

Chapter NR 211

PRETREATMENT STANDARDS FOR  
DISCHARGES TO PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT  
WORKS

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**NR 211.01 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to establish pretreatment standards for the discharge of pollutants to publicly owned treatment works pursuant to section 147.07 (2) and 147.04 (5), Wis. Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.

**NR 211.02 Applicability.** The provisions of this chapter are applicable to all non-domestic users of publicly owned treatment works.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.

**NR 211.03 Definitions.** The following special definitions are applicable to terms used in this chapter. Definitions of other terms are set forth in Wis. Adm. Code chapter 205.

(1) "Compatible pollutant" means biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, pH, or fecal coliform bacteria, plus additional pollutants identified in the WPDES permit for the publicly owned treatment works receiving the pollutants if such works was designed to treat such additional pollutants, and in fact does remove such pollutants to a substantial degree.

**NOTE:** Examples of such additional pollutants may include chemical oxygen demand, total organic carbon, phosphorus and phosphorus compounds, nitrogen and nitrogen compounds, fats, oils and grease of animal or vegetable origin.

(2) "Incompatible pollutant" means any pollutant which is not a compatible pollutant.

(3) "Municipality" means any municipality or other agency operating a publicly owned treatment works.

(4) "Major contributing industry" means an industrial or commercial facility that is a user of a publicly owned treatment works and:

(a) Has a waste discharge flow of 50,000 gallons or more per average work day;

(b) Has a waste discharge flow greater than 5% of the flow carried by the municipal system receiving the waste;

(c) Has in its waste, a toxic pollutant in toxic amounts as defined in Wis. Adm. Code chapter NR 215; or

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(d) Has a waste which the department determines has, or in the case of a new source will have, a significant impact, either singly or in combination with other wastes, on the publicly owned treatment works or on the quality of effluent from such works.

(5) "Pretreatment" means the treatment of wastewaters to remove or reduce the quantity of one or more pollutants prior to discharge to a publicly owned treatment works.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.

**NR 211.04 Compliance with limitations and standards.** (1) Discharge of pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works from facilities subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply with the prohibitions of section NR 211.10.

(2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1) above the discharge of pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works from an existing major contributing industry shall not later than July 1, 1977 comply with pretreatment standards for incompatible pollutants for existing sources established in accordance with section NR 211.30.

(3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1) above the discharge of pollutants to a publicly owned treatment works from a new source which will be a major contributing industry shall comply with pretreatment standards for incompatible pollutants for new sources established in accordance with section NR 211.30.

(4) Each owner or operator of an existing source which is required to provide pretreatment facilities shall commence construction of such facilities as soon as practicable but no later than 18 months after pretreatment standards for incompatible pollutants are established in accordance with section NR 211.30 for the appropriate point source category.

(5) Each owner or operator of a facility which is required to provide pretreatment facilities for incompatible pollutants shall prior to commencing construction of any such facilities submit a report to the department and to the municipality operating the publicly owned treatment works. This report shall be submitted on a form supplied by the department, shall describe the proposed pretreatment facilities and methods for disposing of removed pollutants, and shall set forth the pretreatment standards to be achieved and a schedule of compliance for achieving them. He shall thereafter submit such additional information relating to compliance and progress as the department or municipality may request.

(6) Each owner or operator of a facility which is required to provide pretreatment for incompatible pollutants shall, at the frequency the department finds necessary to assure compliance with applicable pretreatment standards,

(a) Monitor the pretreated discharge to determine quantities of incompatible pollutants discharged to the publicly owned treatment works, and

(b) At the end of each calendar quarter, report the results of such monitoring to the department and the municipality.

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(7) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter the department or the municipality may require that more restrictive standards be met, for either compatible or incompatible pollutants, if such standards are necessary to avoid interference with the operation of the publicly owned treatment works or to achieve water quality standards.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.

**NR 211.10 Prohibited wastes.** No waste introduced into a publicly owned treatment works shall interfere with the operation or performance of the works. Specifically, the following wastes shall not be introduced into the publicly owned treatment works:

(1) Wastes which create a fire or explosion hazard in the publicly owned treatment works.

(2) Wastes which will cause corrosive structural damage to treatment works, but in no case wastes with a pH lower than 5.0, unless the works is designed to accommodate such wastes.

(3) Solid or viscous wastes in amounts which would cause obstruction to the flow in sewers, or other interference with the proper operation of the publicly owned treatment works.

(4) Wastes at a flow rate and/or pollutant discharge rate which is excessive over relatively short time periods so that there is a treatment process upset and subsequent loss of treatment efficiency.

(5) New wastes or increased volumes or quantities of wastes from major contributing industries in such volumes or quantities as to overload the treatment works or cause a loss of treatment efficiency.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.

**NR 211.20 Pretreatment for compatible pollutants.** Pretreatment of discharges to a publicly owned treatment works for removal or reduction of compatible pollutants is not required except in accordance with sections NR 211.04(7) and NR 211.10.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.

**NR 211.30 Pretreatment for incompatible pollutants.** (1) Pretreatment for removal or reduction of incompatible pollutants is required for discharges from a major contributing industry to a publicly owned treatment works. Except in accordance with sections NR 211.04(7) and NR 211.30(2), such pretreatment shall achieve the pretreatment standards for existing sources or for new sources set forth for the applicable point source category or subcategory in Wis. Adm. Code chapters NR 221 through NR 299.

(2) If a publicly owned treatment works is committed in its WPDES permit to the removal of a specified percentage of any incompatible pollutant, the pretreatment standard applicable to users of such works shall, except in the case of standards specifying no discharge, be correspondingly reduced in stringency for that pollutant.

**History:** Cr. Register, June, 1976, No. 246, eff. 7-1-76.