

**THE MINISTRY OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT**

No. 05/2025/TT-BTNMT

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Independence - Freedom - Happiness

Hanoi, February 28, 2025

CIRCULAR

**PROMULGATING NATIONAL TECHNICAL REGULATION ON DOMESTIC AND
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER**

Pursuant to the Law on Standards and Technical Regulations dated June 29, 2006;

Pursuant to the Law on Environmental Protection dated November 17, 2020;

Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 08/2022/ND-CP dated January 10, 2022 on elaboration of several Articles of the Law on Environmental Protection and Government's Decree No. 05/2025/ND-CP dated January 06, 2025 on amendments to certain Articles of the Government's Decree No. 08/2022/ND-CP dated January 10, 2022 on elaboration of several Articles of the Law on Environmental Protection;

Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 127/2007/ND-CP dated August 01, 2007 elaborating some Articles of the Law Standards and Technical Regulations and Government Decree No. 78/2018/ND-CP dated May 16, 2018 on amendments to certain Articles of the Government's Decree No. 127/2007/ND-CP dated August 01, 2007 elaborating some Articles of the Law Standards and Technical Regulations;

Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 68/2022/ND-CP dated September 22, 2022 defining the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment;

At the request of the Director General of the Pollution Control Department, the Director General of the Department of Science and Technology;

The Minister of Natural Resources and Environment hereby promulgates a Circular promulgating National technical regulation on domestic and municipal wastewater.

Article 1. Promulgated together with this Circular is the National technical regulation on domestic and municipal wastewater (QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT).

Article 2. Effect

1. This Circular comes into force from September 01, 2025.

2. QCVN 14:2008/BTNMT - National technical regulation on domestic wastewater (promulgated together with the Decision No. 16/2008/QD-BTNMT dated December 31, 2008 of the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment promulgating National technical regulations on environment) shall cease to have effect in accordance with the transitional clauses specified in Article 3 and the roadmap for application specified in Article 4 of this Circular.

3. From the effective date of this Circular, in case a wastewater discharge zone has yet to be determined, Column B specified in Table 1 and Table 2 of QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT shall apply.

Article 3. Transitional clauses

1. Any establishment which has been put into operation or any investment project which has been issued with the decision on approval of result of environmental impact assessment report appraisal or of which a sufficient and valid application for appraisal of environmental impact assessment report, issuance of environmental license or environmental registration has been received by the competent authority before the effective date of this Circular may continue to apply QCVN 14:2008/BTNMT - National technical regulation on domestic wastewater, QCVN 40:2011/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial wastewater and regulations of the local government (including local environmental technical regulation on wastewater) until December 31, 2031.

2. In case a competent authority promulgates regulations on change of functions of receiving water bodies, the entities specified in clause 1 of this Article shall follow the roadmap prescribed by the competent authority upon promulgating the abovementioned regulations.

Article 4. Roadmap for application

1. From the effective date of this Circular, investment projects (including new investment projects, projects on investment in scale expansion and capacity increase which submit applications for appraisal of environmental impact assessment report, issuance of environmental license or environmental registration after the effective date of this Circular) must apply the regulations enshrined in QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT.

2. As of January 01, 2032, the entities specified in clause 1 Article 3 of this Circular shall comply with the requirements specified under QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT.

3. The entities specified in clause 1 Article 3 of this Circular are encouraged to apply the regulations set out under QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT from the effective date of this Circular.

Article 5. Organizing implementation

1. Ministries, ministerial agencies, People’s Committees at all levels, Departments of Natural Resources and Environment of provinces and central-affiliated cities, and organizations and individuals concerned are responsible for the implementation of this Circular.

2. Difficulties that arise during the implementation of this Circular should be promptly reported in writing to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment for consideration and resolution./.

**PP. THE MINISTER
THE DEPUTY MINISTER**

Le Cong Thanh

QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT

**NATIONAL TECHNICAL REGULATION ON DOMESTIC AND MUNICIPAL
WASTEWATER**

Foreword

QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT is developed by the Pollution Control Department, submitted by the Department of Science and Technology for approval; appraised by the Ministry of Science and Technology, and promulgated by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment together with the Circular No./2025/TT-BTNMT dated ... (dd) ... (mm), 2025.

QCVN 14:2025/BTNMT supersedes QCVN 14:2008/BTNMT – National technical regulation on domestic wastewater.

