

Howdon STW Tankered Waste Acceptance: Non-technical Summary 130623

Howdon STW provides wastewater treatment to a Population Equivalent of close to one million people. The plant also treats more than 40 000 Tonnes Dry Solids per annum of indigenous and imported liquid sludge and raw cake. Liquid sludge is tankered into site and combined with indigenous sludge after screening. The site also accepts domestic waste from commercial tankered imports. Septic tank waste (EWC Code 20 03 04), cesspool waste (16 10 02) and portable toilet waste (16 10 02) are delivered to the head of the works and mixed with influent prior to primary treatment under the Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations. Septic tank waste (20 03 04) and Waste from Sewage Cleaning (20 03 06) are controlled wastes.

Waste accepted to the Head of the work.

Domestic waste is imported to Howdon STW via 3rd party tanker companies. Tanker companies must sign an agreement to be consented to discharge prior to arrival and within the conditions of the permit. A duty of care Waste Transfer Note is required to confirm the EWC coded wastes they are transporting. All domestic waste tanker drivers must have a site induction. Following completion of the induction, the customer will be issued with an induction card signed and dated for Howdon along with a vehicle fob. The fob allows the use of the JRP WASP logger so that an electronic record of the transaction is kept. The volume of waste delivered, along with the Total Solids result, is recorded. Spot checks will be carried out by the site Operations Team to ensure all drivers hold a valid site induction card.

The tankers will be sampled prior to discharge to allow the Operator to check the suitability of the waste. A visual and odour check will determine if there are e.g. hydrocarbons present. If the waste is unsuitable, the tanker discharge will not be allowed. If suitable, a full sample will be taken, if required, for the waste characterisation and/or acceptance process. The fully labelled samples (Date, Time, Company address, waste site address) will be refrigerated prior to delivery to the MCERTS accredited laboratory. The sampling point will be at the tanker delivery point at NZ 33428 66629 and is marked 20 on the site layout plan (doc ref 100105164_MSD_SiteLayoutPlan_HOW_v6). The emission point, where the waste meets the influent is at NZ 33417 66635 and is marked AA on the site plan (doc ref 100105164_MSD_SiteLayoutPlan_HOW_v6).

Following discharge, the Domestic Waste Tanker Driver will be required to complete their Waste Transfer Note (WTN). Once completed a copy of the WTN should be provided, (unless this is a regular discharge then an annual WTN or 'season ticket' can be provided) to the site Operations Team and will be retained for a minimum of 2 years. The electronic record will be kept for the lifetime of the permit.

To assess the fate and impact of the substances discharged to the head of the works, the Environment Agency's risk assessment guidance will be followed for waste with the 16 10 02 EWC code. An intensive sampling campaign will be carried out to characterise the waste and demonstrate the non-hazardous and stable nature of it over 12 months. This will be followed by periodic sampling/analysis as required by a permit. The sampling and analysis will be accredited to MCERTS standard. The guidance "Monitoring discharges to water: guidance on selecting a monitoring approach" will be followed to assess the waste along with the "Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit" guidance.