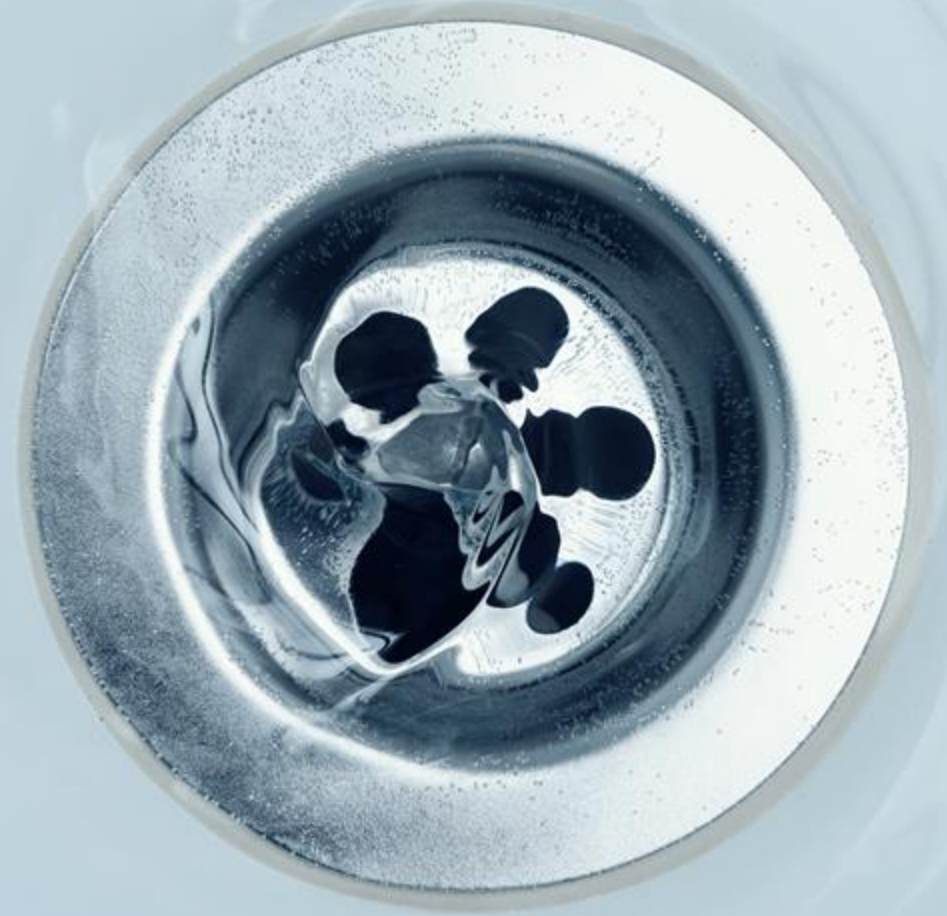


Reaching Compliance: Your role in the Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations (WSER)

May 2, 2025

Dr. Deatra Walsh and Ben Noseworthy



STRATEGIC ADVOCACY

CURRENT PRIORITIES

SUSTAINABLE MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Advance approach to water and wastewater infrastructure based on right-sized innovative solutions + promote asset management.

A REGIONAL APPROACH

Ensure regional government implementation moves forward consistent with MNL approach + promote regional approach to challenges/solutions.

MUNICIPAL FISCAL STABILITY

Reignite municipal-provincial fiscal framework advocacy + support research on alternate sources of revenue.

1

6

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Lead municipal reconciliation and anti-racism efforts + promote, encourage, and support greater equity, diversity and inclusion across the sector.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY

Support members to address health and safety challenges in their communities through research and advocacy + lead sector-wide housing and public transportation conversations.

5

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Revitalize climate change and climate resilience conversations as per historical MNL work in this area + use and update the 7-steps toolkit as foundation.

4

3

**SEAT
AT THE
TABLE**

2

MNL's wastewater story

- MNL's advocacy, with members and partners, led to national legislative amendments (WSER):
 - Transitional authorization (TA) application window reopened (and will not close)
 - Reduced administrative burden (and therefore cost burden) when TA is approved.
- To comply with regulations and avail of reduced administrative burden, municipalities need to apply for and receive a TA; and they need data to do so.



You are part
of this story



Amendments to the *Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations*

The Government of Canada has concluded its consultations on amendments to the Regulations and has published the [Regulations Amending the Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations](#) on June 5, 2024.