**NATIONAL TECHNICAL REGULATION ON DOMESTIC AND MUNICIPAL
WASTEWATER**

1. GENERAL

1.1. Scope

This Regulation provides for permissible limit values of pollution parameters in domestic and municipal wastewater when discharged into water receiving bodies.

1.2. Regulated entities

1.2.1. This Regulation applies to regulatory agencies, organizations and individuals (hereinafter referred to as “organizations and individuals”) related to the discharge of domestic and municipal wastewater into water receiving bodies.

1.2.2. This Regulation does not apply to entities entitled to use situ waste treatment works as per the law on environmental protection.

1.3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the terms below shall be construed as follows:

1.3.1. *Domestic wastewater* means wastewater generated from human activities, including eating, drinking, bathing, laundry and personal hygiene. Wastewater generated from investment projects and business and service establishments specified in the Appendix 1 to this Regulation shall be managed in the same manner as domestic wastewater prescribed in this Regulation.

1.3.2. *Municipal wastewater* means wastewater generated from urban areas and high density residential areas.

1.3.3. *Column A, Column B, Column C* (wastewater discharge zones) in Table 1 and Table 2 of this Regulation are prescribed as follows:

1.3.3.1. *Column A* specifies permissible limit values of pollution parameters in wastewater when discharged into water receiving bodies having the function of supplying water for domestic purposes or for the purpose of managing and improving water quality to satisfy the requirements of Level A in Table 2 and Table 3 QCVN 08:2023/BTNMT - National technical regulation on surface water quality or regulations of provincial People's Committees.

1.3.3.2. *Column B* specifies permissible limit values of pollution parameters in wastewater when discharged into water receiving bodies with the aim of managing and improving water quality to satisfy the requirements of Level B in Table 2 and Table 3 QCVN 08:2023/BTNMT - National technical regulation on surface water quality or regulations of provincial People's Committees.

1.3.3.3. *Column C* specifies permissible limit values of pollution parameters in the wastewater when discharged into water receiving bodies not falling into the cases specified in 1.3.3.1 and 1.3.3.2 of this Regulation.

2. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

2.1. Permissible limit values of pollution parameters in municipal wastewater

According to the regulations in 1.3.3 of this Regulation and discharge flow, permissible limit values of pollution parameters in municipal wastewater when discharged into water receiving bodies are specified in Table 1.

Table 1. Permissible limit values of pollution parameters in municipal wastewater

No.	Pollution parameter	Unit	Discharge flow (F, m ³ /day)								
			F ≤ 2 000			2 000 < F ≤ 20 000			F > 20 000		
			A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
1	pH	-	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9	6 - 9
2	Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5 at 20°C)	mg/L	≤ 30	≤ 40	≤ 50	≤ 25	≤ 30	≤ 35	≤ 20	≤ 25	≤ 30
3	Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	mg/L	≤ 80	≤ 90	≤ 110	≤ 60	≤ 80	≤ 90	≤ 50	≤ 60	≤ 80
	or Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	mg/L	≤ 40	≤ 45	≤ 55	≤ 30	≤ 40	≤ 45	≤ 25	≤ 30	≤ 40
4	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	≤ 50	≤ 60	≤ 70	≤ 40	≤ 50	≤ 60	≤ 30	≤ 40	≤ 50
5	Ammonium (N-NH ₄ ⁺), expressed as N	mg/L	≤ 4,0	≤ 8,0	≤ 10	≤ 4,0	≤ 8,0	≤ 10	≤ 4,0	≤ 8,0	≤ 8,0
6	Total Nitrogen (T-N)	mg/L	≤ 25	≤ 30	≤ 30	≤ 25	≤ 30	≤ 30	≤ 20	≤ 25	≤ 25
7	Total Phosphorus (T-P)	mg/L									
	Receiving bodies being lakes, ponds, lagoons (collectively called as "lakes")		≤ 2,0	≤ 2,5	≤ 3,0	≤ 2,0	≤ 2,5	≤ 3,0	≤ 1,5	≤ 2,5	≤ 3,0
	Other receiving bodies (including rivers, streams, creeks, canals, ditches (collectively called as "rivers"), seawater areas)		≤ 4,0	≤ 6,0	≤ 10	≤ 3,0	≤ 5,0	≤ 7,0	≤ 2,0	≤ 4,0	≤ 6,0
8	Total Coliforms	MPN or CFU/100 mL	≤ 3 000	≤ 5 000	≤ 5 000	≤ 3 000	≤ 5 000	≤ 5 000	≤ 3 000	≤ 5 000	≤ 5 000
9	Sulfide (S ₂ ⁻)	mg/L	≤ 0,2	≤ 0,5	≤ 0,5	≤ 0,2	≤ 0,5	≤ 0,5	≤ 0,2	≤ 0,5	≤ 0,5
10	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	mg/L	≤ 10	≤ 15	≤ 20	≤ 5,0	≤ 15	≤ 20	≤ 5,0	≤ 10	≤ 15
11	Anionic surfactants	mg/L	≤ 3,0	≤ 5,0	≤ 10	≤ 3,0	≤ 5,0	≤ 5,0	≤ 3,0	≤ 5,0	≤ 5,0

