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POTW Influent PFAS Study & National Sewage Sludge Survey Questionnaire

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS (POTW) INFLUENT PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) STUDY AND NATIONAL SEWAGE SLUDGE SURVEY (NSSS)

Questionnaire ID:_____

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This collection of information is approved by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 USC 3501 et seq. (OMB Control No. 2040-NEW). Responses to this collection of information are mandatory (Section 308 of the Clean Water Act (Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 USC Section 1318)). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to be up to 24 hours per questionnaire response for facilities completing all sections. The EPA estimates the total burden to the industry for responding to the questionnaire to be 9,240 hours or $0.61 million. Send comments on the EPA's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden to the Regulatory Support Division Director, United States Environmental Protection Agency (2821T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed questionnaire to this address.

To comment on the EPA's need for this collection, the accuracy of the provided burden estimate, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden the EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0580, which is available for public viewing at the Water Docket in the EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20004. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Water Docket is (202) 566-2426. An electronic version of the public docket is available through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at http://www.regulations.gov. Use FDMS to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the public docket, and access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select "search", then key in the docket ID number identified above. Include the EPA Docket ID No. (EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0580) in any correspondence.

July 2024

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS FILE

This file is a draft questionnaire developed for public and White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review and comment following the EPA's publication of the second *Federal Register* notice for the information collection request (ICR).

NOTE 1. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will require, through an OMB-approved ICR, a subset of publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) across the United States to complete an electronic questionnaire and conduct wastewater and sewage sludge sampling. This data collection will support two separate studies – the POTW Influent PFAS Study and the National Sewage Sludge Survey (NSSS). For the POTW Influent PFAS Study, the goal of this data collection is to better understand industrial and domestic wastewater discharges of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into the environment and the data collected will primarily be used to identify and prioritize industrial point source categories where additional study or regulations may be warranted to control PFAS discharges. This data collection will also satisfy the needs of the NSSS and inform the EPA Biosolids Program's upcoming risk assessments and the need for future regulations and guidance pertaining to the management of sewage sludge.

NOTE 2. The EPA will require approximately 400 POTWs (individual wastewater treatment plants as defined in the GLOSSARY) with the daily design flow rates greater than or equal to 10 million gallons per day (MGD) and a service population greater than or equal to 50,000 people to complete a mandatory electronic questionnaire. The objectives of the questionnaire will be to gather POTW-specific information and data on significant industrial users (SIUs) discharging to the POTW, known or suspected sources of PFAS discharges to the POTW, and wastewater and sewage sludge management practices of the POTW. The EPA will use the information and data collected in the questionnaire to select 200 to 300 of the 400 POTWs to participate in a two-phase sampling program. Phase I sampling will support the POTW Influent PFAS Study and will require each selected POTW to collect and analyze one-time grab samples of industrial user effluent, domestic wastewater or sewage, POTW influent, and POTW effluent for PFAS and adsorbable organic fluorine (AOF). For each POTW selected, the EPA will specify approximately 10 industrial users for which the POTW must collect and analyze effluent samples. The total number of industrial users sampled as part of the sampling program will be approximately 2,000 facilities. Phase II sampling will support the NSSS and will require selected POTWs to collect and analyze one-time grab samples of sewage sludge for PFAS and ancillary parameters. Phase II sampling will not begin until Phase I sampling is complete.

NOTE 3. The questionnaire will be administered as a web-based, electronic questionnaire using Qualtrics Survey Software (Qualtrics). The EPA will require all POTWs to which it mails a notification letter to complete and submit the Qualtrics questionnaire. The Qualtrics questionnaire does not need to be completed in a single session. Respondents can return to the questionnaire as many times as is necessary for completion of the questionnaire. Responses to each question will be automatically saved as respondents progress through the questionnaire.

NOTE 4. The EPA will offer an unofficial PDF version that may be downloaded and used by respondents as a working file to help them compile all information prior to completing the Qualtrics version. The content of the PDF and Qualtrics versions will match, but the order, presentation, format, and spacing of the questions may differ. POTWs are required to submit a completed questionnaire via Qualtrics; POTWs should not submit their responses in an unofficial PDF version of the questionnaire. The unofficial PDF version of the questionnaire and additional resources will be available for download in Qualtrics. These additional resources are described below but are not included in this draft version of the questionnaire.

