



Water Industry Act 1991

1991 CHAPTER 56

PART IV

SEWERAGE SERVICES

CHAPTER III

TRADE EFFLUENT

Consents on an application

121 Conditions of consent.

- (1) The power of a sewerage undertaker, on an application under section 119 above, to give a consent with respect to the discharge of any trade effluent shall be a power to give a consent either unconditionally or subject to such conditions as the sewerage undertaker thinks fit to impose with respect to—
 - (a) the sewer or sewers into which the trade effluent may be discharged;
 - (b) the nature or composition of the trade effluent which may be discharged;
 - (c) the maximum quantity of trade effluent which may be discharged on any one day, either generally or into a particular sewer; and
 - (d) the highest rate at which trade effluent may be discharged, either generally or into a particular sewer.
- (2) Conditions with respect to all or any of the following matters may also be attached under this section to a consent to the discharge of trade effluent from any trade premises—
 - (a) the period or periods of the day during which the trade effluent may be discharged from the trade premises into the sewer;
 - (b) the exclusion from the trade effluent of all condensing water;
 - (c) the elimination or diminution, in cases falling within subsection (3) below, of any specified constituent of the trade effluent, before it enters the sewer;

Changes to legislation: *Water Industry Act 1991, Section 121 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (d) the temperature of the trade effluent at the time when it is discharged into the sewer, and its acidity or alkalinity at that time;
 - (e) the payment by the occupier of the trade premises to the undertaker of charges for the reception of the trade effluent into the sewer and for the disposal of the effluent;
 - (f) the provision and maintenance of such an inspection chamber or manhole as will enable a person readily to take samples, at any time, of what is passing into the sewer from the trade premises;
 - (g) the provision, testing and maintenance of such meters as may be required to measure the volume and rate of discharge of any trade effluent being discharged from the trade premises into the sewer;
 - (h) the provision, testing and maintenance of apparatus for determining the nature and composition of any trade effluent being discharged from the premises into the sewer;
 - (i) the keeping of records of the volume, rate of discharge, nature and composition of any trade effluent being discharged and, in particular, the keeping of records of readings of meters and other recording apparatus provided in compliance with any other condition attached to the consent; and
 - (j) the making of returns and giving of other information to the sewerage undertaker concerning the volume, rate of discharge, nature and composition of any trade effluent discharged from the trade premises into the sewer.
- (3) A case falls within this subsection where the sewerage undertaker is satisfied that the constituent in question, either alone or in combination with any matter with which it is likely to come into contact while passing through any sewers-
- (a) would injure or obstruct those sewers, or make the treatment or disposal of the sewage from those sewers specially difficult or expensive; or
 - (b) in the case of trade effluent which is to be or is discharged—
 - (i) into a sewer having an outfall in any harbour or tidal water; or
 - (ii) into a sewer which connects directly or indirectly with a sewer or sewage disposal works having such an outfall,
 would cause or tend to cause injury or obstruction to the navigation on, or the use of, the harbour or tidal water.
- (4) In the exercise of the power conferred by virtue of subsection (2)(e) above, regard shall be had—
- (a) to the nature and composition and to the volume and rate of discharge of the trade effluent discharged;
 - (b) to any additional expense incurred or likely to be incurred by a sewerage undertaker in connection with the reception or disposal of the trade effluent; and
 - (c) to any revenue likely to be derived by the undertaker from the trade effluent.
- (5) If, in the case of any trade premises, a condition imposed under this section is contravened, the occupier of the premises shall be guilty of an offence and liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum; and
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine.
- (6) In this section “harbour” and “tidal water” have the same meanings as in the [F1Merchant Shipping Act 1995].
- (7) This section has effect subject to the provisions of sections 133 and 135(3) below.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 121(6) substituted (1.1.1996) by 1995 c. 21, ss. 314(2), 316(2), **Sch. 13 para. 89(a)** (with s. 312(1))

Changes to legislation:

Water Industry Act 1991, Section 121 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 121(6) words inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(2)(b)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pt. 3 Ch. 2B inserted by 2014 c. 21 s. 12
- s. 17(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 4(4)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 21 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 17A(c) repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4(2)(c)
- s. 17A(d) repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4(2)(c)
- s. 17A(2)(ba) and word inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4(2)(b)
- s. 17R(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 4(7)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 21 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 17AA(1)(ba)(bb) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 5(2)
- s. 17BA(5A) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 7(3)
- s. 17HA(9)(b)(ia) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 16(2)
- s. 23(2AA) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 35(4)
- s. 23(8)(9) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 35(10)
- s. 39E-39H inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 78(7)
- s. 87(7C)-(7F) inserted by 2012 c. 7 s. 35(6)
- s. 94A-94E inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 79
- s. 95ZA(6) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 39(4)
- s. 96ZA(2)-(5) substituted for s. 96ZA(2) by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 40
- s. 106B(3A) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 94
- s. 117G(2)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41(2)
- s. 117G(4)-(4D) substituted for s. 117(4) by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41(3)
- s. 117G(6)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41(4)
- s. 117K(2)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42(2)
- s. 117K(5)(5A) substituted for s. 117(5) by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42(3)
- s. 117L(9) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 43(3)
- s. 117N(4)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45(2)
- s. 117N(8)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45(3)
- s. 117N(11)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45(4)
- s. 117O(4)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 46(2)
- s. 117O(8)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 46(3)
- s. 117S(7)-(9) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 49
- s. 119(2)(ab) inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(1)(a)
- s. 119(3) inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(1)(b)
- s. 121(1)(ba) inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(2)(a)
- s. 141DC inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 83

- s. 177K(7)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42(4)
- s. 207D and cross-heading inserted by 2014 c. 21 s. 39
- s. 207D(5) word repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 52(a)
- s. 207D(5) words inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 52(b)
- s. 213(1ZA) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 119(3)
- s. 213(1ZA) repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 53