
Overview of Technology- Based Effluent Limitations



Learning Objectives

- ◆ Explain the purpose of technology-based requirements
- ◆ Describe the types of technology-based requirements

Technology-and Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Basis:	Technology	Water Quality
Goal:	“Zero Discharge” (Performance)	“Fishable/Swimmable”
Reg.	40 CFR §§122.44(a)&(e)	40 CFR §§122.44(d)
Cite:	40 CFR §125.3	

Relationship: Technology-based effluent limits are developed for all applicable pollutants of concern. If these limits are not adequate to protect water quality, then water quality-based effluent limits must be developed.



Technology-Based Requirements

◆ Purpose

- Establish minimum level of pollutant controls for all point source dischargers
 - Conventional pollutants
 - Non-conventional pollutants
 - Toxic pollutants
- Provide equity among dischargers within categories

Technology-Based Requirements

- ◆ **Technology-based requirements implemented through NPDES permits**
- ◆ **National technology-based standards**
 - Secondary treatment standards for municipal discharges (POTWs)
 - Effluent guidelines for categories of non-municipal discharges
- ◆ **In the absence of national standards**
 - Technology-based requirements developed on a case-by-case basis