

## 5.4.1.2 Effluent Limits/Water Quality Based Effluent Limits/ Water Quality Review Sheets/Requesting a WQ Review

### **Applicability:**

Water quality reviews are requested by completing and submitting a Water Quality Review Sheet (WQRS) Request form to the Permits and Engineering Section.

### **Content:**

A Water Quality Review Sheet Request may be submitted by a departmental permit writer, other department staff or a facility representative or consultant. The water quality review process determines and documents appropriate effluent limits and monitoring requirements for a wastewater treatment facility. This is accomplished by examining the quality, quantity and other characteristics of the facility discharge and the water quality and flow characteristics of the receiving waters. Typically, this process is conducted at the time of permit issuance or modification.

The Other Links Section below has an electronic link to the WQRS request form on the department's web site. The name and address of the person to whom to submit the request is at the bottom of the form.

Completion of the form requires checking or filling in the appropriate information and attaching a topographic map of the outfall locations, a copy of the existing permit and a list of expected pollutants at new or modified facilities. A helpful, additional attachment is a description of the outfalls and the nature of water contaminants released from the outfalls at facilities that have not had a previous permit.

Two sections of the form require brief narrative explanations. In Reason for Request, additional information related to the selected check-box is beneficial, especially an indication of the nature of changes that have occurred at the facility since its last permit issuance. In particular, changes (increases or decreases) in facility loading are important. If the reason for the request is other than one of the three for which there are check-boxes, that reason should be stated.

In the Facility Information section, the additional narrative information requested relates to water quality issues. Several examples are listed at the bottom of this portion of the section. These are indications of the type of information requested, not a complete listing of the applicable water quality issues. Examples of other issues include changes of water quality due to development in the watershed, new or increased wastewater discharges from other facilities in the vicinity, modifications of the water quality standards, the completion of special water quality studies, TMDL determinations and Use Attainability Analyses (UAAs).

In the Facility Information section, the term "outfall" refers to the outfall number as specified in the facility's permit. If the request is for a new facility that has not been permitted, letter or number designations should be entered into the Outfall boxes and the same designations used on the topographic map and explained in an attachment to the request form. The general nature of wastewater to be released from the outfalls also should be outlined on this attachment.

Also in the Facility Information section, the "Treatment Type" should be characterized by a few words that provide a capsule description of the facility. Examples include conventional activated sludge, three-cell lagoon, oxidation ditch, extended aeration, physical/chemical, cooling tower, settling basin with floating solids screen, and land disturbance BMPs. If disinfection is provided, it is beneficial to indicate this along with a symbol indicating the disinfection agent: chlorine (Cl), ultraviolet (UV), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) or other method.

Finally, the form should be signed and dated by the requestor and submitted to the Permits and Engineering Section.

**Legal References:**

**Other Links:**

[5.4.1.1 Determining Need for a WQ Review](#)

[Water Quality Review Sheet \(WQRS\) Request Form](#) --MO 780-1893 PDF

**Key Words:**

Water Quality Review Sheet, WQRS, water quality review

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