

HALDIMAND COUNTY

POLICY No. 2010-01

Subject: **WASTEWATER DISCHARGE PROGRAM POLICY**

Purpose:

To provide alternate billing methodologies for wastewater where there is a flow differential between municipal potable water used and the discharge into the wastewater system.

This policy also addresses the billing of discharged wastewater or any other material from a source other than municipal source water to municipal wastewater systems (i.e. typically rainwater captured for commercial or personal uses that is subsequently discharged to municipal wastewater systems). There is currently no method included in the Water and Wastewater Fees and Service Charges By-law to provide a mechanism for billing this type of discharge.

This policy will address alternative billing methodologies for the following circumstances:

1. Where the wastewater effluent discharged is substantially less than the municipal potable water consumption; or
2. Where a customer has been granted the right to discharge wastewater or any other material from a source other than municipal sourced water into the municipal wastewater system (i.e. where the discharged effluent is greater than the municipal potable water consumed).

The underlying intent of the policy is to provide fair and equitable billing practices for all users of the County's wastewater system. Council has historically and continually supported the principle of fair, accountable and transparent billing practices.

Policy:

1. **Wastewater effluent discharged is substantially less than the municipal potable water consumption.**

Eligibility to Qualify for Program:

This program will provide an alternative billing methodology for wastewater users that have a substantial differential between municipal potable water usage and wastewater discharged into the County's wastewater system. An applicant may apply for the Wastewater Discharge Program provided the applicant meets the conditions for the program set out in this section. Such application must be in the form approved by Haldimand County. Haldimand County staff, at their sole discretion, will determine the completeness of all information supplied by the applicant.

- 1) One application shall be made for each premise for which the applicant wishes the program to be applied.
- 2) The applicant shall submit the required Application Fee, as outlined in the Water and Wastewater Fees and Service Charges By-law, as amended.
- 3) A Wastewater Discharge Program to which an applicant may be entitled is based on the percentage of flow differential exceeding 20 percent (i.e. the flow differential between the consumption of municipal potable water and wastewater discharged into the municipal wastewater system).
- 4) In order for an applicant to qualify for the Wastewater Discharge Program, the following conditions must be satisfied:
 - (a) The applicant must consume on its subject premises at least 10,000 cubic meters of municipally supplied water annually;
 - (b) there must be, at a minimum, a flow differential on the applicant's subject premises of 20 percent between the municipally supplied water consumed in a year and the wastewater discharged to the municipal wastewater works which is the subject of the application for that same year;
 - (c) at the applicant's expense, obtain a report, certified by a professional engineer approved by the County. The report will meet the requirements as outlined by the General Manager of Public Works, which will include, at a minimum, as follows:
 - (i) an analysis of water use processes and the estimated calculation of wastewater discharged to the wastewater system to determine if the required differential will be achieved; and
 - (ii) an evaluation of the ability to install a wastewater metering system that will provide reliable and accurate readings based on the requirements as outlined by the General Manager of Public Works.
 - (d) at the time of the application, the applicant must be compliant with all relevant County by-laws and current with respect to all amounts owing to the County.

Conditions for Approved Application:

In the event an application for the Wastewater Discharge Program is approved by Haldimand County Council, the following conditions apply:

- 1) An applicant shall not be eligible for the Wastewater Discharge Program under this section where, in the opinion of the General Manager of Public Works, the applicant should be, but is not, connected to the County wastewater system.
- 2) The Wastewater Discharge Program shall be effective from the date of approval of the application by Haldimand County Council.
- 3) Prior to entering the Wastewater Discharge Program, the applicant shall:

- (a) at its own expense, install or replace flow metering equipment on all process lines designated by the General Manager of Public Works and such metering equipment shall be of a standard approved by the General Manager;
 - (b) install or replace the metering equipment on or before the date specified by the General Manager of Public Works;
 - (c) Haldimand County shall own all such metering equipment;
 - (d) all metering equipment shall, at the expense of the applicant, be properly tested and calibrated by Haldimand County to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Public Works and in proper working order at all times; and,
 - (e) where the County incurs expenses to ensure that the applicant is in compliance with this section or any other requirement for the Wastewater Discharge Program, the applicant will be charged an administration fee in accordance with the Water and Wastewater Fees and Service Charges By-law.
- 4) The Wastewater Discharge Program is not transferable or assignable. The County must be notified thirty (30) days prior to any change in ownership of an applicant's subject premises.
 - 5) The General Manager of Public Works, at his/her sole discretion, may revoke a Wastewater Discharge Program Agreement in the event that the applicant fails to comply with any of the conditions to qualify for the discharge program, any of the conditions of the approval of the program, or any other relevant Haldimand County water or wastewater by-law. If an Agreement is revoked, the discharge for wastewater billing will be based on the actual water consumption.
 - 6) The Wastewater Discharge Program will be billed monthly based on actual data read from flow metering equipment per section (3) of this section. Data reads are to be obtained by Haldimand County with full access to the metering equipment provided by the applicant.
 - 7) If the applicant, with respect to any property owned or for any reason whatsoever, is in arrears with regard to payments for water or wastewater rates, property taxes or any fees owed to Haldimand County, the applicant shall not be entitled to the Wastewater Discharge Program so long as such arrears remain outstanding.

