

**ATTACHMENT F**  
**RENEWABLE WATER RESOURCES**  
**GREASE CONTROL REGULATION**

Renewable Water Resources (ReWa) desires to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens in the service area and to eliminate the deleterious impact of grease discharges on the wastewater collection and treatment facilities.

**1. Purpose**

This Grease Control Regulation has been developed in accordance with Section 2.12, Special Pretreatment Devices of the Sewer Use Regulation and in support of the ReWa Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Control Program. The purpose of this document is to provide for the regulation of the collection, control and transportation of non-hazardous FOG of animal or vegetable origin generated by commercial Users. The regulation contains requirements for sizing and maintenance of grease control devices, permitting, inspections, monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping. All Users, including FOG Generators, i.e. Food Service Establishments, must comply with established grease limits (200 mg/l Polar Material) as contained in the ReWa Sewer Use Regulation 4.21B – Conditionally Prohibited Discharges.

Compliance with this Regulation in support of the FOG Control Program shall be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- a. Properly sized and approved grease control device,
- b. Implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs),
- c. Regularly scheduled maintenance of grease control device(s),
- d. Documentation of maintenance and proper disposal,
- e. Employee education and training  
and/or
- f. Demonstrated adherence to established quantitative limit(s), concentration or mass, as measured at the nearest accessible point prior to Generator's connection to the public sewer.

**2. Duties**

The Executive Director has been empowered to enforce compliance with permits and regulations. Acting under the Executive Director is the Pretreatment Manager or his assigned representative, who shall be responsible for implementing this regulation. The Pretreatment Manager or his assigned representative shall be responsible for all administrative actions such as inspections, plan review, analyses, and records maintenance. Any reference to ReWa within this Regulation as the responsible or authoritative party shall mean the designated and assigned ReWa representative. ReWa shall annually review the requirements contained herein to ensure that it is effective and reasonable. Duties regarding the enforcement of these requirements are outlined in Attachment C - Enforcement Management Strategy.

### **3. Applicability**

This Regulation is applicable to all Users who generate or transport FOG. These Users include but are not limited to restaurants, cafeterias, delis, grocery stores, hospitals, hotels, motels, churches, school kitchens, assisted living facilities, ice cream shops, coffee shops, Food Courts, butcher shop operations and mobile food units involved in the preparation of food for commercial purposes. The Regulation also applies to Transporters of the FOG waste generated from these, and other facilities. All Users shall provide approved grease control devices necessary to meet limits established in the ReWa Sewer Use Regulation or any permit issued by ReWa. This Regulation does not apply to grease waste removed from pumping stations owned and maintained by ReWa or its subdistricts or from public sewers.

All Food Service Establishments which are proposed, constructed, expanded, renovated, reconstructed, or change ownership shall meet the requirements included herein prior to opening, expanding, or reopening the Food Service Establishment. All Users may be required to upgrade and/or modify grease control devices to comply with the ReWa Regulation. This includes, but is not limited to, proper sizing of Grease Interceptors, piping issues, manhole installation, and upgraded under-the-sink Grease Traps. (Section 7, Generator Requirements). All control devices shall be approved by ReWa prior to installation.

A compliance schedule shall be developed and issued to Food Service Establishments found to be in violation of this Regulation or in need of the addition, repair or upgrade of a grease control device. Accelerated compliance shall be required for users which are found to be discharging FOG in sufficient quantities to cause blockages or necessitate maintenance on the wastewater collection system to prevent blockages. The Food Service Establishment will be notified in writing of any compliance schedule or date. Compliance schedules shall contain milestones necessary to achieve compliance with the Regulation. Failure to meet a compliance schedule or component of a schedule shall be grounds for enforcement including monetary penalties (Section 9, Enforcement).

Any requests for extensions shall be made in writing to ReWa at least thirty days in advance of the compliance date. The request shall include the reasons for failure to comply, additional time required for compliance, and steps taken to avoid further delays.

