



ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

REPORT

R.D. Gambler

Editor: Mary P. Kilcoyne

ER-163

May 18, 1973

1972 FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION Control Act Amendments

SECONDARY TREATMENT INFORMATION

*Environmental
Distributions
(cover only)*

Attached are the regulations, as proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency on April 30, 1973, defining the degree of effluent reduction attainable through the secondary treatment of waste water (Federal Register, April 30, 1973, pp. 10642-3).

The proposed regulations were issued under Sec. 304 (d) (1) of the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments, which requires EPA to provide information, in terms of amounts of constituents and chemical, physical, and biological characteristics, on the degree of effluent reduction that can be achieved by secondary treatment. Sec. 301 (b) (1) (B) of the Act requires that effluent limitations, based on secondary treatment, be achieved for all publicly owned treatment works in existence on July 1, 1977, or approved for a construction grant prior to June 30, 1974 (for which construction must be completed within 4 years of approval).

The level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment is expressed in terms of biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, fecal coliform bacteria and pH. The regulations would require a reduction in BOD and suspended solids to a maximum monthly average of 30 milligrams per liter of water and a maximum weekly average of 45 milligrams per liter.

A monthly maximum average of 200 per 100 milliliters of water and a weekly average of 400 per 100 milliliters of water would be required for fecal coliform bacteria.

The proposed regulations would require the pH of the effluent to be within limits of 6.0 to 9.0.

Comments, by June 29, 1973, to be submitted to the:

Director
Municipal Waste Water Systems Divisions
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C. 20460

CCR 000037016