

SEWAGE EFFLUENT STANDARDS

(Extracted from the Jamaican National Sewage Effluent Standards, 1996)

Immediate Technology Based Effluent Standards – Existing Plants

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMIT
BOD ₅	20 mg/l
TSS	30 mg/l
Nitrates (as Nitrogen)	30 mg/l
Phosphates	10 mg/l
COD	100 mg/l
pH	6-9
Faecal Coliform	1000 MPN/100ml
Residual Chlorine	1.5 mg/l

Proposed Sewage Effluent Standards – New Plants ¹

PARAMETER	EFFLUENT LIMIT
BOD	20 mg/l
TSS	20 mg/l
Total Nitrogen	10 mg/l
Phosphates	4 mg/l
COD	100 mg/l
pH	6-9
Faecal Coliform	1000 MPN/100ml
Residual Chlorine	1.5 mg/l

¹ A plant is considered new if it was constructed and commissioned on or after January 1, 1997 (i.e. the commencement of the NRCA's Permit and Licence System)

PARAMETERS IN STANDARDS

The parameters for which the standard establishes limits are:

BOD	Biological Oxygen Demand
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
Nitrates	Nitrogen in Nitrate and Nitrite
Phosphate	Phosphorus in Phosphate
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand
pH	Acidity or Alkalinity
Faecal Coliform	Coliform Bacteria
MPN	Most Probable Number
Residual Chlorine*	

*Where natural treatment systems are designed to reduce coliform levels without the use of chlorine then the residual chlorine criteria would not apply