

Town of Truro – Policy & Procedure Manual

Subject: Sewer Use Policy
Policy Number: P150-002
Approval Date: December 2, 2013
Departments: Public Works Department

1. INTRODUCTION

- a) This Policy is entitled the *Sewer Use Policy*.
- b) Council hereby delegates to the Engineer all of its authority pursuant to Part XIV of the Municipal Government Act as set out in the *Sewer Use By-law* of the Town of Truro.
- c) The *Sewer Use By-law* requires Council to adopt a *Sewer Use Policy* to:
 - i) Regulate the concentration and flow of substances permitted to be discharged into the sewerage system;
 - ii) Restrict the discharge and concentration of substances that may adversely affect the sewerage system, the treatment process carried out at wastewater facilities or the quality of treated effluent from wastewater facilities;
 - iii) Implement any other provisions of the *Sewer Use By-law* as required under the *By-law*.

2. DEFINITIONS

- a) In this Policy,
 - i) All words used in the singular shall include the plural except where otherwise indicated and the words used in the plural shall indicate the singular; and
 - ii) All other words shall carry their customary meaning, except those defined in the *Sewer Use By-law* or as defined in this Policy.

3. DECISION-MAKING PROCEDURES OF THE ENGINEER

- a) The Engineer shall make decisions as authorized by the *Sewer Use By-law* in accordance with this Policy.

- b) The Engineer shall have the discretion to delay the effective date of any decision after taking into account the nature of the decision, the impact on the applicant and the potential of other interested parties.
- c) In exercising their duties under the *Sewer Use By-Law* and this Policy, the Engineer may consult with the Engineer of the Municipality of the County of Colchester, and with any other person with whom the Engineer wishes to consult or obtain advice.
- d) Where the Engineer makes a decision pursuant to clause 4.12 of the *Sewer Use By-law*, the Engineer shall make such decisions in the following manner:
 - i) The Engineer's decisions shall be made in writing, in the format deemed appropriate by the Engineer from time to time;
 - ii) The Engineer's decision shall be delivered to the affected party or parties by registered mail, personal service or any other method of delivery authorized by the affected party or parties; and
 - iii) If, based upon the subject-matter of the appeal, the Engineer decides that his or her decision is of a nature that warrants notification to the general public,
 - (1) The Engineer's decision shall be posted in at least one (1) publically accessible forum within two (2) days of delivering the decision to the affected party or parties, and
 - (2) The Engineer's decision shall clearly state that the Engineer has deemed it appropriate to notify the general public of the Engineer's decision and when and how notification to the general public will occur.
- e) When an appeal has been filed pursuant to Part 19 of the *Sewer Use By-law*:
 - i) The Chief Administrative Officer shall immediately advise the Engineer and Council that an appeal of a decision of the Engineer has been submitted;
 - ii) The appeal shall be heard by Council, as established by the *Sewer Use By-law*, and should be scheduled to be heard to within thirty (30) days from the filing date of the appeal, or as soon as reasonably possible thereafter, following which the decision of the Engineer shall be affirmed, varied or reversed;

- iii) Notice of the appeal and its hearing date shall be given to the party appealing the decision of the Engineer, at the address designated by the party in the written form of appeal submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer, no less than ten (10) days in advance of the date on which the appeal is scheduled to be heard;
- iv) If the Chief Administrative Officer decides that there are other interested parties to whom notice of the appeal and its hearing date ought to be given, then notice of the appeal and its hearing date shall be given to those interested parties, in the manner deemed appropriate by the Chief Administrative Officer, no less than ten (10) days in advance of the date on which the appeal is scheduled to be heard; and
- v) If the Chief Administrative Officer decides that the subject-matter of the appeal is of a nature that warrants notifying the general public of the appeal and its hearing date, then notice of the appeal and its hearing date shall be posted in at least one (1) publically accessible forum no less than ten (10) days in advance of the date on which the appeal is scheduled to be heard.

