



Trade Waste Policy: Commercial / Food Retail businesses

Commercial / food retail businesses or institutions that discharge trade waste ("Greasy / Food Waste"), other than those assessed as being Non or Minor Trade Waste, are required to have a Trade Waste Consent, i.e. operating license, with South East Water.

A common misconception is that trade waste ("Greasy / Food Waste") is only generated from businesses that cook food on site. Trade waste is generated from the washing of utensils, trays, cutlery, crockery, containers, equipment etc, associated with the storage, preparation, handling, and / or serving of food.

Definitions

Trade Waste: [as defined by the Water (Trade Waste) Regulations 2014]: In part,

- *'any superfluous matter derived from, or that is a by-product of, a trade, industrial, commercial, medical, dental, veterinary, agricultural, horticultural or scientific activity.'*
- *'any waste matter that consist solely or partly of food, or which results from any process connected with the preparation of food.'*

Commercial / Food Retail Business: A commercial / food retail business or institution will have either a Class 1, 2, or 3 food license under the Food Act 1984, or a PrimeSafe license. These businesses are typically food manufacturers, food wholesalers, child care centres, aged care / retirement institutions, retail food outlets etc that prepare, handle, store, make, and/or serve food e.g. restaurant, take away, bar, delicatessen, butcher, kebab shop, souvlaki shop, coffee shop, fish and chip shop, chicken shop, pizza shop, Asian take away etc.

Minor Trade Waste Business: A commercial / food retail business or institution will have a Class 4 food license under the Food Act 1984. These businesses typically sell pre-packaged, shelf stable products, including confectionery, potato chips, biscuits, bread, etc e.g. milk bars, selected service stations, convenience stores, bottle shop, newsagency, pharmacy and similar.

Non Trade Waste Business: A commercial business or institution which does not have a process involving the preparation of food for commercial gain e.g. book store, clothing store, lighting store, office block, warehouse, etc. Any waste discharge to sewer is via normal sanitary fixtures from conveniences and private tea/coffee kitchenette installations.

Businesses that require a Trade Waste Consent

Businesses or institutions that discharge trade waste and / or have a Class 1, 2, or 3 food license under the Food Act 1984, or a PrimeSafe license, require a Trade Waste Consent. These businesses or institutions require an appropriately sized Food and Oil Interceptor (FOI) i.e. grease trap, which will be nominated in the Trade Waste Consent.

Businesses Classified as Minor Trade Waste

Commercial (food) businesses or institutions that have a Class 4 food license under the Food Act 1984, are not required to install trade waste treatment apparatus. They operate under the Minor Trade Waste Consent located on South East Water's website.

An exemption to any of the above maybe considered, upon formal written request to the Trade Waste team at South East Water.

For further information please contact the Trade Waste team on telephone 1300 634 712, or email tradewaste@sew.com.au.