### **4. Definitions**

The following are supplemental to the definitions given in Section 1.2 of the Sewer Use Regulation:

**Chemical Additive** shall mean liquids, gases or solids composed of non-living substances introduced into the grease control device for the purpose of changing the chemical nature or physical properties of the fats, oils and grease retained in the grease control device.

**Disposal** shall mean the discharge of grease trap or interceptor waste at a properly permitted and SCDHEC approved location.

**Disposer** shall mean a person who operates a facility at which grease waste is intentionally placed for final disposition.

**FOG** shall be the acronym used to describe fats, oils and grease of animal or vegetable origin.

**FOG Control Program** shall describe the ReWa regulatory, educational and customer service activities that support elimination of the deleterious impact of grease discharges on the wastewater collection and treatment facilities.

**Food Courts** shall mean areas predominantly found in shopping centers or amusement parks and festivals where several food preparation establishments having different owners may share seating space or plumbing facilities.

**Food Service Establishment** shall mean restaurants, cafeterias, delis, grocery stores, hospitals, hotels, motels, churches, school kitchens, assisted living facilities, ice cream shops, coffee shops, Food Courts, butcher shop operations, and mobile food units. A Food Service Establishment can include any facility which cuts, prepares, cooks, fries, bakes, or serves food; or which disposes of food related wastes.

**Garbage Grinder** shall mean a device which shreds or grinds up solid or semisolid garbage into smaller portions for discharge into the sanitary sewer.

**Generator** shall mean any User, including Food Service Establishments, which produces grease waste.

**Grease Interceptor** shall mean a device so constructed, typically in the ground, as to separate and hold fats, oils and grease (FOG) from the wastewater in order to reduce the fats, oils and grease (FOG) entering the sanitary sewer. Grease interceptors are often called “grease traps”. Under-the-sink grease traps shall not be construed as meeting this definition.

**Grease Trap** shall mean a device placed inside a Food Service Establishment for removal of FOG from the waste stream. These devices shall be connected to a drain immediately following a sink or wash basin. A grease trap is often referred to as a “grease interceptor” but should not be confused with a grease interceptor as defined above.

**Grease Waste** shall mean any liquid, semi-liquid, or solid fats, oils and grease (FOG) that is removed from commercial operations through the use of a Grease Trap or Grease Interceptor.

**Grease Waste Handling** shall mean the collection, transportation, storage, transfer, processing, disposal, or other handling of grease waste. This term shall not apply to the Generator of grease waste or to the storage of grease waste in a Grease Interceptor.

**Hauled Waste** shall mean transported Holding Tank Waste including waste from vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, septic tanks, grease traps, grease interceptors, and vacuum pump tank trucks.

**Hazardous Material** shall mean a substance or combination of substances which, because of its quantity, concentration, or characteristics, may (1) due to human exposure, cause or significantly contribute to mortality, illness, or incapacitation; (2) pose a substantial hazard to human health or the environment if improperly handled; or (3) be defined to be a hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, under regulations promulgated pursuant to said Act, or under any other Local, State or Federal law.

**Mobile Food Unit** shall mean a self-propelled or vehicle mounted unit intended to be used as a food service facility. Mobile food units must have an approved location to discharge used oil and grease waste.

**Regulation** shall mean the ReWa Sewer Use Regulation and any attachments, or supplements thereof.

**Polar Material** shall mean analytically quantifiable oil and grease of animal or vegetable origin.

**Tank Truck Content Disposal Form** shall mean a multi-part reporting form required by ReWa to document the point of generation, transportation, and disposal of grease waste as outlined in Attachment A – Hauled Waste Regulation.

**Transporter** shall mean a person who owns or operates a vehicle for the purpose of transporting liquid waste.

## **5. Inspections**

Provisions in the Sewer Use Regulation regarding monitoring, inspection, and right of entry to the Generator's facility and the Transporter's vehicle and facilities are incorporated fully herein and shall be implemented to ensure that maintenance is being completed as recorded. Generators shall provide access to ReWa staff or its agents to inspect records, Grease Traps and Grease Interceptors or obtain representative samples and perform other duties as necessary to ensure compliance with the Regulation. Transporters shall provide ReWa staff or its agents access to inspect records, obtain representative samples and perform other duties as necessary to ensure compliance with the Regulation.

