

Severn Trent – Trade Effluent Position Statement

Discharges of Waste Beer arising as a direct result of Government Regulations 2020 in response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Background

This Position Statement covers the disposal of waste beer from establishments affected by the above restrictions, it does not cover beer returned to breweries for disposal or brewed beer. Permission to discharge beer from breweries including microbreweries attached to public houses will require the submission of a fully completed G03 form to apply for a short term discharge authorisation. Under normal circumstances we do not condone the disposal of finished product to the sewerage network, however, during these unprecedented times we believe that we should wherever possible try and accommodate this disposal method without the need for formal Consent to discharge provided that the requirements below are complied with.

Our Approach

In all cases you should contact our support team trade.effluent@severntrent.co.uk detailing your name, address, postcode and the amount of beer you wish to dispose. Each enquiry will be assessed individually and generally we will not require a formal application for a trade effluent consent to be submitted for the activity provided that:

- The volume of waste beer discharged does not exceed 1m³
- The rate of discharge does not exceed 1 litre per second where permission is granted
- Where the proposed volume exceeds 1m³ the discharge may be authorised subject to further discussion. The volume and rate of discharge may need to be controlled further.
- Records should be maintained of the date, time and the volume of beer discharged.
- It does not discharge to the surface water system.
- It does not contain solid material which is likely to block the sewerage system.
- The flow is such that it does not surcharge local sewers and cause flooding

The discharge is still governed by legislation. Section 111 of the Water Industry Act 1991 makes it an offence to discharge anything to a sewer which will adversely impact on the sewerage network or receiving waste water treatment works.

In particular you need to be sure that your flow is not so significant that it surcharges sewers and causes flooding.

If you are in doubt about whether your discharge is covered by this Position Statement or is likely to cause surcharging, please contact trade.effluent@severntrent.co.uk by email at least 7 working days before the date you intend to start the work. We will reply to the email to confirm the position.

Enforcement

In not pursuing an application for a Consent we will not normally take enforcement action unless the discharge has caused, or is likely to cause, an impact on public health, Severn Trent Water's operations, or the environment.

We reserve the right to take any necessary enforcement action in cases where discharges are suspected of having a detrimental impact on public health, Severn Trent's operations, or the environment. We also reserve the right to review this position at any time.

If you are in any doubt about the information contained in this document and its applicability to your discharge or you have any further queries you must talk to your Retailer. You must also tell them of any changes, such as an alteration to the volume you produce or the nature and composition of your discharge.