

Wastewater Management at NIST-Gaithersburg

NIST S 7301.07

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1. PURPOSE

This suborder delineates requirements and associated roles and responsibilities related to the discharge of wastewater at the NIST-Gaithersburg site.

2. BACKGROUND

At the NIST-Gaithersburg site, routine discharges to the sanitary sewer system, that primarily comprise the wastewater, originate from:

- Kitchen sinks;
- Bathroom sinks and toilets;
- Laboratory sinks;
- Janitorial sinks;
- Floor drains;
- Steam condensate drains;
- Cooling towers; and
- Boilers.

NIST produces over 100 million gallons of wastewater per year at the NIST-Gaithersburg site. All wastewater produced at NIST-Gaithersburg facilities is collected in an on-site system of sanitary sewer pipelines. The on-site sanitary sewer system eventually consolidates all wastewater into one sewer pipeline that discharges offsite into the regional sanitary sewer system maintained by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The WSSC sanitary sewer subsequently discharges to the District of Columbia's Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (the Publicly Owned Treatment Works or POTW). Following treatment, wastewater is released into the Potomac River.

¹ For revision history, see Appendix A.

37 Wastewater discharged from the NIST-Gaithersburg site is regulated by WSSC through a
38 [Discharge Authorization Permit \(DAP\)](#). The regulatory requirements of this permit are the
39 basis for most of the requirements of this suborder.

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41

42 **3. APPLICABILITY**

43 This suborder applies to all activities at the NIST-Gaithersburg site that discharge to the
44 sanitary sewer system.

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46

47 **4. REFERENCES**

- 48 a. [Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\), Title 40, Subchapter D](#)
- 49
- 50 b. [Code of Maryland Regulations \(COMAR\), Part 2, Subtitle 08, Water Pollution](#)
- 51
- 52 c. [WSSC Discharge Authorization Permit 05813](#)
- 53
- 54 d. [WSSC Plumbing and Fuel Gas Code \(current version\)](#)
- 55
- 56 e. International Plumbing Code (current version)
- 57
- 58 f. [Clean Water Act and Federal Facilities](#)
- 59
- 60 g. [NIST Toxic Organic Management Plan](#)

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62

63 **5. APPLICABLE NIST PROGRAMS**

- 64 a. NIST S 7101.15: [Document and Records Control Program](#)
- 65
- 66 b. NIST S 7101.23: [Safety Education and Training](#)
- 67
- 68 c. NIST S 7101.24: [Incident Reporting and Investigation](#)
- 69
- 70 d. NIST S 7101.51: [Bloodborne Pathogens Program](#)
- 71
- 72 e. NIST S 7101.60: [Chemical Management](#)
- 73
- 74 f. NIST S 7201.01: [Radioactive Materials at NIST-Gaithersburg](#)
- 75
- 76 g. NIST S 7301.01: [Environmental Management System](#)

77 h. NIST S 7301.06: [Chemical Waste Accumulation and Disposal at NIST-Gaithersburg](#)

78

79 i. NIST S 7301.08: [Oil Storage and Handling at NIST-Gaithersburg](#)

80

81 j. NIST S 7301.10: [Storm Water Management at NIST-Gaithersburg](#)

82

83

84 **6. REQUIREMENTS**

85 a. General

86 No chemicals shall be released to sanitary sewer drains without review and approval by the
87 NIST Gaithersburg Safety, Health, and Environment Division, Environmental Management
88 Group (GSLED-EMG). An approval shall remain in effect as long as the chemical(s) and
89 concentration(s) do not change beyond the limits specified in the approval. Contact GSLED-
90 EMG at x5375, option 3 with any questions. Chemical waste shall be collected and disposed
91 of under the requirements of the Chemical Waste Accumulation and Disposal NIST
92 Gaithersburg Program.

93

94 b. Discharge Restrictions

95 Discharge restrictions for the sanitary sewer are specified in section B.33 of the DAP. Please
96 refer to the DAP for a complete description of all parameters and discharge limits. Key
97 discharge restrictions applicable to NIST are listed below.

98

99 (1) High Temperature – Any liquids or vapors having a temperature greater than 140° F
100 (60° C).

101

102 (2) Fire or Explosion Hazard – Any liquids, solids, or gases that by reason of their nature or
103 quantity are, or may be, either alone or by interaction with other substances, sufficient to
104 be a fire or explosion hazard.

105

106 (3) Public Nuisance or Hazard – Any malodorous or toxic gases, vapors, fumes, or other
107 substances that, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, are capable of creating
108 a public nuisance, a hazard to human health or the environment, or the prevention of
109 entry by WSSC personnel into sewers for maintenance and repair.