## **6. Permitting**

ReWa may issue a permit or other control document to Transporters and Generators as a condition of use, or continued use, of ReWa facilities and services. A permit may be issued to a single User or issued to a group of Users with similar processes, practices and wastewater characteristics. Permits may contain, but are not limited to, flow limitations, pollutant limitations, monitoring requirements and reporting requirements as well as any other conditions or requirements that ReWa determines necessary to ensure compliance of the User and protection of the collection and treatment facilities.

## **7. Generator Requirements**

All Generators shall have Best Management Practices (BMPs) in place to control excessive discharges of grease to the public sewer and to ensure proper performance of grease control devices. Examples of BMPs may include, but are not limited to scraping excess food from plates, pans and food containers into the trash before washing, having proper sink, floor sink, and prewash dishwasher strainers on all drains, disposing of all yellow grease into proper recycling containers and procedures for observing and approving all maintenance activities that require access to the control device. ReWa will review BMPs and may require modifications as necessary to ensure compliance. For any kitchen drain not connected to a grease control device, the Generator shall maintain employee training and/or signage adequate to prevent discharge of FOG to such drains.

Inground Grease Interceptors are necessary and required for most Generators to be in compliance with established limits and standards. In some circumstances, under-the-sink Grease Traps may be allowed if:

- a. it is determined by ReWa that an under the sink trap provides adequate control due to site specific conditions or,
- b. it is determined by ReWa that space or size constraints make an inground Grease Interceptor impractical and/or unserviceable.

Grease Traps and Grease Interceptors shall be purchased, maintained, and secured by the Generator at the Generator's expense. It is the Generator's responsibility to ensure that proper maintenance of the grease control device includes removal of all contents including floating materials, wastewater and solids at a maintenance frequency which will allow proper operation of the grease control device. The Generator will be responsible for observing and approving all pumping and cleaning activities as a condition of disposal at ReWa facilities.

It is the responsibility of the Generator, new or existing, to notify ReWa prior to the purchase and installation of any grease control device. Generators required to install new grease control devices shall request and complete a Food Services Establishment Information survey. The survey, along with the Plans and Specifications Fee (Attachment B), should be submitted to ReWa with a plan of the proposed Grease Interceptor that indicates the location of the building drain. Based on the information provided by the Generator, ReWa will provide a written determination of the required grease control device prior to installation. Additionally, the survey will be considered a request to discharge to the ReWa system. Approval must be granted by ReWa prior to discharge.

Prior to installation or modification of an inground Grease Interceptor, details of the Grease Interceptor showing piping configurations shall be submitted to ReWa. The details and installation shall comply with the requirements of local building inspection or health department codes. ReWa shall review the submittal within 10 days and shall recommend changes as appropriate. Construction approval shall be evidenced by a letter signed by a ReWa authorized representative. Prior to commencement of construction or installation, the Generator shall secure

applicable local building, plumbing, and other permits. The Generator shall notify ReWa at least 48 hours prior to backfilling the grease interceptor and piping to request a final inspection of the installation. ReWa may halt the completion of the installation or notify the local building inspector if the installation does not meet the requirements of this Regulation. No Generator shall alter, modify, or change from original design specifications a required interceptor or any other grease control device without approval.