Notes: Organizations and individuals may choose to apply TOC or COD.

2.2. Permissible limit values of pollution parameters in domestic wastewater of investment projects and establishments

According to the regulations in 1.3.3 of this Regulation and discharge flow, permissible limit values of pollution parameters in domestic wastewater when discharged into water receiving bodies are specified in Table 2.

Table 2. Permissible limit values of pollution parameters in domestic wastewater of investment projects and establishments

No.	Pollution parameter	Unit	A	B	C
1	pH	-	5 - 9	5 - 9	5 - 9
2	Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD ₅ at 20°C)	mg/L	≤ 30	≤ 35	≤ 40
3	Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	mg/L	≤ 80	≤ 90	≤ 100
	or Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	mg/L	≤ 40	≤ 45	≤ 50
4	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	≤ 50	≤ 60	≤ 70
5	Ammonium (N- NH ₄ ⁺), expressed as N	mg/L	≤ 6,0	≤ 8,0	≤ 10
6	Total Nitrogen (T-N)	mg/L	≤ 25	≤ 30	≤ 40
7	Total Phosphorus (T-P)	mg/L			
	Receiving bodies being lakes		≤ 2,0	≤ 2,5	≤ 3,0
	Other receiving bodies		≤ 4,0	≤ 6,0	≤ 10
8	Total Coliforms	MPN or CFU/100 mL	≤ 3 000	≤ 5 000	≤ 5 000
9	Sulfide (S ²⁻)	mg/L	≤ 0,2	≤ 0,5	≤ 0,5
10	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	mg/L	≤ 10	≤ 15	≤ 20
11	Anionic surfactants	mg/L	≤ 3,0	≤ 5,0	≤ 10

Notes: Organizations and individuals may choose to apply TOC or COD.

3. DETERMINATION METHODS

3.1. Methods and techniques for sampling wastewater and determining pollution parameters in domestic and municipal wastewater are specified in the Appendix 2 to this Regulation. Other methods for determining pollution parameters are specified in the Appendix 1 to QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent.

In case multiple different test (analysis) methods are used to test a pollution parameter and an arbitration method is needed to handle a dispute, complaint or lawsuit, the test method first listed in Column 3 of the Appendix 2 to this Regulation or Column 3 of the Appendix 1 to QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent shall be used.

3.2. Other test methods (not referred to in Column 3 in the Appendix 2 to this Regulation), including: newly promulgated TCVN; national standard methods of one of the countries in the Group of Seven (G7), European Committee for Standardization (CEN/EN), Standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), member countries of the European Union, South Korea or the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) or Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater (SMEWW) may be accepted.

4. MANAGERIAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1. Pollution parameters and permissible limit values of pollution parameters in domestic and municipal wastewater of investment projects and establishments discharging wastewater must be indicated in the Decision on approval for result of environmental impact assessment report appraisal, environmental license and environmental protection document.

4.2. Pollution parameters to be controlled in domestic or municipal wastewater of investment projects and establishments discharging wastewater must be specified in the Decision on approval for result of environmental impact assessment report appraisal and environmental license, including:

4.2.1. Pollution parameters specified in Table 1 of this Regulation with regard to municipal wastewater or Table 2 of this Regulation with regard to domestic wastewater.

4.2.2. Pollution parameters: Chloroform, Chlorine in case the wastewater treatment system uses Chlorine or Chlorine-based disinfectants.

