

5.5.10 Effluent Limits/Water Quality Based Effluent Limits/ Effluent Limitations for Specific Waters/Subsurface Waters

Applicability:

The following provisions apply to releases that may effect subsurface waters in aquifers. The key effluent rule citation is 10 CSR 20-7.015(7). Aquifer is defined at 10 CSR 20-2.010(7) as a subsurface water-bearing bed or stratum which stores or transmits water in recoverable quantities that is presently being utilized or could be utilized as a water source for private or public use. It does not include water in the vadose zone. For purpose of the effluent regulation, sandy or gravelly alluvial soils in or on the floodplains of intermittent streams are not an aquifer.

Content:

Limitations and Restrictions for Subsurface Waters:

There shall be no release, storage or disposal of water that causes or allows it to directly or indirectly enter an aquifer unless it complies with the criteria set in the Water Quality Standards (10 CSR 20-7.031, Table A). Compliance is determined at a depth 10 feet under the point of release. An exception applies to certain facilities approved by the department (see 10 CSR 20-7.015(7)(A) & (E).

No wastewater shall be introduced into sinkholes, caves, fissures or other openings that do or are reasonably certain to enter aquifers unless permitted as a discharge to a losing stream.

Abandoned wells and test holes shall be properly plugged or sealed.

Releases from land application or treatment facilities that reach or can be reasonably expected to reach an aquifer are to be controlled by site-specific limits and conditions.

Legal References:

Missouri Revised Statutes

Cave Resources Act, Chapter 578 - Miscellaneous Offenses

[578.215](#)

Cave or subsurface waters, placing structures or substances in violation of clean water law prohibited, exceptions.

Missouri Clean Water Law, Chapter 644 - Water Pollution

[644.026\(8\), \(13\) and \(17\)](#)

Powers and duties of commission--rules, procedure.

[644.051.1\(3\) and .2](#)

Prohibited acts--permits required, when, fee--bond required of permit holders, when--perm application procedures--rulemaking--limitation on use of permit fee moneys.

Code of State Regulations:

[10 CSR 20-6.010\(1\)\(A\) and \(5\)\(A\)](#)

Construction and Operating Permits -
(1)(A) General - Permits Required for Point Sources
(5)(A) Operating Permits (OP) - Required

[10 CSR 20-7.015\(7\)](#)

Effluent Regulations - Subsurface Waters Limitations

[10 CSR 20-7.031, \(5\), \(4\) and Table A](#)

Water Quality Standards -
(4) Specific Criteria
(5) Groundwater

Table A - Criteria for Designated Uses

Other Links:

[5.1 Overview – Effluent Limits](#)

[5.5.2 Losing Streams](#)

[6.1.6.10 Subsurface Waters-Monitoring Requirements](#)

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Revised By: John Hoke and Jim Penfold

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