Rate Calculation:

Subject to continued compliance with the aforementioned conditions, the applicant shall pay, regardless of the amount of flow differential, the following monthly charges: the wastewater base charge; the regular wastewater discharge second block rate on twenty per cent (20%) of the total water purchased; and the regular wastewater discharge second block rate on all wastewater discharged to a wastewater works. Summarized as follows:

- 1) Monthly Base Wastewater Charge: based on the size of the water meter.
- 2) Wastewater (water meter): $m^3 \times 20\% \times$ wastewater Second Block rate.

- 3) Wastewater (wastewater meter): $m^3 \times$ wastewater Second Block rate.
- 4) Total Wastewater Charge: sum of components 1, 2 and 3 above.

Example:

Wastewater - Rates per By-law 998/09					
Meter	Volume m³	20% m³	Rate Second Block \$	Base Charge² \$	Total \$
Before Program:					
Water	50,000	n/a	0.9335	1,097.92	47,773
After Program:					
Wastewater	25,000 ¹	n/a	0.9335	1,097.92	24,435
Water	50,000	10,000	0.9335		9,335
					33,770
Anticipated Wastewater Savings:					14,003

¹ example uses a 50% flow differential
² example uses a 150mm (6") water meter

2. Customer has been granted the right to discharge water or any other material from a source other than municipal sourced water into the municipal wastewater system.

Eligibility to Qualify for Program:

To be eligible for this Wastewater Discharge Program, the applicant must first be granted the right to discharge water or any other material originating from a source other than the County's water works directly or indirectly into the County's wastewater system. Once this approval has been granted (subject to the provisions of the current or amended Sewer Use By-law) the intent of this policy is to utilize similar underlying principles outlined in section 1 above to charge for such discharges.

Conditions for Approved Application:

In the event an application for the above noted Wastewater Discharge Program is approved by Haldimand County Council, the applicant must meet the following conditions:

- 1) The Wastewater Discharge Program shall be effective from the date of the sanitary discharge agreement approval (subject to the receipt of applicable Application Fees as outlined in the Water and Wastewater Fees and Service Charges By-law).
- 2) Prior to entering the Wastewater Discharge Program, the applicant shall:
 - (a) at its own expense, install or replace flow metering equipment on all process lines designated by the General Manager of Public Works and such metering equipment shall be of a standard approved by the General Manager;

- (b) install or replace the metering equipment on or before the date specified by the General Manager of Public Works;
 - (c) Haldimand County shall own all such metering equipment;
 - (d) all metering equipment shall, at the expense of the applicant, be properly tested and calibrated by Haldimand County to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Public Works and in proper working order at all times; and,
 - (e) where the County incurs expenses to ensure that the applicant is in compliance with this section or any other requirement for the discharge program, the applicant will be charged an administration fee in accordance with the Water and Wastewater Rate By-law.
- 3) The Wastewater Discharge Program is not transferable or assignable. The County must be notified thirty (30) days prior to any change in ownership of an applicant's subject premises.
 - 4) The General Manager of Public Works, at his/her sole discretion, may revoke a Wastewater Discharge Program Agreement in the event that the applicant fails to comply with any of the conditions to qualify for the Wastewater Discharge Program, any of the conditions of the approval of the program, or any relevant Haldimand County water or wastewater by-law. If an agreement is revoked the discharge for wastewater billing will be estimated in a reasonable manner as the General Manager of Public Works deems appropriate.
 - 5) The Wastewater Discharge Program will be billed monthly based on actual data read from flow metering equipment per section (2) of this section. Data reads are to be obtained by Haldimand County and with full access to the metering equipment provided by the applicant.
 - 6) If the applicant, with respect to any property owned or for any reason whatsoever, is in arrears with regard to payments for water or wastewater rates, property taxes or any fees owed to Haldimand County, the applicant shall not be entitled to the Wastewater Discharge Program so long as such arrears remain outstanding.

Rate Calculation:

Subject to continued compliance with the aforementioned conditions, the applicant shall pay, regardless of the amount of municipal potable water consumed, the following monthly charges: the wastewater base charge; the regular wastewater discharge second block rate on an additional twenty per cent (20%) of the total wastewater flow; and the regular wastewater discharge second block rate on the metered wastewater discharged to the municipal wastewater system. Summarized as follows:

- 1) Monthly Base Wastewater Charge: based on the size of the water meter or the wastewater meter if no water meter is present.
- 2) Wastewater (wastewater meter): $m^3 \times 20\% \times$ wastewater Second Block rate.
- 3) Wastewater (wastewater meter): $m^3 \times$ wastewater Second Block rate.
- 4) Total Wastewater Charge: sum of components 1, 2 and 3 above.

Topical Index	Corporate Services
Policy Number	2010-01
Short Title	Wastewater Discharge Program
SMT Approval Date	
Council in Committee	January 18, 2010 Recommendation # 18
Council Approval Date	January 25, 2010 Resolution # 07-10
Originating Department	CS-FI-01-2010
Revisions	