

# Recommended Standards for Wastewater Facilities

2004 Edition

## **Policies for the Design, Review, and Approval of Plans and Specifications for Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities**

A Report of the Wastewater Committee of the  
Great Lakes--Upper Mississippi River Board  
of State and Provincial Public Health and Environmental Managers

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## 102. CHLORINE DISINFECTION

### 102.1 Type

Chlorine is available for disinfection in gas, liquid (hypochlorite solution), and pellet (hypochlorite tablet) form. The type of chlorine should be carefully evaluated during the facility planning process. The use of chlorine gas or liquid will be most dependent on the size of the facility and the chlorine dose required. Large quantities of chlorine, such as are contained in ton cylinders and tank cars, can present a considerable hazard to plant personnel and to the surrounding area should such containers develop leaks. Both monetary cost and the potential public exposure to chlorine should be considered when making the final determination.

### 102.2 Dosage

For disinfection, the capacity shall be adequate to produce an effluent that will meet the applicable bacterial limits specified by the regulatory agency for that installation. Required disinfection capacity will vary, depending on the uses and points of application of the disinfection chemical. The chlorination system shall be designed on a rational basis and calculations justifying the equipment sizing and number of units shall be submitted for the whole operating range of flow rates for the type of control to be used. System design considerations shall include the controlling wastewater flow meter (sensitivity and location), telemetering equipment and chlorination controls. For normal domestic wastewater, the following may be used as a guide in sizing chlorination facilities.

Type of Treatment	Dosage
Trickling filter plant effluent	10 mg/L
Activated sludge plant effluent	8 mg/L
Tertiary filtration effluent	6 mg/L
Nitrified effluent	6 mg/L

### 102.3 Containers

#### 102.31 Cylinders

One hundred fifty pound (68 kg) cylinders are typically used where chlorine gas consumption is less than 150 pounds per day (68 kg/d). Cylinders should be stored in an upright position with adequate support brackets and chains at 2/3 of cylinder height for each cylinder.

### **102.32 Ton Containers**

The use of one-ton (907 kg) containers should be considered where the average daily chlorine consumption is over 150 pounds (68 kg).

### **102.33 Tank Cars**

At large installations, the use of tank cars, generally accompanied by evaporators, may be considered. Area wide public safety shall be evaluated. No interruption of chlorination shall be permitted during tank car switching.

The tank car being used for the chlorine supply shall be located on a dead end, level track that is a private siding. The tank car shall be protected from accidental bumping by other railway cars by a locked derail device or a closed locked switch or both. The area shall be clearly posted "DANGER-CHLORINE". The tank car shall be secured by adequate fencing with gates provided with locks for personnel and rail access.

The tank car site shall be provided with a suitable operating platform at the unloading point for easy access to the protective housing or the tank car for connection of flexible feedlines and valve operation. Adequate area lighting shall be provided for night time operation and maintenance.

### **102.34 Liquid Hypochlorite Solutions**

Storage containers for hypochlorite solutions shall be of sturdy, non-metallic lined construction and shall be provided with secure tank tops and pressure relief and overflow piping. Storage tanks should be either located or vented outside. Provision shall be made for adequate protection from light and extreme temperatures. Tanks shall be located where leakage will not cause corrosion or damage to other equipment. A means of secondary containment shall be provided to contain spills and facilitate cleanup. Due to deterioration of hypochlorite solutions over time, it is recommended that containers not be sized to hold more than one month's needs. At larger facilities and locations where delivery is not a problem, it may be desirable to limit on-site storage to one week. Refer to Section 57.

### **102.35 Dry Hypochlorite Compounds**

Dry hypochlorite compounds should be kept in tightly closed containers and stored in a cool, dry location. Some means of dust control should be

considered, depending on the size of the facility and the quantity of compound used. Refer to Section 57.

## **102.4 Equipment**

### **102.41 Scales**

Scales for weighing cylinders and containers shall be provided at all plants using chlorine gas. At large plants, scales of the indicating and recording type are recommended. At least a platform scale shall be provided. Scales shall be of corrosion-resistant material.

### **102.42 Evaporators**

Where manifolding of several cylinders or ton containers will be required to evaporate sufficient chlorine, consideration should be given to the installation of evaporators to produce the quantity of gas required.

### **102.43 Mixing**

The disinfectant shall be positively mixed as rapidly as possible, with a complete mix being effected in 3 seconds. This may be accomplished by either the use of turbulent flow regime or a mechanical flash mixer.

### **102.44 Contact Period and Tank**

For a chlorination system, a minimum contact period of 15 minutes at design peak hourly flow or maximum rate of pumpage shall be provided after thorough mixing. For evaluation of existing chlorine contact tanks, field tracer studies should be done to assure adequate contact time.

The chlorine contact tank shall be constructed so as to reduce short-circuiting of flow to a practical minimum. Tanks not provided with continuous mixing shall be provided with "over-and-under" or "end-around" baffling to minimize short-circuiting.

