

REGULAR MEETINGS BETWEEN WWTP – ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

Project BEST- Better Efficiency for Industrial Sewage Treatment

CHALLENGE

When industrial waste water is released to municipal sewers, a lack of cooperation between the municipal waste water treatment plant (WWTP) and the permitting environmental authority can lead to discrepancies in environmental permits vs. industrial waste water contracts, overlapping supervisions and barriers to communication. Lack of cooperation and barriers to communication may also cause lack of trust and hinder knowledge transfer. As industry represents a joint stakeholder with the municipal WWTP and the environmental authority, regular cooperation between the treatment plant and the authority benefits all three stakeholders and results in overall better management of industrial waste waters.

SOLUTION: REGULAR MEETINGS BETWEEN WWTP AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

Helsinki Region Environmental Service Authority (HSY, running WWTPs in the Helsinki metropolitan area in Finland) and the environmental authorities of the area gather at regular, joint meetings. These meetings help in creating a common understanding of industrial wastewater management. The WWTP receives information on legal requirements and possible changes in the regulatory environment, while the environmental authority increases its awareness of the practices and challenges related to the co-treatment of industrial and municipal wastewaters.



For more info: Project BEST- Better Efficiency for Industrial Sewage Treatment
www.bestbalticproject.eu



INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES

- It is beneficial to organise the first meeting as early as when the environmental permit for the industry is pending. The WWTP invites the environmental authority to the first meeting in their facilities.
- At the meeting, set the date for the next meeting based on needs (e.g. annually or biannually) e.g. alternately in the authorities facilities.
- Also record notes in turns and share with all participants of the meetings.
- During each meeting, handle issues related to annual reports on WWTP operation, industrial wastewaters, and development projects. Also discuss common industrial customers and potential needs for joint inspections, permits, contracts and monitoring results.
- Leave time for additional issues that might have arisen.

MODEL AGENDA

Annual / biannual cooperation meeting on industrial waste water between WWTP and environmental authority

Date, time and venue:

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Previous minutes

- Any changes to the minutes.
- Actions arising from the previous minutes. Add these with responsibilities to the minutes.
- Approval of the minutes.

3. Reports by WWTP

- (Annual) report of the WWTP
- Operation of the WWTP: inflow, treatment efficiency, meeting of environmental permits
- Development projects
- (Annual) monitoring report of industrial wastewaters
 - Industrial loading
 - Heavy metals in sludge
 - Abnormal discharges to the sewer system
 - Industrial discharges
 - Blocks of grease and suspended solids
 - Odours

4. Planning of cooperation

- Controls in industrial facilities
- Joint inspections by environmental/health/construction inspector and WWTP operator

5. Any other business

6. Next meeting

7. Closure