110

111 (4) Interference and Pass-Through – Any liquids, solids, or gases not amenable to treatment
112 or reduction by the sewage treatment processes.

113

114 (5) Excess Coloration – Any liquids, solids, or gases that, singly or by interaction with other
115 material, cause excessive coloration.

116

- 117 (6) Obstruction to Flow – Any substances capable of causing obstruction to the flow in
118 sewers.
119
- 120 (7) Discharge Limitations – Any water or wastewater containing substances in excess of the
121 limitations contained in Appendix B, NIST-Gaithersburg Wastewater Discharge Limits.
122
- 123 (8) Radioactive Wastes – Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or
124 concentration as to exceed limits established by applicable local, State, or Federal
125 regulations.
126
- 127 (9) Pathogenic Wastes – Any substance containing viable pathogenic or parasitic organisms
128 that could pose a health hazard to the public or interfere with the proper operation of the
129 wastewater collection or treatment systems.
130
- 131 (10) Storm or Ground Water – Any storm water, surface water, ground water, roof runoff,
132 subsurface drainage.
133
- 134 (11) Viscous Substances – Any substances that may solidify or become highly viscous at
135 temperatures between 40°F (4°C) and 140°F (60°C), or at any other temperature that
136 could cause obstruction and/or interference with the conveyance system or the POTW
137 processes.
138
- 139 (12) Dilution Prohibition – Any water added to a discharge as a partial or complete substitute
140 for proper treatment to achieve compliance with applicable discharge limitations for any
141 wastewater constituent.
142
- 143 (13) Hauled Pollutants – Any trucked or hauled pollutants.
144
- 145 (14) Oils – Any wastes containing petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products
146 of mineral oil origin.
147
- 148 (15) Glycol – Any glycol compound or derivative added to or contained in internal
149 combustion engine cooling systems or liquid conveyance systems for the purposes of
150 altering liquid freezing and/or boiling points.
151
- 152 (16) Corrosive Substances – Substances causing corrosive damage, harm or endangerment to
153 the collection system, pumps, or personnel.
154
- 155 (17) Bypass of Treatment Facilities - A bypass shall be defined as the intentional diversion of
156 waste streams from any portion of an Industrial User’s treatment facility. A bypass is

157 prohibited unless it is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe
158 property damage, or no feasible alternative exists, such as the use of auxiliary treatment
159 facilities. Bypasses must be reported to WSSC within 24 hours of occurrence and
160 followed up with a written report within 30 days. Coordinate with GSLED-EMG if a
161 bypass is ever required.

162
163 (18) Duty to Halt - Duty to Halt or Reduce Activity Upon reduction of efficiency of
164 operation, or loss or failure of all or part of the pretreatment system. Activities with
165 pretreatment systems shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with its
166 permit, control its production discharges until operation of the treatment facility is
167 restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided (i.e., the primary source of
168 power to the pretreatment system fails or is reduced).

169
170 c. Equipment Specific Requirements

171
172 (1) NIST-owned wastewater pretreatment systems are critical to maintaining compliance
173 with discharge parameters. Each existing pretreatment systems is described below.
174 Equipment specific requirements and responsible individuals are listed Appendix D.

175
176 (a) Building 313 Site-Wide pH Neutralization System and Flow Meter – This system is
177 designed to correct fluctuations in the pH of the consolidated wastewater prior to off-
178 site discharge. Procedures for maintaining the pH neutralization system are
179 maintained within the Maximo asset management system managed by OFPM.

180
181 (b) Building 215 pH Neutralization System – This system designed to neutralize limited
182 quantities of specific² acids and bases released from wet benches in the Building 215
183 Nanofabrication Laboratory. Neutralization procedures are included in the [215 pH
184 Neutralization Operation and Maintenance Manual](#).

185
186 (c) Building 227 pH Neutralization System – This system is designed to neutralize
187 accidental releases of acid or base from all lab drains in Building 227. Procedures for
188 maintaining the pH neutralization system are maintained within the Maximo asset
189 management system managed by OFPM.

190
191 (d) Building 235 pH Neutralization System – This system is designed for batch treatment
192 of limited quantities of specific² acids or bases released from two wet benches in
193 Building 235 laboratories. Neutralization procedures are included in NIST Center for
194 Neutron Research (NCNR) standard operating procedures.

195

² Acids and bases released to the neutralization system shall be approved by GSLED-EMG.

