



INDUSTRIAL WASTE CONTROL (PRETREATMENT) PROGRAM PUBLIC INFORMATION

Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia charged with responsibility for water pollution abatement within its jurisdiction. HRSD boundaries currently encompass an area over 2,800 square miles of Southeastern Virginia known as Hampton Roads with a population of 1.7 million. HRSD is unique in that it serves an area surrounding Hampton Roads, which is the largest natural harbor in the world.

Hampton Roads is a very heavily militarized area. Approximately 10% of all industrial waste generated within HRSD comes from large military installations which are similar in size to small cities. Other sources of industrial waste include light and heavy manufacturing, food processing and associated service industries. Waste generated by these industrial and commercial sources is treated at HRSD's nine major treatment plants in Hampton Roads and four smaller treatment plants on the Middle Peninsula. These plants treat, in aggregate, approximately 155 million gallons per day.

The HRSD Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention Division is responsible for regulating industrial and commercial discharges through application of the HRSD Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations. These regulations include general and specific effluent limitations and a discharge permit program. Adequate authority to enforce the Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations of HRSD and all applicable State and Federal regulations, including final EPA "pretreatment limitations", is provided in Section 102 of the HRSD Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations. Compliance is effected through the use of an extensive monitoring program in conjunction with industrial self-monitoring. HRSD conducts work-week wastewater monitoring surveys at least annually, utilizing high-speed automatic samplers. In addition, all industries known to discharge toxic pollutants are grab sampled and spot checked at unannounced times. These same industries are required to perform varying degrees of self-monitoring using methods acceptable to HRSD.

Approximately 175 industrial dischargers have been issued discharge permits, which outline applicable effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, metering requirements, and appropriate compliance schedules. These industries have invested millions of dollars to achieve compliance. In addition, hundreds of commercial and service facilities are regulated through enforcement of the HRSD Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations. Although these facilities do not receive permits, HRSD inspections and wastewater analyses are performed to ensure compliance with appropriate effluent limitations.

An important part of industrial waste control at the POTW is the ability to locate and hold liable sources of unusual discharges, which cause treatment difficulties. HRSD has such capabilities in the form of an Industrial Waste Alert System. All major treatment facilities are manned 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. An emergency reporting procedure is in place where a treatment plant operator can report any change in influent pH, odor, color, or general appearance (oil, etc.). In addition, any process failure, such as loss of chlorine residual or treatment effectiveness, is also reported. Members of the HRSD Pretreatment & Pollution Prevention Division respond immediately to locate and terminate the source of the unusual discharge. Enforcement mechanisms for passing along liability for damages to sources of upsets and for termination of service are provided for in the HRSD Industrial Wastewater Discharge Regulations, Part VI, Violations and Enforcement. This activity has resulted in the collection of considerable sums in damages from industrial sources of unusual wastes. Additionally, the overall quality of HRSD discharges has been improved.

Effective industrial waste control is essential to successful POTW operation. This control is best administered at the local level, if the control program is designed around the needs of the POTW it serves. HRSD has in place as rigorous an industrial waste control program as can be found in the wastewater treatment industry. Such a program is necessary in providing the best and most cost effective wastewater treatment service to all of its customers.