

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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Implementation of the National Pretreatment Program

The goals of the National Pretreatment Program are to improve opportunities to recycle and reclaim wastewater and sludge, to prevent pass through of pollutants into receiving waters, and to prevent interference with the operation of the publically owned treatment works (POTWs) when hazardous or toxic industrial waters are discharged into the sewage system.

In Georgia, the primary responsibility for developing pretreatment programs and enforcing national pretreatment standards for industries rest with the State and with approved local POTW authorities. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency participates in the pretreatment program by overseeing the development, implementation and continued effectiveness of local pretreatment programs.

The general pretreatment regulations at Chapter 391-3-6-.09 of the Georgia Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control and 40 CFR Part 403.8(a) require certain Publically Owned Treatment Works to establish a local pretreatment program to control discharges from nondomestic sources. In these cases, the POTW is the control authority and implements its own program. This includes permitting, compliance and enforcement of these programs.

In instances in which the POTW does not have an approved pretreatment program, EPD is the control authority and is responsible for permitting, compliance and enforcement for the industrial users.

If an industry is uncertain if Chapter 391-3-6-.08 of the Rules and 40 CFR Part 403 requires the discharge to a POTW to be permitted, contact the appropriate control authority to find out.

Georgia Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control

Pretreatment and Permit Requirements:

<http://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/391-3-6-.08>

Requirements for Approval and Implementation of Publicly Owned Treatment Works Pretreatment Programs and Administration of the EPD Pretreatment Program:

<http://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/391-3-6-.09>

EPA Pretreatment Resources

A complete list of EPA Pretreatment Publications can be found here:

https://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/docs.cfm?view=allprog&program_id=3&sort=name

Laws and Regulations Related to Pretreatment:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/national-pretreatment-program#laws>

NPDES Introduction to the National Pretreatment Program:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-introduction-national-pretreatment-program>

Local Limits Development Guide:

https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/pretreatment_local_limits.pdf

Checklist – Pretreatment Program Legal Authority Reviews:

https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/pretreatment_legal_checklist.pdf

Guidance Manual on the Development and Implementation of Local Discharge Limitations Under the Pretreatment Program: <https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm0275.pdf>

Guidance for Reporting and Evaluating POTW Noncompliance with Pretreatment Implementation Requirements:

https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/1990_potw_noncompliance_guidance.pdf

Control of Slug Loadings to POTWs:

<https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm021.pdf>

Determining Industrial User Significant Noncompliance Summary:

https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/industrial_user.pdf

Application and Use of the Regulatory Definition of Signification Noncompliance for Industrial Users:

https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/application_use_regulatory.pdf

Industrial User Inspection and Sampling Manual for POTW's:

<https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm0025.pdf>

Guidance for Developing Control Authority Enforcement Response Plans:

<https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm0015.pdf>