196 (e) Lime Contact Basins at Buildings 202, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 231, and
197 245 – Lime Contact Basins were part of the original construction of the NIST-
198 Gaithersburg site. The contact basins are large underground in-line containers filled
199 with limestone. Wastewater from lab drains is routed to the Lime Contact Basins for
200 neutralization of the wastewater prior to entering the sanitary sewer system. The
201 Lime Contact Basins are only intended to assist with accidental discharges to lab
202 drains. Procedures for maintaining the lime contact basins are maintained within the
203 Maximo asset management system managed by OFPM.

204
205 (f) Building 101 Grease Trap – The grease trap is designed to capture oils and greases
206 that are unavoidably released to the sink drains in the Building 101 cafeteria. As
207 much as possible, oils and greases shall be collected and disposed/recycled separately
208 and not sent directly to the grease trap. When in operation, the grease trap is
209 maintained/pumped out quarterly by OFPM via a service contractor.

210
211 (g) Building 303 Oil Water Separator – The oil water separator is designed to capture oils
212 and other fluids that are unavoidably released into the drains from vehicle
213 maintenance activities in Building 303. Best management practices are used to
214 collect oils and other vehicle maintenance fluids for disposal or recycling.
215 Procedures for maintaining the oil water separator are maintained within the Maximo
216 asset management system managed by OFPM.

217
218 (2) Low Level Radioactive Waste Holding Tanks located in Building 235 and 245
219 These systems are designed to contain wastewaters from specific locations and labs
220 where radioactive materials are used. The wastewater contained in the holding tanks
221 must be tested prior to discharge to the sewer system (see Section 6.d.(4) below).

222
223 d. Analytical Monitoring of Wastewater and Routine Reporting

224
225 (1) In accordance with the DAP, sampling and analysis of the NIST-Gaithersburg site
226 wastewater shall be conducted quarterly. Samples shall be collected from NIST's
227 consolidated wastewater flow at the manhole adjacent to Gate E. Monitoring parameters,
228 sampling frequency, sample type, and responsibilities are summarized in Appendix C.

229
230 (2) NIST shall submit wastewater analysis reports quarterly to the WSSC to demonstrate
231 compliance with the requirements of the DAP. The reports corresponding to the previous
232 quarter are due each year on April 7, July 7, October 7, and January 7.

233
234 (3) The NIST GSHED-EMG shall coordinate the quarterly monitoring and submit the
235 analysis reports.

236 (4) Discharges from the low-level radioactive waste holding tanks - Wastewater stored
237 within the holding tanks must be tested for radionuclides present and their concentrations,
238 and cleared prior to release to the sewer system by the following groups:

239
240 (a) Building 235 – NCNR Health Physics; and

241
242 (b) Building 245 – Radiation Safety Division (RSD).

243
244 Specific reporting requirements to WSSC must also be met prior to release. These
245 reporting requirements are specified in Section II, Special Conditions, of the NIST DAP
246 and Appendix D of this Suborder.

247
248 e. Design and Construction Requirements

249
250 (1) NIST Design and Construction Projects shall meet the requirements of the International
251 Plumbing Code. This clause applies specifically to wastewater drains and conveyances,
252 for the purposes of this document.

253
254 (2) NIST Design and Construction projects shall not allow the disposal of un-metered water
255 such as stormwater, groundwater, or condensate from cooling coils or evaporators into
256 the sanitary sewer.

257
258 f. Permit Non-Compliance Notification Requirements

259
260 (1) NIST shall notify WSSC both verbally and in writing if it is discovered that any
261 requirements of the DAP are not being met. In addition, and depending on the non-
262 compliance, notification of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority,
263 Maryland Department of the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
264 may also be required. Non-compliance with permit requirements may be discovered
265 through routine sampling and monitoring, WSSC conducted sampling, bypass of NIST
266 pretreatment systems, or accidental discharges of prohibited materials (Section 6.b.) into
267 the wastewater system.

268
269 (2) GSHED-EMG shall make any needed notifications due to non-compliance. All non-
270 compliance notifications shall follow procedures listed here:

271
272 (a) Notify WSSC verbally within 24 hours of becoming aware of the non-compliance.

273
274 (b) Within 5 days of the notification, submit a written report to WSSC, which must
275 include:

- 276 i. A description of the exceedance or discharge and the cause of noncompliance;
277
278 ii. The period of noncompliance with exact dates and times, or if not corrected,
279 the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue;
280
281 iii. Steps being taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of
282 the noncompliance; and
283
284 iv. Results from additional sampling, if required by WSSC.

