow-meters, and recording and other apparatuses as the Director-General may, from time to time, require.

Outlet for discharge to require prior approval

6.—(1) A person shall obtain the prior permission in writing of the Director-General before he makes or causes to be made any drain or other connection to a watercourse for the purpose of discharging trade effluent into the watercourse.

(2) In every such case, the position and design of the outlet for the discharge of the trade effluent into the watercourse shall be approved by the Director-General and shall not be altered or changed without his prior approval.

Particulars of trade effluent discharge required by Director-General

7. A person who discharges trade effluent into any watercourse or land shall, at such times as the Director-General may require, submit particulars of —

- (a) the amount of water consumed or used for the purposes of a trade, manufacture, business or building construction carried on by him and in the course of which the trade effluent is wholly or partly produced or of which the trade effluent is the waste or refuse;
- (b) the physical, organic and chemical nature of the trade effluent;
- (c) the raw materials and chemicals used in the trade, business, manufacture or building construction and the direction of the flow of any liquid or the trade effluent from or produced by the machinery, plant and equipment used in the trade, business, manufacture or building construction; and
- (d) such other information relating to the discharge of the trade effluent as may be required by the Director-General.

Nature and type of trade effluent to be discharged

8.—(1) No trade effluent other than that of a nature or type approved by the Director-General shall be discharged into any watercourse or land.

(2) The temperature of the trade effluent shall not exceed 45° Celsius at the point of its entry into any watercourse or land.

(3) The pH value of the trade effluent shall not be less than 6 nor more than 9 at the point of its entry into any watercourse or land.

(4) The caustic alkalinity of the trade effluent shall not be more than 2,000 milligrams of calcium carbonate per litre at the point of its entry into any watercourse or land.

Trade effluent to be free of certain substances

9. The trade effluent discharged into any watercourse or land shall not contain any of the following substances:

- (a) radioactive material;
- (b) any pesticide, fungicide, herbicide, insecticide, rodenticide or fumigant;
- (c) refuse, garbage, sawdust, timber, human or animal waste or solid matter;
- (d) petroleum or other inflammable solvent; or
- (e) a substance that either by itself or in combination or by reaction with other waste or refuse may give rise to any gas, fume, or odour or substance which is or is likely to be a hazard to human life, a public nuisance, injurious or otherwise objectionable.

Maximum concentrations of certain substances

10.—(1) The Director-General may stipulate —

- (a) the maximum volume and quantity of a substance which may be discharged into a watercourse; and
- (b) the maximum rate at which the substance may be so discharged.

(2) Subject to paragraph (1), no person who has been informed by the Director-General by notice in writing of the volume, quantity or rate may discharge the substance into a watercourse in a volume, quantity or at a rate in excess of that so stipulated.

(3) Any trade effluent analysed in accordance with regulation 11 shall not contain the following substances in concentrations greater than those set out below:

*Limit for discharge into a
watercourse other than a
controlled watercourse in
milligrams per litre of trade
effluent*

*Limit for discharge into a
controlled watercourse in
milligrams per litre of trade
effluent*