

Anglian Water - Regulatory Position Statement

Draining and Flushing of Potable Water, Central Heating Chilled Water and Sprinkler Systems at Non-Household premises (and other similar operations)

Background

Trade Effluent discharges require a 'Consent to Discharge' under the Water Industry Act 1991.

However there are certain non-domestic discharges which Anglian Water considers are more appropriately and efficiently controlled outside of the formal consenting process.

It is common practice for companies to periodically flush and drain down potable water, heating, sprinkler and chilled water systems and seek to dispose of this used water to the public foul sewer.

Our Approach

Anglian Water considers such non-domestic discharges to be in a low risk category, and as such we will not pursue an application for a 'Consent to Discharge'.

This approach is subject to the following discharge conditions being met:

- Any super chlorinated water should be de-chlorinated to normal potable water levels.
- It must not contain glycol compounds above trace quantities.
- It must not be made to the surface water system.
- It must not contain flammable material such as petrol, poisonous substances or solid material which is likely to block the sewerage system.
- The flow is such that it does not surcharge local sewers and cause flooding.

However, even if these conditions are met, the discharge is subject to certain regulatory rules. 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 water recycling centre treatment processes. Any discharge not covered by a trade effluent consent is subject to this part of the Act.

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, Anglian Water's operations, or the environment.

What we expect from you

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 of effluent you produce or the nature and composition of your discharge.

What you can expect from us

If you contact your Retailer we will confirm whether or not your discharge is covered by this Regulatory Position Statement.