285
286 (c) Within 30 days of becoming aware of the noncompliance, repeat the sampling and
287 analysis of the parameter in violation, and submit the results of the analysis, a copy of
288 the chain of custody, and an original certification statement to the WSSC. Scheduled
289 self-monitoring may not be substituted in place of resampling for a violation.
290

291 g. Training and Certification

292
293 (1) In accordance with the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.06.01, pretreatment
294 system operators must obtain an Industrial Wastewater Works Certification from the
295 Maryland Board of Waterworks and Waste Systems Operators. Representatives from the
296 GSHED-EMG and OFPM shall maintain this certification.

297
298 (2) All staff that maintain NIST-owned wastewater pretreatment systems (Section 6.c.) shall
299 receive training on the proper procedures and work area hazards.

300
301 (3) Training records shall be maintained in accordance with NIST S 7101.23.
302

303 h. Records

304 NIST shall maintain records as necessary to demonstrate compliance with the WSSC DAP
305 and in accordance with NIST S 7101.15.
306

307 (1) General Records

308
309 (a) Any records, documents, memoranda, reports, correspondence, and summaries of
310 these materials relating to testing, internal or external monitoring, calibrations,
311 investigations, and chemical analyses made by or on behalf of NIST in connection
312 with its discharge shall be maintained electronically by OSHE with a backup hard
313 copy in the GSHED-EMG files.
314

315 (b) All records that pertain to matters that are the subjects of special orders or any other
316 enforcement or litigation activities brought by the WSSC shall be retained by the
317 GSHED-EMG and preserved until all enforcement activities have concluded and all
318 periods of limitation with respect to any and all appeals have expired.

319
320 (2) Equipment Specific Records
321 Records to demonstrate compliance with equipment-specific requirements as specified in
322 Appendix D (*i.e.*, inspections, calibrations) shall be maintained by the owners of the
323 equipment.

324
325 (3) Retention of Records
326 All records required by this Suborder will be maintained for a minimum period of three
327 (3) years.

328
329 i. WSSC DAP Compliance
330 NIST shall comply with all requirements of the DAP. This suborder addresses requirements
331 of the DAP that are known to apply to NIST. However, should a NIST activity or situation
332 occur that is not covered by this suborder, the requirements of the DAP shall apply.

333
334
335 **7. DEFINITIONS**
336 a. Best Management Practices (BMPs) – Methods, activities, prohibitions of practices,
337 maintenance procedures, and other management practices designed to reduce the quantity of
338 pollutants discharged to a pretreatment system or to the sanitary sewer. BMP's also include
339 treatment requirements operating procedures, practices to control spillage or leaks, and waste
340 disposal procedures.

341
342 b. Composite sample – A combination of individual samples collected at regular intervals over
343 a time period not to exceed 24 hours in any given calendar day. The volume of each
344 individual sample may be either proportional to the flow rate during the sample period (flow
345 composite), or constant and collected at equal time intervals during the composite period
346 (time composite). Composite sampling shall be representative of the process waste stream
347 for that day.

348
349 c. Continuous pH monitoring – A pH reading taken automatically at a frequency of at least
350 once/minute.

351
352 d. Daily maximum – The maximum allowable discharge concentration of a pollutant in a waste
353 stream during a calendar day.

354

- 355 e. Estimated flow – A calculated volume or discharge rate which is based on a technical
356 evaluation of the sources contributing to the discharge including, but not limited to, pump
357 capabilities, water meters, and batch discharge volumes.
358
- 359 f. Grab sample – An individual sample collected over a time period not exceeding 15 minutes,
360 without regard for flow or time. Grab samples specified in the DAP require two discrete
361 samples taken during the same monitoring day and composited afterwards to create a
362 representative sample for testing.
363
- 364 g. Parasitic Organisms – Viable disease-causing organisms of a parasitic nature.
365
- 366 h. Pathogenic – A bacterium, virus, or other microorganism capable of causing disease.
367
- 368 i. pH Calibration – The process of using standardized buffer solutions to match the pH meter to
369 the current characteristics of the pH probe.
370
- 371 j. pH Calibration Check – A check on of pH equipment following a pH calibration and/or at the
372 end of a monitoring day using calibration standardized buffer solutions. No adjustment is
373 made to equipment.
374
- 375 k. Pretreatment – The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the
376 alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater prior to or in lieu of discharging
377 or otherwise introducing to the WWTP.
378
- 379 l. POTW – A Publicly Owned Treatment Works, which includes any device and system used in
380 storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial waste of a
381 liquid nature. Also included are sewers, pipes, and other conveyances only if they convey
382 wastewater to a POTW treatment plant. The term also means the municipality as defined in
383 Section 502(4) of the Clean Water Act, which has jurisdiction over the indirect discharges to
384 and the discharges from such a treatment works.
385
- 386 m. Quarter – For reporting purposes, a quarter shall consist of the months of January - March,
387 April - June, July - September, and October - December.
388
- 389 n. Toxic Organic Management Plan – NIST plan submitted to WSSC detailing how internal
390 chemical, chemical waste, and spill control policies and procedures are sufficient to prevent
391 the release of toxic organics into the sanitary sewer system. WSSC approval of this plan
392 reduces required testing during quarterly compliance sampling.
393

394 o. Viscous – Having a thick, sticky consistency between solid and liquid that may interfere with
395 wastewater conveyance or treatment processes.