4. PARAMETER LIMITS FOR DISCHARGE INTO SEWERAGE SYSTEM

- a) The following parameter limits for sewage and/or wastewater proposed to be discharged into the sewerage system shall apply unless the proposed discharge is specifically prohibited by this Policy:

Substance	Limit (mg/l)	Substance	Limit (mg/l)
Aluminum (Total)	50.0	Manganese (Total)	5.0
Antimony (Total)	5.0	Mercury (Total)	0.01
Arsenic (Total)	1.0	Methylene Chloride	0.09
Barium (Total)	5.0	Molybdenum (Total)	5.0
Benzene (Total)	0.01	Nickel (Total)	2.0
Beryllium (Total)	5.0	Oil & Grease (mineral or Synthetic)	15
Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand	300	Oil & Grease (organic)	150
Bismuth (Total)	5.0	Phenolic Compounds	0.1
Cadmium (Total)	0.7	Phosphorus (Total)	10.0
Chemical Oxygen Demand	600	Selenium (Total)	0.8
Chlorides	1500	Silver (Total)	0.4
Chloroform	0.04	Sulphates (SO4)	1500
Chromium (Total)	2.0	Suspended Solids (Total)	300
Cobalt (Total)	5.0	Sulphide (H2S)	1.0

Copper (Total)	1.0	1,1,2,2 Tetrachloroethane	0.06
Cyanide	1.2	Tin (Total)	2
1,2 - dichlorobenzene	0.05	Titanium	5
1,4 - dichlorobenzene	0.08	Toluene	0.01
Ethyl benzene	0.06	Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	50
Fluoride	10	Trichloroethane	0.5
Hexa-Chlorobenzene	0.001	Trichloroethylene	0.05
Iron (Total)	50	Xylene	0.3
Lead (Total)	1	Zinc	2.0

- b) The following parameter limits shall apply for sewage and/or wastewater containing NORMS that have not been part of a nuclear fuel cycle, re-processed for use of nuclear material or are not artificially produced radio nuclides. If any Federal Regulations or Provincial Regulations or other Federal or Provincial guidelines have limits which are more stringent than those set out in this Policy, the more stringent of the limits shall apply:

NORM Radionuclide	Limit (Bq/l)
Uranium-238 series (all progeny)	1.0
Thorium-230	5.0
Thorium-232	1.0
Thorium 232 series (all progeny)	1.0
Thorium-228 series (in equilibrium with all progeny)	1.0
Uranium 238 (U-238, Th-234, Pa-234m, U-234)	10.0
Radium-226 (in equilibrium with its progeny)	5.0
Radium-228 (in equilibrium with Ac-228)	5.0
Lead-201 (in equilibrium with Bi-201 & Po-210)	1.0

5. **DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE AND/OR WASTEWATER CONTAINING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES OR OTHER PROHIBITED OR LIMITED SUBSTANCES**

- a) If a person intends to process any raw material into any finished product that could result in a possible discharge of sewage and/or wastewater into the sewerage system, and such sewage and/or wastewater is known to contain or possibly contain

- i) any substances prohibited to be discharged into the sewerage system under by the *Municipal Government Act* of Nova Scotia or any other Federal Regulations or Provincial Regulations;
- ii) any substance that is prohibited or has restrictions placed on its discharge into the sewerage system under the *Sewer Use By-law* or this Policy; and/or
- iii) any substance that is above the limits as defined and set out in this Policy;

that person must apply for and obtain an approval from the Engineer for an intent to discharge the sewage and/or wastewater into the sewerage system prior to commencement of the processing operations to ensure that adequate treatment, handling and monitoring measures as required by the Engineer have been put in place to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

- b) If the approval for intent to discharge as required by clause 5(a) of this Policy has not been obtained by the person prior to commencement of the processing operations and the establishment the treatment, handling and monitoring measures as required by the Engineer, the Engineer may decline to accept a wastewater survey report and to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the person under the *Sewer Use By-law*.
- c) If a person intends to bring into the Town any substance for the purpose of discharge into the sewerage system, or where it could be reasonably contemplated that such substance would be discharged into the sewerage system, and such substance is known to contain or possibly contain
 - i) any substances prohibited to be discharged into the sewerage system under by the *Municipal Government Act* of Nova Scotia or any other Federal Regulations or Provincial Regulations;
 - ii) any substance that is prohibited or has restrictions placed on its discharge into the sewerage system under the *Sewer Use By-law* and this Policy; and/or
 - iii) any substance that is above the limits as defined and set out in this Policy;

that person must apply for and obtain an approval from the Engineer for an intent to discharge the sewage and/or wastewater into the sewerage system prior to transporting the product into the Town to ensure that adequate treatment, handling and monitoring measures as required by the Engineer have been put in place to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

- d) If the approval for intent to discharge as required by clause 5(c) of this Policy has not been obtained by the person prior to transporting the substance into the Town and the establishment of treatment, handling and monitoring measures as required by the Engineer, the Engineer may decline to accept a wastewater survey report and to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the person under the *Sewer Use By-law*.