- General instructions describing the questionnaire; the requirement to respond to the questionnaire; procedures for accessing, completing, and submitting the questionnaire; the deadline for submitting the completed questionnaire; and contact information for a helpline for questionnaire assistance.
- Facility-specific letter mailed via a trackable shipment service to each respondent notifying them of the requirement to complete the questionnaire and including unique credentials to securely access the questionnaire.
- A list of abbreviations and glossary defining key technical terms used in the questionnaire.
- Answers to frequently asked questions regarding the scope and requirements of the questionnaire and sampling program.

NOTE 5. For the purposes of this draft, all tables include minimal rows for data entry; these tables are intended to show the types of data the EPA is requesting. In the final Qualtrics questionnaire, all tables will include enough rows for respondents.

NOTE 6. The EPA prepared the questionnaire to be applicable to a variety of facilities; therefore, not all questions will apply to every facility. This draft questionnaire includes instructions to note when respondents do not need to complete a part or question. Skipped questions and sections will be programmed in Qualtrics and written instructions omitted. As such, respondents will not see the questions or sections that are skipped based on their responses. Instructions on identifying applicable questions are included in this draft to show what will be included in the unofficial PDF questionnaire and demonstrate the intended questionnaire flow.

NOTE 7. This questionnaire is being conducted under the authority of Section 308 of the Clean Water Act (Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 USC Section 1318). Failure to respond, late filing, or failure to comply with the instructions may result in fines, civil penalties, and other sanctions, as provided by law.

QUESTIONNAIRE INSTRUCTIONS

Read the General Instructions, available for download once you log into Qualtrics, before beginning your questionnaire.

Unless otherwise noted, the EPA requests information for calendar year 2023.

This questionnaire should be completed by personnel most knowledgeable about the wastewater management operations of the facility.

Carefully read all instructions throughout the questionnaire. Contact the EPA POTW Influent PFAS Study and NSSS Questionnaire Helpline (Helpline) if you do not understand a question or how to respond.

Review the resources provided to help you respond to the questionnaire. The General Instructions, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and Abbreviations and Glossary files are provided to assist you in understanding and completing the questionnaire. These resources are available for download in Qualtrics. If you are unable to resolve your questions using these resources, contact the Helpline.

Complete this questionnaire for your entire facility. Your responses should reflect all wastewater treatment operations conducted at one contiguous physical location. For purposes of this data collection, a POTW is an individual or standalone wastewater treatment plant.

Enter a response for each question to which you are directed. You should complete the questions in sequence (that is, questions should not be skipped or completed out of order). The EPA prepared the questionnaire to be applicable to a variety of facilities; therefore, not all questions will apply to every facility. Enter a response to all questions for all sections of the questionnaire as instructed. The questionnaire includes instructions to note when you do not need to complete a section or question based on your responses to previous questions. If the space allowed for the answer is inadequate for your complete response, continue the response in Section 6 (Comments).

Enter "0" (zero) where appropriate; do not leave an entry blank if the answer is zero.

Provide data in the requested units of measure. If you are unable to provide the response in the units specified, enter a comment in Section 6 (Comments) explaining the alternate units used.

Enter numerical values without commas. Some questions require you to report a number value (e.g., flow rate) which may be in the thousands or millions. In these situations, you should enter only the number as your response – exclude comma separators (e.g., enter "1000" rather than "1,000").

The EPA is not requesting you perform non-routine tests or measurements solely for the purpose of responding to this questionnaire. If exact data or information are not available, provide an estimate using best professional judgement. Note the basis for any estimates in Section 6 (Comments).

Retain a copy of your completed questionnaire, along with submitted files and data sources used to complete your response, for two years. You will not be able to access the questionnaire after it has been certified and submitted to the EPA. The Qualtrics questionnaire will instruct you to save an electronic version following completion of all applicable questions and certification. The EPA may request your cooperation in clarifying responses if necessary.

