



FAQ Number: 1563

Date Published: June 02, 2010

Last Updated: June 02, 2010

Question: How do I know if my facility is a Treatment Works as defined in Section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act?

Answer:

'Treatment works' under Section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C § 1292, includes (a) "any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature to implement section 201 [33 U.S.C. § 1281] of this act, or necessary to recycle or reuse water at the most economical cost over the estimated life of the works, including interception sewers, outfall sewers, sewage collection systems, pumping, power, and other equipment, and their appurtenances; extensions, improvements, remodeling, additions, and alterations thereof; elements essential to provide a reliable recycled supply such as standby treatment units and clear well facilities; and any works, including site acquisition of the land that will be an integral part of the treatment process (including land use for the storage of treated wastewater in land treatment systems prior to land application) or is used for ultimate disposal of residues resulting from such treatment" and (b) "any other method or system for preventing, abating, reducing, storing, treating, separating, or disposing of municipal waste, including storm water runoff, or industrial waste, including waste in combined storm water and sanitary sewer systems."

For more information on the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act), see <http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/cwa.htm>.

Please note that if a treatment works, as defined under Section 212, is present at a facility that possesses a COI in an amount at or above the applicable Screening Threshold Quantity, the facility may nevertheless be required to submit a CSAT Top-Screen for any portions of the facility that are not part of the exempt treatment works.