4.2.3. Other typical pollution parameters (in addition to the pollution parameters specified in 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 of this Regulation) by types of production, business, and services (specified in Column 4 and Column 5 of Appendix 2 QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent) in case the municipal wastewater collection and treatment system is connected with and receives industrial effluent.

4.3. The discharge of wastewater into a water receiving body will be assessed for compliance and conformance with this Regulation if:

4.3.1. Results of monitoring and analysis of pollution parameters in municipal waste do not exceed the permissible limit values specified in Table 1 of this Regulation and Table 2 (corresponding to the wastewater discharge zones (Columns)) of QCVN

40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent if there are other pollution parameters specified in 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 of this Regulation.

4.3.2. Results of monitoring and analysis of pollution parameters in domestic waste do not exceed the permissible limit values specified in Table 2 of this Regulation or Table 2 (corresponding to the wastewater discharge zones (Columns)) of QCVN

40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent if there are other pollution parameters specified in 4.2.2 of this Regulation.

4.4. The method for assessing the compliance and conformance with this Regulation shall involve monitoring and analyzing samples of wastewater before being discharged into water receiving bodies.

4.5. The monitoring of pollution parameters specified in Table 1 and Table 2 of this Regulation and other pollution parameters specified in Table 2 of for the purpose of QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent for the purpose of providing information and data to regulatory agencies must be carried out by an organization granted a Certificate of eligibility to provide environmental monitoring services in accordance with the law. The use of automatic and continuous wastewater monitoring results shall be subject to regulations of law.

4.6. The results of assessment of compliance and conformance with this Regulation shall serve as the basis for regulatory bodies to consider taking actions as prescribed by law.

4.7. When connecting domestic wastewater generated from production, business and service activities in urban areas and high density residential areas to the municipal wastewater collection and treatment system, the regulations laid down by the investor, manager or operator of such system or by the local government must be satisfied.

4.8. When connecting domestic wastewater of production, business and service establishments in a concentrated production, business and service area or industrial cluster to the industrial effluent collection and treatment system, the regulations laid down by the investor in construction and commercial operation of infrastructure of the concentrated production, business and service area or industrial cluster must be satisfied.

4.9. If domestic wastewater of production, business and service establishments is collected and treated separately from industrial effluent, it shall be managed in the same manner as domestic waste prescribed in this Regulation.

4.10. Any entity that is entitled to use a situ waste treatment work as per the law on environmental protection but does not build and install such work may choose to apply the regulations set out in Table 2 of this Regulation.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

5.1. Each owner of the investment project or establishment discharging wastewater shall ensure that:

5.1.1. Limit values of pollution parameters in municipal wastewater do not exceed the permissible limit values specified in Table 1 of this Regulation and Table 2 (corresponding to the wastewater discharge zones (Columns)) of QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent if there are other pollution parameters specified in 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 of this Regulation.

5.1.2. Limit values of pollution parameters in domestic waste do not exceed the permissible limit values specified in Table 2 of this Regulation or Table 2 (corresponding to the wastewater discharge zones (Columns)) of QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent if there are other pollution parameters specified in 4.2.2 of this Regulation.

5.2. Each investment owner or establishment owner shall determine pollution parameters according to the principles set out under 4.2 of this Regulation by relying on the following bases: raw materials, materials, fuels, chemicals used and technology for waste treatment; information on the types of production, business and services with industrial effluent connected to the municipal wastewater collection and treatment system and the list of potential pollution parameters (proposed in the application for appraisal of environmental impact assessment report, application for issuance, adjustment or re-issuance of environmental license).

5.3. The authority competent to appraise the environmental impact assessment report or issue the environmental license shall determine specific pollution parameters to be controlled on the basis of the proposal of the investment project owner or establishment owner in the application for appraisal of environmental impact assessment report or application for issuance, adjustment or re-issuance of environmental license. In case it is detected that other pollution parameters exceed the permissible limit values specified in Table 2 of QCVN 40:2025/BTNMT - National technical regulation on industrial effluent, additional control is required as prescribed.

6. ORGANIZING IMPLEMENTATION

6.1. Each provincial People's Committee shall review and adjust its promulgated local environmental technical regulations on domestic wastewater in line with law, situation of local socio-economic development and this Regulation.

6.2. Environmental protection authorities shall provide guidance on and inspect the implementation of this Regulation.

6.3. In the cases where any of the documents and regulations referred to in this Regulation is amended or replaced, the newest one shall apply./.