Use Section 6 (Comments) to clarify a response or provide additional detail. You may elect to provide any comments, additional information/detail, or clarifications on your response to each question in Section 6 (Comments). You may also provide the basis for any estimations, note where alternate units were used in your response, or indicate if information provided for calendar year 2023 is not representative of normal operations. Year-to-year operations are expected to fluctuate; however, you may indicate if information provided for calendar year 2023 is not representative of typical wastewater management at the facility and explain why (e.g., supply chain disruptions, economic conditions, plant maintenances/upgrades).

ABBREVIATIONS

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIU	categorical industrial user
CSO	combined sewer overflows
DAF	dissolved air flotation
DMT	dry metric ton
ELGs	effluent limitations guidelines and standards
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
gal	gallons
GPEA	1998 Government Paperwork Elimination Act
ICR	information collection request
MGD	million gallons per day
MGY	million gallons per year
mm/dd/yyyy	month/day/year
N/A	not applicable
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NSSS	National Sewage Sludge Survey
OMB	White House Office of Management and Budget
PFAS	per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
POTW	publicly owned treatment works
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RL	reporting limit
SBR	sequencing batch reactor
SIU	significant industrial user
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure
SSO	sanitary sewer overflows
WFD	wastewater flow diagram

GLOSSARY

Activated Sludge: A biological wastewater treatment process in which a flocculent culture of organisms is developed in aeration tanks under controlled conditions. The activated sludge process is used to speed up natural aerobic digestion in wastewater and is also known as activated biosolids or waste activated solids.

Aerobic Digestion: The natural process in which microorganisms break down organic materials in the presence of available oxygen molecules.

Anaerobic Digestion: The natural process in which microorganisms break down organic materials in a closed space where there is no oxygen.

Adsorption/Adsorptive Media: Removal of a pollutant from air or water by collecting the pollutant on the surface of a solid material (e.g., method of treating waste in which activated carbon removes pollutants from vented gases or wastewater).

Analytical Method: Laboratory test procedures that are used to analyze the chemical, physical, and biological components of wastewater and other environmental samples.

Approval Authority: Refers to the director in an NPDES authorized state with an approved state pretreatment program. Refers to the appropriate EPA Regional Administrator in a non-NPDES authorized state or NPDES state without an approved state pretreatment program. 40 CFR §403.3.

Belt Filter Press: A device that applies pressure to wastewater residuals (i.e., sewage sludge) to remove water and produce a non-liquid material.

Biological Treatment: Wastewater treatment intended to degrade and reduce organic matter in wastewater, primarily in the form of soluble organic compounds.

Biosolids: Sewage sludge treated to meet the requirements in 40 CFR §503 and intended to be applied to land as a soil amendment or fertilizer.

Biosolids Annual Report: Reports collected annually from 41 states where the EPA implements the federal Biosolids Program. Wastewater treatment plants that meet applicability requirements and either land apply, dispose, or incinerate sludge are required to submit an annual report to their permitting authority by February 19 of each year.

Categorical Industrial User (CIU): An industrial user subject to categorical pretreatment standards or categorical standards.

Centrifugal Thickening and Dewatering: A high-speed process that uses the force from rapid rotation of a cylindrical bowl to separate wastewater solids from liquid.

Chemical Conditioning: Applying chemicals that help to enhance the characteristics of sewage sludge for subsequent processing.

Chemical Precipitation/Flocculation: Wastewater treatment unit that uses the addition of chemicals to alter the physical state of dissolved and suspended solids and facilitate their removal by sedimentation or filtration.

Clarification: A sedimentation process to remove solid particles from a liquid stream by gravitational force.

Class 1 Sludge Management Facility: Any POTW identified under 40 CFR §403.8(a) as being required to have an approved pretreatment program (including such POTWs located in a state that has elected to assume local program responsibilities pursuant to 40 CFR §403.10(e)) and any other wastewater treatment plant treating domestic sewage classified as a Class I sludge management facility by the Regional Administrator in conjunction with the State Program Director because of the potential for its sludge use or disposal practices to adversely affect public health or the environment.

Class A – Exceptional Quality (EQ) Biosolids: Biosolids that meet low-pollutant and Class A pathogen reduction (virtual absence of pathogens) limits and that have a reduced level of degradable compounds that attract vectors. Biosolids can also be considered Class A – Exceptional Quality if they meet the most stringent pollutant, pathogen, and vector attraction reduction requirements.