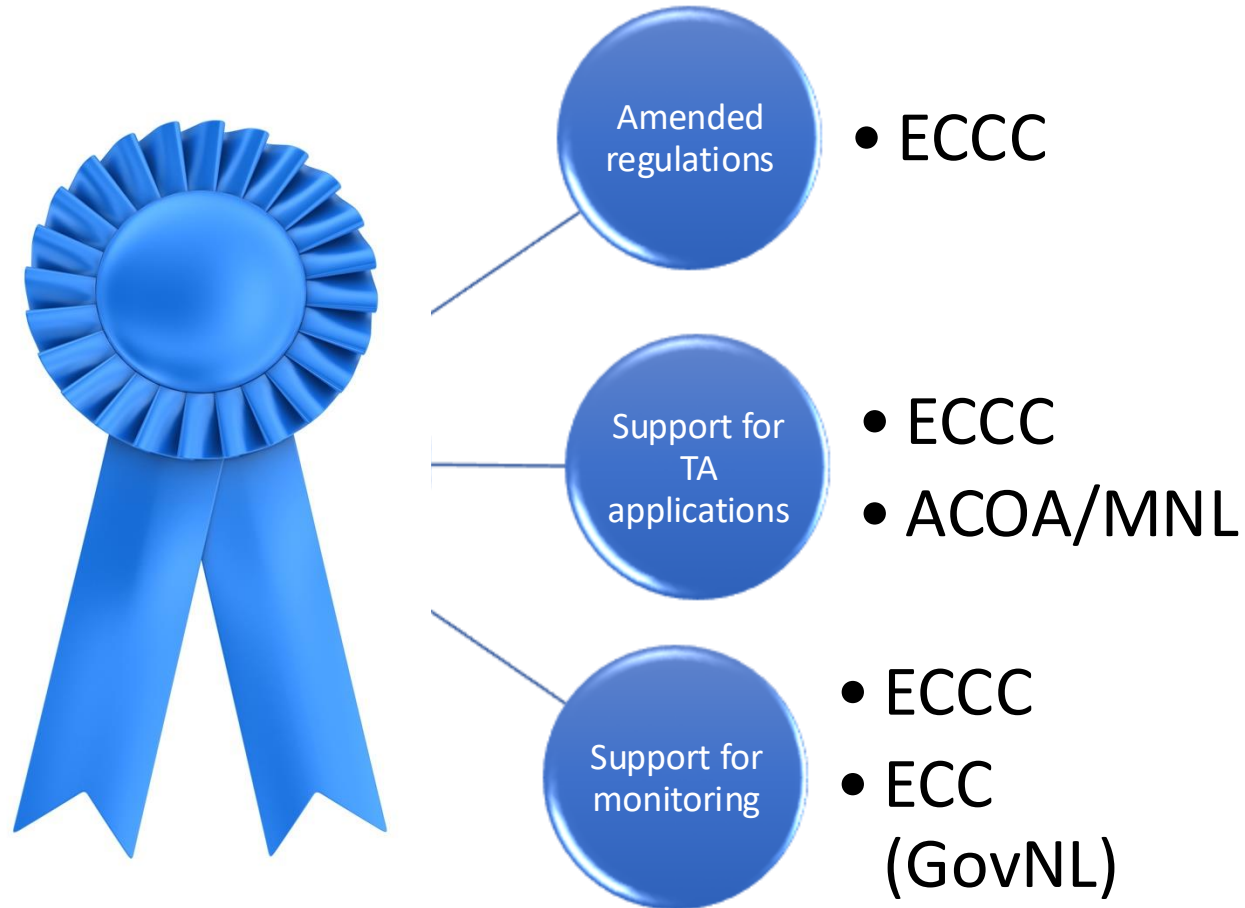
Amendments to the Regulations are in three key areas:

- Reopening transitional authorizations to give eligible communities time to upgrade their wastewater treatment system
- Expanding temporary bypass authorizations to allow planned releases from sewer systems
- Improving overall clarity and consistency



With the amended regulations
in place, we must set
municipalities up for success.

We can do this by working together



Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations Capacity Building and Compliance Officers

The Proposal

MNL is proposing to hire two Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations Capacity Building and Compliance Officers to work with municipalities across Newfoundland and Labrador to respond to requirements outlined in the amended regulations (published June 5, 2024). These positions would work with municipal councils and staff to help them understand what is required of them to reach compliance under the WSER; assist with understanding their wastewater monitoring data; complete applications for transitional authorizations and support planning forward for wastewater treatment systems, including informing them of what funding options are available.

Funding to support wastewater monitoring training

1-2024

Wastewater Monitoring in Small Communities

Active



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to provide the necessary training to the local employees to read, report, and complete maintenance/repairs to the flow meters.

[infrastructure](#) [wastewater](#)

Number	1-2024
Year	2024
Category	A
Town/Sponsor	Town of Mary's Harbour
Status	Active

1-2024 Wastewater Monitoring in Small Communities

Town of Mary's Harbour

Updates

- Commitment from ECCC to support **alternative wastewater monitoring training** resources
- Ongoing support from ECCC to assist municipalities with their transitional authorization applications (**17 approved; 8 in process; 11 in discussion phase**)
- Commitment from ECC (GovNL) to provide wastewater monitoring training
- **Funding announced in Provincial budget of \$100,000** annually to support municipalities to monitor in house.

Things to consider in your TA application

- You do not need to contract out the application process
- You can consolidate your outfalls as part of the application (and it doesn't have to stay that way)
- You don't need to have a fulsome plan for your treatment solution for your TA application at the time of application.



Support for your TA application

ECCC Wastewater Division:
eu-ww@ec.gc.ca

Options for system funding

- Canada Community Building Fund
- Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund

Next steps

- Information sessions with ECCC specifically for Newfoundland and Labrador



Thank you!

Questions and Discussion