396

397

398 **8. ACRONYMS**

399 a. CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

400

401 b. COMAR – Code of Maryland

402

403 c. DAP – Discharge Authorization Permit

404

405 d. EMS – Environmental Management System

406

407 e. EMG – The Environmental Management Group which is part of the Gaithersburg Safety,
408 Health, and Environment Division

409

410 f. GDCD – Gaithersburg Design and Construction Division

411

412 g. GFMD – Gaithersburg Facility Maintenance Division

413

414 h. GSHED – Gaithersburg Safety, Health, and Environment Division

415

416 i. IPC – International Plumbing Code

417

418 j. NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

419

420 k. OFPM – Office of Facilities and Property Management

421

422 l. OSHE – Office of Safety, Health, and Environment

423

424 m. OU – Organizational Unit

425

426 n. POTW – Publicly Owned Treatment Works

427

428 o. RSD – Radiation Safety Division

429

430 p. WSSC – Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

431

432

433

434 **9. RESPONSIBILITIES**

435 The roles and responsibilities specific to this suborder are as follows:

436

437 a. EMG Leader, GSHED, OSHE is responsible for the following:

438

439 (1) Acting as the NIST point of contact with regulatory agencies for wastewater
440 management issues;

441

442 (2) Applying for and obtaining mandatory wastewater discharge permits on required
443 timetables;

444

445 (3) Coordinating routine wastewater sampling required by the DAP (Section 6.d.);

446

447 (4) Preparing and submitting routine compliance reports to the WSSC;

448

449 (5) Ensuring overall compliance with the requirements established in the DAP and all
450 applicable federal, state, and local regulations;

451

452 (6) Performing an internal compliance evaluation once per calendar year at a minimum to
453 verify ongoing compliance with this suborder;

454

455 (7) Coordinating regulatory agency inspections – as requested;

456

457 (8) Notifying the WSSC as specified in Section 6.f and any follow up reporting required;

458

459 (9) Ensuring applicable GSHED-EMG staff maintain the Industrial Wastewater Works
460 Certification from the Maryland Board of Waterworks and Waste Systems Operators;
461 and

462

463 (10) Maintaining the following records:

464

465 (a) Routine reports identified in Section 6.d;

466

467 (b) Emergency Notification reports;

468

469 (c) Regulatory Correspondence;

470

471 (d) Compliance Evaluation Reports;

472

473 (e) Permit applications;

- 474 (f) Permit related submittals requested by WSSC such as the Toxic Organic
475 Management Plan, testing results, and plumbing plans; and
476
477 (g) Current and Historic Permits.
478
- 479 b. Pipe and Plumbing Group Leader, Gaithersburg Facility Maintenance Division (GFMD),
480 OFPM is responsible for the following with respect to the wastewater pretreatment systems
481 for which they are listed as the Responsible Individual in Appendix D;
482
- 483 (1) Inspecting and maintaining wastewater pretreatment systems at NIST as described for
484 specific equipment in Appendix D;
485
- 486 (2) Maintaining operations and maintenance records for activities identified in Appendix D;
487
- 488 (3) Providing training to staff that maintain NIST wastewater pretreatment systems on the
489 proper procedures and work area hazards;
490
- 491 (4) Promptly reporting any problems with wastewater pretreatment systems to GSHED-EMG
492 (x5375, Option 3);
493
- 494 (5) Participating in annual compliance evaluations with GSHED-EMG and in regulatory
495 inspections; and
496
- 497 (6) Identifying and ensuring staff that operate the site-wide pH neutralization system listed in
498 Appendix D maintain an Industrial Wastewater Works Certification from the Maryland
499 Board of Waterworks and Waste Systems Operators.
500
- 501 c. Transportation Group Leader, Facilities Services Division, OFPM is responsible for the
502 following:
503
- 504 (1) Maintaining Building 303 floor drains, drum storage area, oil/water separator, waste oil
505 tank; and
506
- 507 (2) Minimizing the amount of oil and vehicle fluids entering the Building 303 floor drains by
508 properly cleaning up any oil spills or drips that occur in the building.
509