Class A Biosolids: Biosolids that meet the requirements for pollutants, pathogens, and vector attraction reduction, and general requirements for Class A biosolids listed in federal regulation 40 CFR Part 503.

Class B Biosolids: Biosolids that meet the requirements for pollutants, pathogens, and vector attraction reduction, and general requirements for Class B biosolids listed in federal regulation 40 CFR Part 503.

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): A codification of the final rules published daily in the *Federal Register*. Title 40 of the CFR contains the environmental regulations.

Commercial/Institutional Wastewater. Wastewater generated by or discharged from places of commercial business or institution (including retail shops, facilities offering general services, schools, laundries, and government buildings).

Control Authority: Refers to the publicly owned treatment works (POTW) if the POTW's Pretreatment Program Submission has been approved in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR §403.11. Refers to the approval authority if the POTW's Pretreatment Program Submission has not been approved. 40 CFR §403.3.

Design Flow: A wastewater flow rate, typically expressed in volume (gallons) per day, that the wastewater treatment plant was designed to process. Design capacity may be identified in the wastewater treatment plants' NPDES permit or design documentation.

Discharge: The conveyance of wastewater or any pollutant via an outfall to: (1) surface waters; or (2) a publicly owned, privately owned, federally owned, combined, or other wastewater treatment plant.

Disinfection: Destruction of pathogenic microorganisms in wastewater, typically achieved through chemical and/or physical treatment.

Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF): Wastewater treatment process which removes suspended solids, biochemical oxygen demand, and oils and greases from wastewater. Air is injected to create bubbles that rise to the surface with contaminants and are then removed using a surface skimmer.

Domestic Wastewater or Sewage: Wastewater generated by or discharged from places of residency (including standalone homes and apartment or condominium buildings) and predominantly from bathrooms (e.g., toilet, bath, shower, bathroom sink), kitchens (e.g., washing food, dishwashers, kitchen sink), laundry, and various domestic or residential activities. Includes septage and septic tank sludge, which is the liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank cesspool, portable toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or a similar system

Drying Bed: A sand bed on which sewage sludge is spread out and allowed to dry through evaporation and gravity drainage.

Effluent Limitation: Any restriction imposed on quantities, discharge rates, or concentrations of pollutants which are discharged into surface waters, the waters of the contiguous zone, or the ocean.

Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards: Regulations promulgated by the EPA under authority of Sections 301, 304, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act that set out minimum, national, technology-based standards of performance for point source wastewater discharges from specific industrial categories (e.g., iron and steel manufacturing plants). Effluent limitations guidelines and standards regulations are implemented through the NPDES permit and national pretreatment programs and include the following:

- Best Practicable Control Technology Currently Available (BPT)
- Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT)
- Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT)
- New Source Performance Standards (NSPS)
- Pretreatment Standards for Existing Sources (PSES)
- Pretreatment Standards for New Sources (PSNS)

The pretreatment standards (PSES, PSNS) are applicable to industrial facilities with process wastewater discharges to municipal wastewater treatment plants. The effluent limitations guidelines and new source performance standards (BPT, BAT, BCT, and NSPS) are applicable to industrial facilities with direct discharges of process wastewaters to surface waters.

Effluent: Wastewater flowing out of a process, unit, or system.

Equalization: Wastewater treatment unit used to dampen variations in flow rate and composition through the treatment system.

Gasification: A thermal wastewater treatment process that converts organic material into hydrogen gas, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide using elevated temperature and low-oxygen conditions.

Gas Stripping: A process of moving air through wastewater to remove volatile organic compounds (e.g., acetone, ethanol).

Granular Activated Carbon: Wastewater treatment media consisting of highly porous carbon material made from organic materials with high-carbon contents (such as wood, lignite, and coal) used to remove pollutants from water by adsorption.

Gravity Thickening: Thickening by using the natural tendency of higher-density solids to settle out of liquid to concentrate the solids.

Grit Removal: The use of sedimentation technologies to remove solid particle materials prior to primary wastewater treatment. Also referred to as degritting.