## **8. Grease Control Devices**

No grease control device, Grease Trap or Grease Interceptor shall be installed or replaced without ReWa approval. ReWa has established the following requirements for the installation, operation and maintenance of grease control devices:

### **(1) Inground Grease Interceptor Requirements**

- a. Grease Interceptors shall be sized based on 20 gallons per seat for FSEs or 20 gallons per bed for healthcare facilities.
- b. Minimum Grease Interceptor size requirement is 1500 gallons. Maximum single Grease Interceptor size is 2000 gallons. If sizing requires more than 2000 gallons, two or more tanks shall be installed in series.
- c. Grease Interceptors shall be installed in non-traffic areas where feasible. Traffic rated tops or tanks must be used in traffic areas.
- d. Grease Interceptors shall not be installed near garbage containment enclosures.
- e. Grease Interceptor access manholes shall be installed with 24" metal covers and rings, and the 90° tee shall be visible from all manholes. Access manholes shall extend at least to finished grade and be designed and maintained to prevent water inflow and infiltration. Manhole covers shall be readily removable to facilitate inspection, grease removal and wastewater sampling activities and shall be kept clear of obstructions such as trees, shrubs, flowers, mulch, etc.
- f. A potable water supply (hose bib) shall be located near all Grease Interceptors for maintenance and cleaning.
- g. Vent lines from Grease Interceptors shall be vented according to local plumbing codes.
- h. Mop sinks, floor drains, floor sinks, 3-compartment sinks, and the pre-rinse of the dishwasher shall be connected to the grease interceptor. Output of the dishwashing machine shall be connected to the sanitary line. Ice machines, hand sinks, tea/soda stations, food prep sinks shall be connected to the sanitary line.
- i. Grease Interceptors shall be maintained on a quarterly basis. Modified maintenance schedules must be approved by ReWa.
- j. All Grease Interceptors shall be adequately secured against unauthorized access.

Discharge of, or addition of, the following materials to an inground Grease Interceptor is strictly prohibited:

- Food grinder waste.
- Dishwasher output lines.
- Water from refrigerator drain lines, beverage dispenser drain lines, ice machines, hand washing sinks or food prep sinks.
- Showers, toilets, washing machines and baths.

- Biological or chemical additives.

**(2) Under-the-Sink Grease Trap Requirements {as allowed under Section 6. (a) and (b)}**

- All Grease Traps shall be constructed of non-metallic, non-corrosive materials.
- Grease Trap shall be externally smooth-sided (without grooves, fins or ridges).
- All Grease Traps shall be located above grade of floor.
- All Grease Traps shall be located to allow access for maintenance and inspection.
- A minimum Grease Trap size of 20 # (pound) (10 gpm) is required.
- Grease Traps shall be maintained on a weekly, monthly or quarterly basis as determined by the Pretreatment Manager.
- Food Service Establishments shall maintain a written log of Grease Trap maintenance.

Discharge or addition of the following materials to an under-the-sink Grease Trap is strictly prohibited:

- Wastewater with a temperature higher than one-hundred forty (140) degrees Fahrenheit.
- Wastewater discharged from a dishwasher.
- Acidic or caustic cleaners, i.e. lye or root killer.
- Wastewater discharged from a food grinder.
- Fryer oil or grill trap grease waste.
- Biological or chemical additives.

All grease control devices are evaluated and approved in accordance with the requirements listed above giving consideration to factors such as number of seats, menu, site plan and location. ReWa reserves the right to make determinations of grease control device sizing and adequacy based on performance and condition and may require repairs to, modifications, or replacement of control devices as such.

**9. Transporter Requirements**

Transporters shall maintain a current license from the Department of Health and Environmental Control Division of Onsite Wastewater Systems to maintain grease interceptors and haul grease waste. Transporters shall submit a log of all Food Service Establishments maintained by January 15 and July 15 of each year. Transporters shall use only disposal sites or methods approved in the license. Transporters shall request and obtain approval from ReWa to discharge hauled waste at disposal sites designated by ReWa. Approvals shall be limited to a three-year period after which a written request for a renewal must be submitted. Hazardous materials shall not be transported, and the transporter shall not mix septic tank contents or other holding tank waste with grease waste. Trucks/tankers licensed to discharge grease and septage at ReWa facilities shall not be used to pump, contain, or transport any other type of waste.

