

Liquid Waste Hauler Guideline

This information is for liquid waste hauling companies who wish to become authorised to use SA Water's disposal facilities.

We have a number of wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) that accept deliveries of liquid hauled waste by authorised liquid waste contractors. The wastewater is delivered via a purpose built facility on site which is called a septic waste disposal station. We will accept liquid hauled waste if:

- the type and quantity of contaminants in the material can be safely and effectively treated at our WWTPs, and
- it does not compromise the reuse potential of our treatment end products, or compliance with our environmental license conditions.

This arrangement complements the facilities operated by other businesses to effectively manage liquid wastes that we cannot accept.

We administer this system via authorisations for liquid waste haulers and businesses generating specific categories of hauled waste.

Please refer to the [hauled waste fees and charges](#) for details of the various costs involved in using this service.

Categories of liquid hauled waste

We divide liquid hauled wastes into three categories:

- domestic septic tank sludge
- domestic holding tank effluent/portable toilet contents
- non-domestic hauled waste.

Acceptable quality of liquid hauled waste discharges

Our aim is to accept suitable material, while guarding against unreasonable risks to our processes, equipment and staff. Our sewerage treatment processes combine physical separation (screening and settling) with biodegradation of organic material.

Domestic hauled waste

Typically, domestic septic tank sludge and domestic holding tank effluent/ portable toilet contents are of acceptable quality, providing the chemical and physical properties of each batch is compliant with the limits set within the haulers specific authorisation:

Parameter	Limit
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	30,000 mg/L
Suspended Solids (SS)	100,000 mg/L
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	10,000 mg/L
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	3000 mg/L **
Total Phosphorus (TP)	1000 mg/L **
Ammonia	150 mg/L
Iron (Total Fe)	200 mg/L
pH	6.0 – 10.0
Temperature	38 °C

Table 1: Some general acceptable levels of hauled domestic waste

** This specific limit will vary depending on the wastewater treatment plant receiving the discharge

The liquid waste hauler is responsible for compliance with these limits.

Non-domestic hauled waste

Strict conditions apply for accepting non-domestic hauled waste because of its potential for harm. Compliance for this category rests with the business generating this wastewater (as a condition of their specific non-domestic liquid hauled waste authorisation,) not the liquid waste hauler to whom the batch is consigned for delivery to a septic waste disposal station. Each application for discharge of non-domestic hauled waste will be assessed on a case by case basis.

Liquid waste hauler authorisation

A valid liquid waste hauler authorisation is required to discharge material to our septic waste disposal stations.

This authorisation has key information about the hauler and details of the conditions which must be met while discharging wastewater to any of our facilities. Haulers should be familiar with all the clauses as any breaches of conditions will have consequences with possible restriction of access to our facilities if breaches are serious.

Information in the authorisation includes:

- the hauler's vehicles, drivers and authorised septic waste disposal stations
- acceptable discharge levels of hauled waste
- protocols to be met while discharging hauled waste
- expectations of haulers transporting waste for a third party that has an agreement with us
- specific compliance monitoring conditions
- charging and billing information
- some general terms including actions in the event of a non-compliance or breach.

Authorisations are available by completing a *liquid waste hauler authorisation application* and submitting it with the application fee to our Trade Waste team.

Providing all is in order, we will issue a *liquid waste hauler authorisation* that sets out the conditions under which the system operates, and issue an electronic swipe card for each nominated vehicle. These cards give access to the three metropolitan wastewater treatment plans and activate electronic septic waste disposal stations.

We aim to provide an authorisation within ten working days of receiving the application fee. This may be delayed if the application has incomplete information.

More information

Further details are on our website, under *Trade and Liquid Hauled Waste*.