Groundwater: Underground water that resides within the cracks, crevices, and spaces in soil, sand, and rock. Groundwater is generated at a facility when it is resurfaced or withdrawn from the ground via a well or otherwise enters a facility's collection system.

Heat Drying: Applying heat from direct or indirect dryers to evaporate water from wastewater solids to reduce volume and improve the quality of wastewater sewage sludges.

Impoundment: A natural topographic depression, man-made excavation, or diked area formed from earthen materials or man-made materials or a combination of them that is designed to hold an accumulation of liquid process wastes or process wastes containing free liquids and is not an injection well. Examples of impoundments include holding, storage, settling, and aeration pits, ponds, and lagoons. Building sumps and outdoor collection/transfer concrete basins are not considered impoundments.

Incineration: A thermal treatment process involving the decomposition and combustion of organic matter at elevated temperature in the presence of oxygen.

Industrial User: A source of nondomestic wastewater discharge to an authorized wastewater treatment plant, such as from an industrial facility.

Industrial Wastewater: Wastewater generated by or discharged from facilities engaging in industrial activities (e.g., power generation, refining, surface finishing, manufacturing, waste management/landfills).

Influent: Wastewater flowing into a process, unit, or system.

Ion Exchange: Wastewater treatment unit based on the reversible exchange of ions adsorbed on a mineral or synthetic polymer surface with ions in solution in contact with the surface.

Irradiation: A process that uses Gamma rays, x-rays, or high-energy electrons to destroy or inactivate bacteria and viruses.

Lagoon (or Waste Stabilization Pond): Large, man-made, earthen ponds where sewage or wastewater effluent is treated via natural biochemical processes.

Land Application: The application of materials to land as a soil amendment or fertilizer.

Lime Treatment Stabilization: The use of lime (calcium hydroxide) to control the environment needed to grow of pathogens and precipitate metals present in sewage sludge.

Local Ordinance: A law or requirement established by a municipality, city, or other local government.

Maximum Design Flow: A wastewater treatment plant's designed maximum capacity, including capacity for diurnal variations, wet weather, safety factors, and/or other higher-than-average, sustained flow rates that may occur during any given 24-hour period. These are fixed values based on facility design that do not vary based on facility operation.

Media Filtration: A wastewater treatment unit that uses sand, coal, garnet, and/or other media to remove suspended or dissolved pollutants by straining.

Methane/Biogas Capture and Recovery: The capture of biogas from anaerobic digestion to be used as biofuel.

Microfiltration: A membrane filtration treatment process designed to separate particulate matter and bacteria from a liquid using a semi-permeable membrane.

Monitoring Requirement: A requirement to collect wastewater or sewage sludge monitoring or sampling data.

Municipality: A city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body created by or pursuant to state law and having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, or an authorized Tribal group, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act.

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant: A device or system owned and operated by a public entity and used in the storage, treatment, recycling, or reclamation of liquid municipal sewage and/or liquid industrial wastes. The sewerage system that conveys wastewaters to a wastewater treatment plant is considered part of the municipal wastewater treatment plant. Another term for a municipal wastewater treatment plant operated by a public entity is publicly owned treatment works (POTW).

Non-Industrial Wastewater: Wastewater that is not generated by or discharged from facilities engaging in industrial activities (e.g., power generation, refining, surface finishing, manufacturing, waste management/landfills). Examples of non-industrial wastewater include domestic wastewater or sewage, commercial/institutional wastewater, stormwater, and groundwater.

Nanofiltration: A membrane filtration treatment process designed to separate particulate, colloidal, and dissolved matter from a liquid using a semi-permeable membrane.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES): The national program authorized by Sections 307, 318, 402, and 405 of the Clean Water Act for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit: NPDES permits regulate discharges of pollutants from point sources to surface waters. Such discharges are illegal unless authorized by an NPDES permit. An NPDES permit number is assigned by the respective state or EPA Region and generally includes the state abbreviation in the number.

> **Biosolids NPDES ID:** NPDES assigned to POTWs required to submit a Biosolids Annual Report using the NPDES e-Reporting Tool (NeT).
>
> **General NPDES or Stormwater Permit:** A general permit covers a group of dischargers with similar qualities within a given geographical location.
>
> **Individual NPDES Permit:** A permit specifically tailored to an individual facility.