Appendix 1

List of types of business and services that generate wastewater managed in the same manner as domestic wastewater

No.	Type of business/service ^(a)	Industrial classification code
(1)	(2)	(3)
I	Accommodation and food service activities	I
1.	Hotels	I 55101
2.	Villas or apartments providing short-term accommodation	I 55102
3.	Guesthouses and hostels providing short-term accommodation	I 55103
4.	Motels, rooms for rent and similar lodging establishments	I 55104
5.	Student residences	I 55901
6.	Other accommodation	I 55909
7.	Food and beverage service activities	I 56
II	Residential care and nursing activities	Q
8.	Nursing care facilities	Q 871
9.	Residential care activities for mental retardation, mental health and substance abuse	Q 872
10.	Health care activities for the persons having rendered meritorious services, the elderly and disabled not capable of self-care	Q 873
11.	Other residential care activities	Q 879
III	Other personal service activities	S
12.	Steambath, massage and health improvement services	S 96100
13.	Washing	S 96200
14.	Hairdressing and shampooing	S 96310
15.	Funeral service activities	S 96320
16.	Wedding service activities	S 96330
17.	Other remaining personal service activities	S 96390
IV	Other types (not covered by Decision No. 27/2018/QĐ-TTg)	
18.	Premises of agencies, offices, schools	-
19.	Armed forces barracks	-

20.	Condominiums, public housing	-
21.	Department stores, supermarkets; food stores	-
22.	Parks, amusement parks, recreational areas, concentrated business and service areas, markets, train stations, bus stations, wharves, ports, ferry terminals and other public areas	
23.	Other types (similar to those listed in 01 to 22 of this Appendix)	-
<p>Notes:</p> <p><i>(a) Based on the industrial classification specified in the Prime Minister's Decision No. 27/2018/QĐ-TTg dated July 06, 2018 promulgating Vietnam Standard Industrial Classification.</i></p>		

Appendix 2

Methods and techniques for sampling wastewater and determining pollution parameters in domestic and municipal wastewater

No.	Sampling, pollution parameters	Test method and standard code
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Sampling wastewater, storage and transport of wastewater samples	TCVN 6663-1:2011 TCVN 5999:1995 TCVN 6663-3:2016
2	Wastewater sampling for microbiological analysis	TCVN 8880:2011
3	pH	TCVN 6492:2011 SMEWW 4500 H ⁺ .B:2023
4	Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD ₅ at 20°C)	TCVN 6001-1:2008 TCVN 6001-2:2008 SMEWW 5210B:2023
5	Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	TCVN 6491:1999 SMEWW 5220B:2023

		SMEWW 5220C:2023 SMEWW 5220D:2023
6	Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	TCVN 6634:2000 SMEWW 5310B:2023 SMEWW 5310C:2023 SMEWW 5310D:2023
7	Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	TCVN 6625:2000 SMEWW 2540D:2023
8	Ammonium (N- N-NH ₄ ⁺), expressed as N	TCVN 5988-1995 TCVN 9242:2012 TCVN 6179-1:1997 TCVN 6660:2000 SMEWW 4500-NH ₃ .B&D:2023 SMEWW 4500-NH ₃ .B&F:2023 SMEWW 4500-NH ₃ .B&H:2023 USEPA Method 350.2
9	Total Nitrogen (T-N)	TCVN 6638:2000 TCVN 6624:1-2000 TCVN 6624:2-2000
10	Total Phosphorus (T-P)	TCVN 6202:2008 SMEWW 4500-P.B&D:2023 SMEWW 4500-P.B&E:2023 ISO 11885:2007
11	Total Coliforms	SMEWW 9221B:2023

		TCVN 6187-2:2020 TCVN 6187-1:2019 TCVN 8775:2011
12	Sulfide (S ²⁻)	TCVN 6637:2000 TCVN 6659:2000 SMEWW 4500 S2-.B&D:2023
13	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	SMEWW 5520B&F:2023 SMEWW 5520D&F:2023 US EPA Method 1664
14	Anionic surfactants	TCVN 6622-1:2009 TCVN 6336-1998 SMEWW 5540 B&C:2023 ISO 16265:2009
<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TCVN: National Standard of Vietnam. - US EPA Method: Method of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. - SMEWW: Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater. - ISO: International Organization for Standardization. 		

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