

Transitional Authorizations



If your community does not have wastewater treatment, you may be eligible to apply for a transitional authorization (TA). A TA gives an extension until the end of 2030 or 2040 to complete your upgrades and meet the effluent standards under the federal *Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations*.

Who is eligible for a TA?

Communities with wastewater systems that are medium to low risk to the environment would be eligible.

To obtain a transitional authorization, you must demonstrate the following:

1. The wastewater system did not meet limits in the earliest years of reporting
2. The wastewater system is still not meeting effluent limits in recent reports
3. The system is not designed to meet secondary level of wastewater treatment
4. It was impossible to upgrade the system before applying for a transitional authorization (due to financial or technical constraints)
5. The system has not already received a transitional authorization
6. You have or will be developing a plan to upgrade your wastewater facilities in the future

How to apply for a transitional authorization?

- ✓ You need to be reporting under the Regulations
- ✓ You need to have an account in our online reporting system [ERRIS](#) in order to apply

You can apply on your own or with a third party. Need help? Contact us for support.

What are the benefits of having a TA?

Your system will be in compliance with the Regulations as you work towards wastewater upgrades. While you will still need to meet site-specific limits, these limits are based on your application.

For communities with many outfalls planning to build one new wastewater treatment plant, you can apply for a consolidated TA, requiring you to only sample and report on the outfall with the most impact on the environment.

Systems with an average daily effluent volume of less than 2,500 m³/day, would also benefit from reduced monitoring and reporting requirements once issued a TA:

- Sampling effluent once per quarterly (instead of monthly)
- Reporting once per year (instead of quarterly)
- Estimating your effluent volumes rather than having to use a flowmeter
 - ECCC also has a [factsheet](#) with more information on how to determine volumes

Is there a deadline to apply?

There is no deadline to apply for a transitional authorization. However, until you receive a TA, your wastewater system would remain out of compliance with the Regulations and the *Fisheries Act*.

If you have questions or would like support with your application, please contact us at eu-ww@ec.gc.ca.