National Sewage Sludge Survey (NSSS). The EPA conducts National Sewage Sludge Surveys to identify the presence of pollutants in sewage sludge using samples collected from POTWs. The national contaminant concentration data generated by the NSSS can help inform future risk assessments and risk management options for sewage sludge.

Neutralization/pH Adjustment: Changing the acidity or alkalinity of a substance by adding alkaline or acidic materials, respectively.

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS): The standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the United States business economy. Each facility is categorized within a NAICS code based on the type of operations conducted at the facility (e.g., NAICS code 332813 is for Electroplating, Plating, Polishing, Anodizing, and Coloring).

Oil/Water Separation: A treatment unit that uses differences in specific gravity to separate water, oil, and sludge. In an oil/water separation unit, free oil rises to the surface and floats on water. The free oil that floats on the surface is skimmed off, while the sludge that settles to the bottom of the separation unit is removed periodically.

Outfall: A point where wastewater is discharged to a surface water or a municipal wastewater treatment plant.

Oxidation/Orbital Ditch: A modified activated sludge biological treatment process that uses long retention times to remove biodegradable organics. Also called a racetrack or raceway ditch.

Pasteurization: A thermal treatment process to reduce pathogens in sewage sludge wherein the temperature of sewage sludge is maintained at 70°C or higher for 30 minutes or longer.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS): Per- and polyfluorinated substances that structurally contain the unit R-(CF_2)-C(F)(R')R,'' where both the Difluoromethylene (CF_2) and CF moieties are saturated carbons and none of the R groups (R, R', or R'') can be hydrogen.

Point Source: Any discernible, confined, or discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, or conduit, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

Polymer Addition Conditioning: The use of polymer additives to increase water removal from sewage sludge.

Pretreatment: The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a POTW. The reduction or alteration may be obtained by physical, chemical or biological processes, process changes or by other means, except as prohibited by § 403.6(d).

Pretreatment Program: A program run by local municipality to control industrial or commercial wastewater discharges from industrial and commercial sources into municipal sewer systems.

Pretreatment Standard: Any restriction imposed on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of pollutants which are discharged from point sources to a municipal wastewater treatment plant.

Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW): An individual or standalone wastewater treatment plant as defined by Section 212 of the Clean Water Act, which is owned by a state or municipality (as defined by Section 502(4) of the Clean Water Act). This definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of domestic wastewater or sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. 40 CFR §403.3 (General Pretreatment Regulations for Existing and New Sources of Pollution).[1]

[1] To simplify and provide clarity throughout this questionnaire, the population of interest includes wastewater treatment plants which store, treat, recycle, or reclaim municipal sewage or liquid industrial wastes and are owned or operated by a state, local government, municipality, or Tribal group. The population of interest does not include federally-owned or privately-owned facilities, and does not include dedicated flow control entities such as Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) and Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs).

Pyrolysis: A thermal treatment process involving the decomposition of organic matter at elevated temperatures in the absence of oxygen and under substantially dry conditions, resulting in a biochar solid product, a bio oil, and methane gas.

Regulatory Agency: An entity, usually a branch of state or federal government, that enforces environmental, health, or safety related requirements set by set by law or permits.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): A federal statute regulating the management of hazardous waste from its generation through ultimate disposal. The RCRA contains requirements for waste generators, transporters, and owners and operators of treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (43 USC 6901 et seq.).

Reverse Osmosis: A membrane filtration treatment process designed to separate particulate, colloidal, and dissolved matter from a liquid using a semi-permeable membrane.

Sequencing Batch Reactor: A fill-and-draw activated sludge system for wastewater treatment. In this system, wastewater is added to a single "batch" reactor, treated to remove undesirable components, and then discharged.

Sewage Sludge: The solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a wastewater treatment plant. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to, domestic septage; scum or solids removed in primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes; and a material derived from sewage sludge. Sewage sludge does not include ash generated during the firing of sewage sludge in a sewage sludge incinerator or grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works. 40 CFR §503.9(w)[2].