The tank should be designed to facilitate maintenance and cleaning without reducing effectiveness of disinfection. Duplicate tanks, mechanical scrapers, or portable deck-level vacuum cleaning equipment shall be provided. Consideration should be given to providing skimming devices on all contact tanks. Covered tanks are discouraged.

### **102.45 Piping and Connections**

Piping systems should be as simple as possible, specifically selected and manufactured to be suitable for chlorine service, with a minimum

number of joints. Piping should be well supported and protected against temperature extremes.

Due to the corrosiveness of wet chlorine, all lines designated to handle dry chlorine shall be protected from the entrance of water or air containing water. Even minute traces of water added to chlorine results in a corrosive attack. Low pressure lines made of hard rubber, saran-lined, rubber-lined, polyethylene, polyvinylchloride (PVC), or other approved materials are satisfactory for wet chlorine or aqueous solutions of chlorine.

The chlorine system piping shall be color coded and labeled to distinguish it from other plant piping. Refer to Paragraph 54.5. Where sulfur dioxide is used, the piping and fittings for chlorine and sulfur dioxide systems shall be designed so that interconnection between the two systems cannot occur.

#### **102.46 Standby Equipment and Spare Parts**

Standby equipment of sufficient capacity should be available to replace the largest unit during shutdowns. Spare parts shall be available for all disinfection equipment to replace parts which are subject to wear and breakage.

#### **102.47 Chlorinator Water Supply**

An ample supply of water shall be available for operating the chlorinator. Where a booster pump is required, duplicate equipment should be provided, and, when necessary, standby power as well. Protection of a potable water supply shall conform to the requirements of Paragraph 56.2. Adequately filtered plant effluent should be considered for use in the chlorinator.

#### **102.48 Leak Detection and Controls**

A bottle of 56 percent ammonium hydroxide solution shall be available for detecting chlorine leaks. Where ton (907 kg) containers or tank cars are used, a leak repair kit approved by the Chlorine Institute shall be provided. Consideration should be given to the provision of caustic soda solution reaction tanks for absorbing the contents of leaking one-ton (907 kg) containers where such containers are in use. Consideration should be given to the installation of automatic gas detection and related alarm equipment.

### **102.5 Housing**

### **102.51 Feed and Storage Rooms**

If gas chlorination equipment or chlorine cylinders are to be in a building used for other purposes, a gas-tight room shall separate this equipment from any other portion of the building. Floor drains from the chlorine room should not be connected to floor drains from other rooms. Doors to this room shall open only to the outside of the building, and shall be equipped with panic hardware. Rooms shall be at ground level and should permit easy access to all equipment.

Storage areas for one-ton (907 kg) cylinders should be separated from the feed area. In addition, the storage area shall have designated areas for "full" and "empty" cylinders. Chlorination equipment should be situated as close to the application point as reasonably possible. For additional safety considerations, refer to Section 57.

### **102.52 Inspection Window**

A clear glass, gas-tight, window shall be installed in an exterior door or interior wall of the chlorinator room to permit the units to be viewed without entering the room.

### **102.53 Heat**

Rooms containing disinfection equipment shall be provided with a means of heating so that a temperature of at least 60°F (16 °C) can be maintained. The room should be protected from excess heat. Cylinders shall be kept at essentially room temperature. If liquid hypochlorite solution is used, the containers may be located in an unheated area.

### **102.54 Ventilation**

With chlorination systems, forced, mechanical ventilation shall be installed which will provide one complete fresh air change per minute when the room is occupied. The entrance to the air exhaust duct from the room shall be near the floor. The point of discharge shall be so located as not to contaminate the air inlet to any buildings or present a hazard at the access to the chlorinator room or other inhabited areas. Air inlets shall be so located as to provide cross ventilation with air and at such temperature that will not adversely affect the chlorination equipment. The outside air inlet shall be at least three feet above grade. The vent hose from the chlorinator shall discharge to the outside atmosphere above grade. Where public exposure may be extensive, scrubbers may be required on ventilation discharge.

### **102.55 Electrical Controls**

Switches for fans and lights shall be outside of the room at the entrance. A labeled signal light indicating fan operation should be provided at each entrance, if the fan can be controlled from more than one point.

#### **102.56 Protective and Respiratory Gear**

Respiratory air-pac protection equipment, meeting the requirements of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), shall be available where chlorine gas is handled, and shall be stored at a convenient location, but not inside any room where chlorine is used or stored. Instructions for using the equipment shall be posted. The units shall use compressed air, have at least 30-minute capacity and be compatible with the units used by the fire department responsible for the plant.

### **102.6 Sampling and Control**

#### **102.61 Sampling**

Facilities shall be included for sampling disinfected effluent after the contact chamber as monitoring requirements warrant. In large installations, or where stream conditions warrant, provisions should be made for continuous monitoring of effluent chlorine residual.

#### **102.62 Testing and Control**

Equipment shall be provided for measuring chlorine residual using accepted test procedures. The installation of demonstrated effective facilities for automatic chlorine residual analysis, recording, and proportioning systems should be considered at all large installations.

Equipment shall also be provided for measuring fecal coliform organisms using accepted test procedures as required by the regulatory agency.