Grease Interceptor and Trap maintenance shall include the following minimum activities:

- 1) Complete removal of all Grease Interceptor or Grease Trap contents rather than skimming the top grease layer.

- 2) Thorough cleaning of the Grease Interceptor or Trap to remove grease buildup from inner walls and baffles.
- 3) A completed disposal manifest with Generator representative signature to accompany each load of Grease Interceptor or Grease Trap waste to the disposal site.

Top skimming, decanting or back flushing of the Grease Interceptor or Grease Trap or its contents or septage waste (back into the Grease Interceptor) for the purpose of reducing the volume of waste to be hauled is prohibited. Vehicles capable of separating water from grease shall not discharge separated water into the Grease Interceptor or into the wastewater collection system.

The Transporter shall be responsible for determining the nature of the waste, and completing a manifest before transport. For Disposal at ReWa facilities, a completed Truck Tank Content Disposal Form must accompany each load and be given to the attendant or placed into the receptacle at the facility prior to discharge. The form must contain signatures of the driver and the Generator representative/owner where the waste originated.

## **10. Fees**

Provisions in the Sewer Use Regulation regarding fees and charges are applicable and shall be assessed to Generators and Transporters for services rendered by ReWa. Generators installing new inground Grease Interceptors shall pay the Engineering Plans and Specifications Review and Approval Fee. Generators shall pay an Annual Administrative and Inspection Fee as needed to address non-compliance with the Sewer Use Regulation. Generators shall also pay for any Laboratory Analyses Fees associated with the discharge from the Generator's facility. Additionally, Generators shall pay a Permit Application Processing and Renewal Fee as needed to ensure compliance with, or in response to non-compliance with, the Sewer Use Regulation. Transporters shall pay the Permit Application Processing and Renewal Fee for the approval to discharge grease at ReWa designated receiving site(s). Transporters shall also pay all Laboratory Analyses Fees associated with the Transporter's discharge to ReWa designated receiving site. Additionally, the Transporter shall pay the applicable hauled waste charges. Such fees and charges shall be as established and included in Attachment B-Fees and Charges of the Sewer Use Regulation.



## **11. Enforcement**

Failure on the part of any User (Generator or Transporter) to maintain continued compliance with any of the requirements set forth in this Regulation may result in the initiation of enforcement action. Violations of these provisions are subject to the enforcement provisions contained in the Sewer Use Regulation (Section 8, Enforcement) including fines of up to \$2000.00 for each offense. Violations may also be reported, as appropriate, to SCDHEC and local codes offices for further enforcement action. In addition, fines assessed for violations involving blockages, cleanup, or other occurrences requiring increased operations and/or maintenance expenses shall include the cost incurred by ReWa or subdistricts for the cleanup or blockage removal. In accordance with the recovery of preventative expenses provisions contained in the Regulation, costs and expenses incurred by ReWa for preventing interference or adverse impact on the public sewer, may be charged to and paid by the discharger upon written notice. ReWa reserves the right to monitor, or require monitoring, of any Generator or Transporter to demonstrate compliance.

## **12. Requests for Variance**

This Regulation and its requirements have been developed with due diligence; utilizing accepted standards, codes, guidance and field knowledge, with the intention of protecting the public sewer from adverse impacts caused by non-compliance with established grease and oil (Polar Material) limits. Requests for a variance to any of the requirements or ReWa implementation of the requirements contained in this Regulation must be submitted in writing to the Pretreatment Manager within thirty (30) days of the Generator or Transporter being notified of a requirement or compliance schedule. The request for variance must specifically state the reason for the request and how the User will ensure demonstrated compliance with established limits. Conditional variances may be granted at the discretion of the Pretreatment Manager and will typically require additional control measures be placed on the User to ensure compliance. These may include, but are not limited to, additional maintenance requirements, more stringent BMPs, monitoring requirements, permit(s) and/or cost recovery. In no case shall a variance be issued in lieu of compliance with established numerical limits or when damage to the collection sewer is evident.