- 510 d. Operations Engineering Group Leader, GFMD, OFPM is responsible for the following:
511
512 (1) Coordinating the cleaning of the Building 101 Cafeteria grease trap every three (3)
513 months at a minimum;
514
515 (2) Providing documentation of the grease trap cleaning to GSHED-EMG every three
516 months for inclusion in compliance reports to WSSC;
517
518 (3) Coordinating the calibration of the outfall flow meter once per year;
519
520 (4) Coordinating the inspection of the Building 303 oil water separator every three (3)
521 months at a minimum; and
522
523 (5) Participating in annual compliance evaluations with GSHED-EMG and in regulatory
524 inspections.
525
- 526 e. Gaithersburg Design and Construction Division Chief (GDCD), OFPM is responsible for the
527 following:
528
529 (1) Designing and constructing projects that adhere to the discharge requirements in WSSC's
530 Plumbing & Fuel Gas Code and in accordance with the IPC. Designs and construction
531 shall not allow un-metered water, such as stormwater, groundwater, roof runoff,
532 subsurface drainage, and cooling coil condensate to be disposed of via the sanitary sewer;
533
534 (2) Communicating to GSHED-EMG any project planning that may result in a modification
535 to the sanitary sewer system or result in new discharges to the system; and
536
537 (3) Ensuring that precautions are taken to control unauthorized wastewater discharges to the
538 sanitary sewer system from construction and demolition projects.
539
- 540 f. NanoFab Operations Group Leader, Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology is
541 responsible for the following:
542
543 (1) Training Nanofab Staff and Users on required procedures for discharging acidic/basic
544 chemicals to the Building 215 neutralizer as shown in the CNST Nanofab Safety Manual;
545
546 (2) Ensuring the Building 215 neutralizer is being maintained per manufacturer
547 recommendations and neutralization procedures are followed by Nanofab Staff and
548 Users;
549

- 550 (3) Maintaining any calibration, repair, and service records for any work performed on the
551 neutralization system;
552
- 553 (4) In accordance with Section 6.b.(18) of this suborder, halting activity causing pH
554 discharges outside the pH range of 6 - 10 upon any reduction in the efficiency of
555 operation, or loss or failure of all or part of the pH neutralization system until operation
556 of the system is restored; and
557
- 558 (5) Notifying GSHED-EMG of any prohibited discharges to the sanitary sewer system.
559
- 560 g. Radiation Safety Division (RSD) Chief, OSHE is responsible for the following:
561
- 562 (1) Inspecting and maintaining low level radioactive wastewater holding tanks in Building
563 245;
564
- 565 (2) Conducting radioactivity testing on holding tank wastewater per WSSC DAP
566 requirements; and
567
- 568 (3) Reporting wastewater radioactivity results as specified in the WSSC DAP prior to release
569 (Appendix D).
570
- 571 (4) Notifying GSHED-EMG of any prohibited discharges to the sanitary sewer system.
572
- 573 h. Chief of NCNR Health Physics, NCNR is responsible for the following:
574
- 575 (1) Inspecting and maintaining low level radioactive wastewater holding tanks in Building
576 235.
577
- 578 (2) Conducting radioactivity testing on holding tank wastewater per WSSC DAP
579 requirements.
580
- 581 (3) Reporting wastewater radioactivity results as specified in the WSSC DAP prior to release
582 (Appendix D).
583
- 584 (4) Notifying GSHED-EMG of any prohibited discharges to the sanitary sewer system.
585
586

- 587 i. Research Facility Operations Group Leader, NCNR is responsible for the following:
588
589 (1) Ensuring NCNR Staff and Users are trained on required procedures for discharging
590 acidic/basic chemicals to the Building 235 neutralizer;
591
592 (2) Ensuring the Building 235 neutralizer is being maintained per manufacturer
593 recommendations and neutralization procedures are followed by NCNR Staff and Users;
594
595 (3) Maintaining any calibration, repair, and service records for any work performed on the
596 neutralization system;
597
598 (4) In accordance with Section 6.b.(18) of this suborder, halting activity causing pH
599 discharges outside the pH range of 6 - 10 upon any reduction in the efficiency of
600 operation, or loss or failure of all or part of the pH neutralization system until operation
601 of the system is restored; and
602
603 (5) Notifying GSHED-EMG of any prohibited discharges to the sanitary sewer system.
604
- 605 j. Emergency Services Office Director is responsible for the following:
606
607 (1) Receiving notifications of spills or other unauthorized discharges that enter the sanitary
608 sewer system through the emergency notification system (x2222); and
609
610 (2) Ensuring that GSHED-EMG is notified immediately when any prohibited discharges to
611 the sanitary sewer system are reported through the emergency notification system.
612
- 613 k. NIST Employees and Associates are responsible for the following:
614
615 (1) Only releasing authorized material to the sanitary sewer; and
616
617 (2) Reporting any observation of out-of-the-ordinary discharges to the sanitary sewer system
618 to the GSHED-EMG (x5375, Option 3) or the emergency number (x2222).
619

