Pretreatment and the Local Authority to Protect their POTW

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April 25, 2019
Human Health

- Lewis Thomas – Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWQG1YZS9l4
WARNING - DANGER

WALKING OR SWIMMING

PROHIBITED

WITHIN 25 FEET

OF THIS STRUCTURE

DEPT. OF PARKS
UNSAFE WATER
U.S. Waters in 1972

• Only a third of the nation's waters were safe for fishing and swimming.
• Many of the nation's rivers were little more than open sewers and sewage frequently washed up on shore.
Clean Water Act

- Passed by Congress in 1972 to **restore** and **maintain** the integrity of the nation’s waters.
- Provided billions of dollars for construction of new wastewater treatment plants and to upgrade existing plants.
- Makes illegal the discharge of pollutants without a permit.
Clean Water Act - 1972

- Establishes regulations for commercial and industrial process wastewaters.
- **Direct Dischargers** - National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
- **Indirect Dischargers** – National Pretreatment Program
Pretreatment Program

- Protect POTW by regulating facilities that discharge toxic pollutants
- The program is a cooperative effort of Federal, State, Tribes and local environmental regulatory agencies.
- Only Environmental Program where EPA has authorized local governments (POTWs) directly to implement and enforce Federal Regulations.
Damage to Collection System and/or Treatment Plant

Injury to Workers from Hazardous Fumes

Limitations on Sludge Disposal Options and/or Greater Expense

Explosions

Interference with Wastewater Treatment Facility

Pass-Through of Pollutants into Surface Waters
Components of a Pretreatment Program

- Legal Authority
- Resources/Funding
- Enforcement Response Plan
- Procedures
- Local Limits
- Industrial User Inventory
IU Inventory

• Identify and Characterize IUs in the service area
• Notify of applicable Pretreatment Standards
Pretreatment Standards

• Pretreatment Categorical Standards
• Prohibited Discharge Standards
• Local Limits
Industrial User Liabilities

- Process wastewater generated
- Storage/handling/transfer of chemical supply, raw materials
Pretreatment Control Mechanisms

- Wastewater Discharge Permit
- Best Management Practices
- Control Plans – Spills/Slug Discharges
Minimizing Liability

- Pollution Prevention
- Evaluation of Chemical/Raw Material Handling Practices
- Housekeeping
- Wastestream Management
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994-4008
WE HAUL MILK ON THE WEEKENDS
Thanks for flushing our business down the drain!
A Flush Beats A Full House!

732-3737
Another Load of Politician Promises
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