

5.4.3.2 Effluent Limits/Water Quality Based Effluent Limits/ TMDL and 303(d) Considerations/Permit Limits before TMDL Completion

Applicability:

This topic provides an overview of the permit process for waters that are 303(d) listed and have not had a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) developed.

Content:

The Federal Clean Water Act, Section 303(d)(1)(a), requires that the state identify those waters within its boundaries that are impaired and fail to meet the state's water quality standards. The Federal Clean Water Act, Section 303(d)(1)(C) requires that the state develop the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) at a level necessary to implement water quality standards for each contaminant of concern for water bodies identified on the 303(d) list. A TMDL is a mathematical calculation of the amount of a specific contaminant a water body can absorb and still be able to meet water quality standards.

Effluent limits for facilities discharging within a 303(d) watershed that have not had a TMDL developed should be in accordance with the regulations found in 10 CSR 20-7.015. Once a TMDL is developed, the permit will be modified to incorporate the new wasteload allocations. TMDLs include a daily load allocation, which must be converted into water quality based effluent limitations. If more stringent water quality standards are adopted after a TMDL is developed, then corresponding water quality based effluent limitations that are more stringent than the TMDL must be incorporated into the permit.

Legal References:

Federal Clean Water Act Section 303(d)

Missouri Revised Statutes

644.051.4 RSMo

Code of State Regulations

10 CSR 20-7015

10 CSR 20-7.031