620
621 **10. AUTHORITIES**

622 None

623
624
625 **11. DIRECTIVE OWNER**

626 Chief Safety Officer

627 **12. APPENDICES**

628

629 A - Revision History

630

631 B - NIST-Gaithersburg Wastewater Discharge Limits

632

633 C - NIST-Gaithersburg Wastewater Sampling and Analysis Parameters

634

635 D - Requirements for Subject Wastewater Equipment

636

637 **Appendix A. Revision History**

638

Version #	Approval Date	Effective Date	Brief Description of Change
1	9/25/2023	4/1/2024	• Initial document

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Appendix B: NIST-Gaithersburg Wastewater Discharge Limits

NIST-Gaithersburg Wastewater Discharge Limits	
Parameter	WSSC Daily Maximum Discharge Limit³
Flow	N/A (gal/day)
pH	6.0 – 10.0 (standard units)
Cadmium	0.07 mg/L
Copper	2.3 mg/L
Lead	1.0 mg/L
Molybdenum	0.89 mg/L
Nickel	2.2 mg/L
Silver	1.3 mg/L
Zinc	3.4 mg/L
Oil and Grease (Nonpolar, Petroleum)	100 mg/L
Fats, Oil and Grease (Polar, FOG)	200 mg/L
Mercury	<0.001 mg/L
Arsenic	0.23 mg/L
Cyanide	0.56 mg/L
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	<0.001 mg/L
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	Monitoring Only
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	Monitoring Only
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Monitoring Only
Trichloroethylene (Trichloroethene)	0.026 mg/L
Tetrachloroethylene (Tetrachloroethene)	0.0945 mg/L
Ammonia (NH ₃)	Monitoring Only
Total Phosphorus (TP)	Monitoring Only
Temperature	140 °F

³ Measurements of NIST wastewater characteristics performed to assess compliance with a discharge limit are conducted on the consolidated wastewater flow just prior to leaving the NIST-Gaithersburg site (Gate E manhole).

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Appendix C: NIST-Gaithersburg Wastewater Sampling and Analysis Parameters

WSSC Wastewater Sampling and Analysis Parameters		
Parameter	Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
NIST MONITORING⁴		
Flow (gallons/day)	2 days per quarter	Measured
pH (standard units)	2 days per quarter	Continuous Recorder
Cadmium, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Copper, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Lead, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Molybdenum, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Nickel, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Silver, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Zinc, total	2 days per quarter	24-hour Composite
Oil and Grease (Nonpolar, Petroleum)	2 days per quarter	Grab
Fats, Oil and Grease (Polar, FOG)	2 days per quarter	Grab
Radionuclides	Prior to release from radioactive holding tanks	Grab
WSSC MONITORING		
Arsenic, total	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Mercury, total		
Selenium, total	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Cyanide, total	At WSSC's Discretion	Grab
Tetrachloroethylene (tetrachloroethene)	At WSSC's Discretion	Grab
Trichloroethylene (trichloroethene)	At WSSC's Discretion	Grab
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Temperature	At WSSC's Discretion	Continuous Recorder
Chromium, total	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Ammonia (NH ₃)	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite
Total Phosphorus	At WSSC's Discretion	Composite

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⁴ Monitoring performed by NIST GSHED-EMG.

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Appendix D: Requirements for Subject Wastewater Equipment

Requirements and Responsibilities for NIST Gaithersburg Wastewater Equipment			
Subject Equipment	Building	Responsible Individual	Maintenance Requirements
Site-wide pH Neutralization System and Flow Meter	313	Pipe and Plumbing Group Leader, GFMD, OFPM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visually inspect the neutralization system and flow meter weekly; 2. Clean equipment as needed; 3. Calibrate the pH meter weekly and maintain calibration records for 3 years; 4. Calibrate the flow meter once per year and maintain calibration records for 3 years; 5. Replace the pH and flow recorder charts weekly; 6. Provide the previous week's pH and flow recorder charts to GSHED-EMG, which will maintain the charts; 7. Inspect the neutralization chemical storage and replenish chemical supply as needed. 8. Report any operational problems to the GSHED-EMG.
Chemical pH Neutralization Systems	215 and 227	Pipe and Plumbing Group Leader, GFMD, OFPM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visually inspect the neutralization systems weekly; 2. Clean equipment as needed; 3. Calibrate the pH meters weekly and maintain calibration records for 3 years; 4. For 227, replace the pH recorder chart weekly and provide the previous week's chart to GSHED-EMG, which will maintain the pH charts; 5. Inspect the neutralization chemical storage and replenish chemical supply as needed;