Significant Industrial User (SIU): All users subject to categorical pretreatment standards under 40 CFR §403.6 and 40 CFR Part I Subpart N, except those designated as nonsignificant categorical industrial users; and any other industrial user that discharges an average of 25,000 gallons per day or more of process wastewater to the wastewater treatment plant (excluding sanitary, noncontact cooling, and boiler blowdown wastewater); contributes a process wastestream that makes up 5 percent or more of the average dry-weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the wastewater treatment plant; or is designated as such by the POTW on the basis that the industrial user has a reasonable potential for adversely affecting the wastewater treatment plant's operation or for violating any pretreatment standard or requirement [in accordance with 40 CFR §403.8(f)(6)].

Sludge Grinding: The use of mechanical grinding or shredding to reduce oversized solids in a wastewater treatment system.

Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan: A plan prepared by an industrial user to minimize the likelihood of a spill and to expedite control and cleanup activities if a spill occurs.

Stormwater: Water flow from precipitation (rain, snowmelt, etc.) that enters a facility's collection system. Includes precipitation that enters combined sewer systems and separate sewer systems.

Supercritical Water Oxidation: A process used to destroy hazardous waste compounds using temperatures above 374°C (705°F) and pressures of at least 221.1 bar to create "supercritical" conditions and accelerate chemical oxidation processes.

[2] Clean Water Act regulations codified at 40 CFR §503 (Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge) govern minimum requirements for sludge quality, management practices, and monitoring and reporting applicable to the generation or stabilization of sewage sludge from a wastewater treatment plant treating domestic sewage or use or disposal of that sewage sludge by any person. These regulations ensure that sewage sludges meet federal requirements when they are: 1) applied to land as a fertilizer or soil amendment; 2) placed in a surface disposal site (e.g., sewage sludge-only landfills); or 3) incinerated in a sewage sludge incinerator.

Surface Water: Waters of the United States as is consistent with September 8, 2023 rulemaking, as specified in 40 CFR 120 (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/chapter-I/subchapter-D/part-120).

Thermal Hydrolysis: A high pressure steam pretreatment for anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge.

Thickening (or Sludge Thickening): The process by which sewage sludge is condensed to produce a concentrated solids product and a relatively solids-free supernatant.

Ultrafiltration: A membrane filtration treatment process designed to separate particulate and colloidal matter from a liquid using a semi-permeable membrane.

Underground Injection: Long-term or permanent disposal of untreated, partially treated, or treated wastewaters by pumping the wastewater into underground formations of suitable character through a bored, drilled, or driven well. Sometimes referred to as "subsurface injection" or "deep-well injection."

Underground Injection Control Permit: Permits that regulate discharges of wastestreams into underground formations of suitable character. Such discharges are illegal unless authorized by a permit.

Vacuum Filter: A sludge dewatering process that uses a drum-like filter that creates a vacuum in the center and draws water out of sewage sludge.

Waste Stabilization Pond: Large, man-made, earthen ponds where sewage or wastewater effluent is treated via natural biochemical processes.

Wastewater: Includes process wastewater, non-process wastewater, process area stormwater, non-process area stormwater, air emission control wastewater, third-party wastewater, sanitary wastewater, and groundwater.

Wastewater Treatment: The processing of wastewater by physical, chemical, biological, or other means to remove specific pollutants from the wastewater or to alter the physical or chemical state of specific pollutants in the wastewater. Treatment is performed for discharge of treated wastewater, recycle of treated wastewater to the same process which generated the wastewater, or for reuse of the treated wastewater in another process**.**

Wastewater Treatment System: A combination of one or more wastewater treatment units designed to achieve wastewater treatment.

Wastewater Treatment Unit: A unit operation used to remove pollutants from wastewater. Wastewater treatment units include, but are not limited to, pond/impoundments, chemical precipitation, pH adjustment, clarification, biological reactor, thickeners, filters, constructed wetlands, activated carbon adsorption, ion exchange, and membrane filtration.

Water Discharge Permit: Documentation of authorization to discharge wastewater to a surface water or municipal wastewater treatment plant. Another term for water discharge permit is wastewater discharge permit. Also see definition for NPDES permit.

Wetland/Vegetative Pond: Constructed wetlands are treatment systems that use natural processes involving wetland vegetation, soils, and their associated microbial assemblages to improve water quality.

