

Firms to guarantee quality of wastewater

Sewage services companies now operate under new laws.

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Sewerage service companies in Abu Dhabi will now be required to guarantee the quality of wastewater delivered to users after the Regulation and Supervision Bureau (RSB) of Abu Dhabi, the independent regulatory body for the emirate's water, wastewater and electricity sector, announced two new regulations that came into effect yesterday.

Concluding a three-year consultation process across the wastewater sector, the Trade Effluent Control Regulations govern all non-domestic discharges into the emirate's sewerage system. Previously, the RSB said, there were no formal controls over what businesses were allowed to discharge. This posed a risk to the wastewater treatment system and to the environment.

Under the new regulations, wastewater companies, including ADSSC and ZonesCorp, are empowered to ask companies to obtain consent for their wastewater before discharging it into the sewerage system. Sewerage service companies are also required to maintain trade effluent registers recording the activities of organisations discharging wastewater into the system.

Recycled water and bio solids are the products of wastewater treatment process and a valuable resource for meeting the emirate's sustainable development goals, according to the RSB. The Recycled Water and Bio solids Regulations ensure the standards to treated wastewater in Abu Dhabi. These standards will maximise the opportunity to reuse products in eco-friendly ways.