Requirements and Responsibilities for NIST Gaithersburg Wastewater Equipment			
Subject Equipment	Building	Responsible Individual	Maintenance Requirements
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Provide copies of calibration, maintenance records, and service tickets to the equipment owners for recordkeeping.; and 7. Report any operational problems to the GSHED-EMG
Chemical pH Neutralization System	235	Research Facility Operations Group Leader, NCNR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure NCNR Staff and Users are trained on required procedures for discharging acidic/basic chemicals to the Building 235 neutralizer; 2. Ensure neutralizer is maintained per manufacturer recommendations and neutralization procedures are followed by NCNR Staff and Users; 3. Maintain any calibration, repair, and service records for any work performed on the neutralization system; 4. In accordance with Section 6.b.(18) of this suborder, halting activity causing pH discharges outside the pH range of 6 - 10 upon any reduction in the efficiency of operation, or loss or failure of all or part of the pH neutralization system until operation of the system is restored; and 5. Notifying GSHED-EMG of any prohibited discharges to the sanitary sewer system.
Lime Contact Basins	202, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 231, and 245	Pipe and Plumbing Group Leader, GFMD, OFPM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect contact basins annually; and 2. Replenish/replace limestone as needed.
Grease Trap	101	Operations Engineering Group Leader, GFMD, OFPM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perform maintenance including pumping out of grease trap quarterly; and 2. Provide GSHED-EMG with grease trap waste disposal documentation.

Requirements and Responsibilities for NIST Gaithersburg Wastewater Equipment			
Subject Equipment	Building	Responsible Individual	Maintenance Requirements
Oil Water Separator	303	Pipe and Plumbing Group Leader, GFMD, OFPM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect quarterly; and 2. Notify GSHED-EMG when oil/sediment must be removed.
		EMG Leader, GSHED, OSHE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GSHED-EMG shall arrange to have the oil/water separator pumped out as needed.
Radioactive Wastewater Holding Tanks	235	NCNR Health Physics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect and maintain holding tanks according to manufacturer recommendations. 2. Conducting radioactivity testing and reporting per WSSC DAP and listed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIST shall submit notification to WSSC by fax or email at least three (3) hours in advance of a scheduled discharge from the Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) tank(s). • This notification shall include the date and time(s) of the planned discharge; a general description of what is being discharged, including radionuclide(s) present; identification of the tank(s) to be discharged; estimated volume to be discharged (gallons); the analytical test results for radionuclides concentration (in $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$); the fraction of the limit (monthly average in $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$) for each radionuclide released into the sewer (limits are listed in 10 CFR part 20 Appendix B Table 3 and Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.1201.01 Part D Appendix B Table III); and, a statement certifying that the planned release to the sewer is in compliance with all Federal, State, and local regulations.

Requirements and Responsibilities for NIST Gaithersburg Wastewater Equipment			
Subject Equipment	Building	Responsible Individual	Maintenance Requirements
			<p>3. In addition, NCNR Health Physics shall maintain records of all tank analyses and these records shall be available for review during any site inspection and/or upon request by WSSC.</p>
Radioactive Wastewater Holding Tanks	245	RSD	<p>1. Inspect and maintain holding tanks according to manufacturer recommendations.</p> <p>2. Conducting radioactivity testing and reporting per WSSC DAP and listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIST shall submit notification to WSSC by fax or email at least three (3) hours in advance of a scheduled discharge from the Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) tank(s). • This notification shall include the date and time(s) of the planned discharge; a general description of what is being discharged, including radionuclide(s) present; identification of the tank(s) to be discharged; estimated volume to be discharged (gallons); the analytical test results for radionuclides concentration (in $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$); the fraction of the limit (monthly average in $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$) for each radionuclide released into the sewer (limits are listed in 10 CFR part 20 Appendix B Table 3 and Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.1201.01 Part D Appendix B Table III); and, a statement certifying that the planned release to the sewer is in compliance with all Federal, State, and local regulations. <p>3. In addition, Radiation Safety Division shall maintain records of all tank analyses and these records shall be available for review during any site inspection and/or upon request by WSSC.</p>

