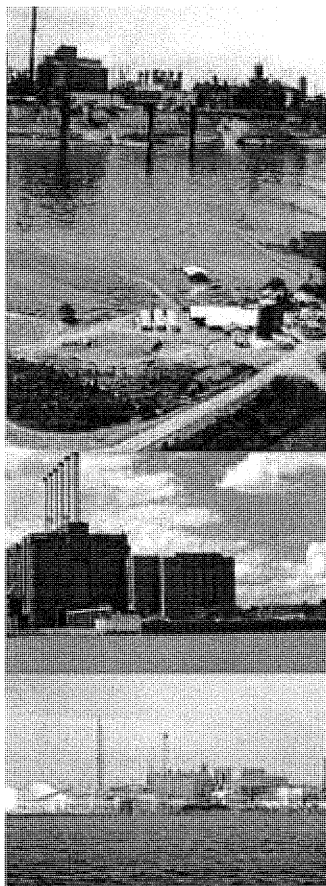




## Effluent Guidelines

# Effluent Guidelines Plan



EPA annually reviews industrial wastewater dischargers to determine if they pose a concern to human health and the environment, or if more advanced pollution controls are available to reduce their discharges. New or existing industries that EPA identifies as a potential hazard priority, or for which more effective pollution controls are available, are studied further to determine if they are candidates for new or revised Effluent Guidelines. The biennial Effluent Guidelines Program Plan identifies the industries selected by the Agency for potential study or regulation.

EPA first publishes a Preliminary Plan, requests public review and comment on its content, and then publishes a Final Plan the year thereafter. Public comment and information submitted on the Preliminary Plan helps to inform the Final Plan.

## **New!** Preliminary 2016 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan

EPA published its Preliminary 2016 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan on June 27, 2016. The Plan announces actions EPA is taking, or plans to take, to better control industrial wastewater discharges. EPA also published its 2015 Annual Effluent Guidelines Review Report providing detailed information about industrial wastewater discharges.

EPA is now soliciting public review and comment on the Preliminary 2016 Plan. Comments must be received no later than **July 27, 2016**. Please see the Federal Register notice for details.

- Fact Sheet
- Federal Register Notice (PDF) (June 27, 2016) (2 pp, 196 K, About PDF)
- Preliminary 2016 Plan

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## Supporting Documents

All supporting materials for the Preliminary 2016 Plan can be found in Docket EPA-HQ-OW-2015-0665.

- 2015 Annual Review Report  
Review of categories of industrial dischargers, based on a toxicity rankings analysis

## Past Effluent Guidelines Plans

Year	Preliminary Plan (PDF)	Final Plan (PDF)
2014	September 16, 2014 (79 FR 55472)	August 4, 2015 (80 FR 46280)
2012	August 7, 2013 (78 FR 48159)	September 16, 2014 (79 FR 55472)
2010	December 28, 2009 (74 FR 68599)	October 26, 2011 (76 FR 66286)
2008	October 30, 2007 (72 FR 61335)	September 15, 2008 (73 FR 53218)
2006	August 29, 2005 (70 FR 51042)	December 21, 2006 (71 FR 76644)
2004	December 31, 2003 (68 FR 75515)	September 2, 2004 (69 FR 53705)
2002	June 18, 2002 (67 FR 41417)	August 27, 2002 (67 FR 55012)
2000	June 16, 2000 (65 FR 37783)	August 31, 2000 (65 FR 53008)
1998	May 28, 1998 (63 FR 29203)	September 4, 1998 (63 FR 47285)
1996	July 3, 1996 (61 FR 35041)	October 7, 1996 (61 FR 52581)
1994	May 18, 1994 (59 FR 25859)	August 26, 1994 (59 FR 44234)
1992	May 7, 1992 (57 FR 19748)	September 8, 1992 (57 FR 41000)
1990	August 25, 1988 (53 FR 32584)	January 2, 1990 (55 FR 80)

- **Additional Support Documents**

## Additional Information

For additional information, please contact Bill Swietlik (swietlik.william@epa.gov), Project Manager, at 202-566-1129.

Last updated on June 27, 2016



# Fact Sheet: Preliminary 2016 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan

## Summary

EPA published its *Preliminary 2016 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan*. The *Plan* describes EPA's Clean Water Act rulemakings and other actions designed to control industrial wastewater pollution. EPA solicits public review and comment on the *Preliminary Plan* to help inform the content of the Final Plan. Comments will be accepted for 30 days from the date of publication in the *Federal Register*.

## Background

Effluent limitations guidelines and standards are national, technology-based requirements for controlling industrial wastewater discharges to surface waters and into publicly owned treatment works (also called municipal sewage treatment plants).

Clean Water Act section 304(m) requires EPA to biennially publish a plan for new and revised effluent limitations guidelines, after public review and comment. EPA typically publishes a preliminary plan upon which the public is invited to comment, and then publishes a final plan.

## Decisions and actions in the 2016 Preliminary Plan

This *Preliminary Plan* does not announce any new or revised regulations for industrial wastewater discharges, beyond those that are already underway (which have been announced in prior Plans).

Those underway include:

- Pretreatment standards for the Dental Category,
- Pretreatment standards for Unconventional Oil and Gas Extraction, and
- Effluent limitations for the Canned and Preserved Seafood Category covering Alaska Seafood Processing.

This *Preliminary Plan* also provides updates on three ongoing industry studies announced in prior Plans:

- Petroleum Refining,
- Centralized Waste Treatment Facilities, and
- Metal Finishing.

This *Plan* describes that EPA is reviewing the following categories given changes in these industries since the original guidelines were developed in the 1980s:

- Battery Manufacturing, and
- Electrical and Electronic Components Manufacturing.

In addition, the *Plan* explains that EPA is further investigating certain pollutants being discharged by the following categories which may not be adequately regulated by current effluent guidelines:

- Iron and Steel Manufacturing;
- Organic Chemicals, Plastics, and Synthetic Fibers (OCPSF); and
- Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Categories.

Finally, the *Plan* solicits data and information from the public on several industrial wastewater discharge questions and issues that are fully described in the *Federal Register* notice.

## Where can I find more information?

You can access the *Federal Register* notice, the *Preliminary 2016 Plan* and all supporting documents on EPA's Effluent Guidelines Plan website at: <https://www.epa.gov/eg/effluent-guidelines-plan>.

For other related information, contact Mr. William F. Swietlik by phone at (202) 566-1129, by e-mail at: [swietlik.william@epa.gov](mailto:swietlik.william@epa.gov), or by mail at:

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