SECTION 1. GENERAL FACILITY AND PERMIT INFORMATION

1. Provide the facility name, physical address, and name of the municipal authority/service agency that operates the POTW.

Facility Name

Municipal Authority/Service Agency Name

Facility Street Address Line 1

Facility Street Address Line 2 (if applicable)

City | State/Territory | ZIP Code

Does the facility's mailing address differ from the physical address reported above?

☐ No

☐ Yes. Provide the facility's mailing address.

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2 (if applicable)

City | State/Territory | ZIP Code

2. Provide the name, title, phone number, and email, for a primary and secondary contact for information reported in this questionnaire response.

Primary Contact Name | Primary Contact Title

Phone Number | Phone Extension (if applicable) | Email

Secondary Contact Name | Secondary Contact Title

Phone Number | Phone Extension (if applicable) | Email

3. Was the facility regulated by any water discharge permits or requirements (e.g., general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit; individual NPDES permit; underground injection control permit; local ordinance; Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan) or sewage sludge permits or requirements (e.g., state permit for sewage sludge management) in calendar year 2023?

   ☐ No. The facility did not have any permits/requirements for water discharges or sewage sludge in 2023.

   ☐ Yes. The facility did have one or more permits/requirements for water discharges or sewage sludge in 2023. Complete a row in Table 3 for each applicable permit and requirement and report the identification or permit number, the type of requirement, the regulatory agency, and the expiration date. If your state is authorized through the NPDES Program to be the permitting authority for sewage sludge, then select the "State permit for sewage sludge management" option below. Specify whether the permit or requirement includes monitoring requirements for any per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and, if so, specify the method required or used to analyze samples.

   - Do not include the following types of permits: air emissions, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste handling, construction permits, erosion and sediment control permits associated with construction activities, temporary or general permits for hydrostatic testing water, water obstruction and encroachment permits, and water allocation permits.
   - Do not include any permits and requirements that did not apply to the facility in calendar year 2023 (e.g., permits that have expired or been superseded). Include administratively continued permits if they are the basis for the facility's current water discharge or sewage sludge requirements.

Table 3. Water Discharge and Sewage Sludge Permits and Requirements for 2023

Identification or Permit Number (enter "None" if not applicable)	**Type of Requirement** (select only one)	**Regulatory Agency** (enter "None" if not applicable)	**Expiration Date** (mm/dd/yyyy)	**Includes Monitoring Requirements or Limitations for PFAS?**
	☐ General NPDES ☐ Individual NPDES permit ☐ State permit for sewage sludge management ☐ Underground injection control permit ☐ Local ordinance ☐ SPCC Plan ☐ Other, specify: _____		__ / __ / ____	☐ No ☐ Yes. Specify method(s) used to analyze samples: _____
	☐ General NPDES ☐ Individual NPDES permit ☐ State permit for sewage sludge management ☐ Underground injection control permit ☐ Local ordinance ☐ SPCC Plan ☐ Other, specify: _____		__ / __ / ____	☐ No ☐ Yes. Specify method(s) used to analyze samples: _____

4. Has the facility completed a NPDES Permitting Program Application Form 2S: New and Existing Treatment Works Treating Domestic Sewage, or the equivalent state form?

   ☐ No.

   ☐ Yes. Specify the regulatory agency receiving Form 2S (or the state equivalent form), and date the facility submitted the most recent form below. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement. Upload a completed copy of the form in pdf format. Where multiple files are being provided, combine all pages/files into a single file (e.g., combine PDF files, create a compressed ZIP file). Title the file following this format: "POTW####_ Question 4_Form2S.pdf" using your assigned Questionnaire ID. If you are uploading a state equivalent form, title the file following this format: “POTW####_Question4_FormXX.pdf”, where XX is replaced with the state form name/ID. Include any attachments that were submitted with the form. You may upload one file. See the General Instructions file for guidance on submitting electronic copies of attachments via Qualtrics.

   Regulatory agency receiving the form: _____

   Date the facility submitted the most recent Form 2S, or state equivalent (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

SECTION 2. WASTEWATER INFLUENT AND INDUSTRIAL SOURCES

5. In Table 5, report the facility's design maximum daily influent flow rate, annual average daily influent flow rate, and seasonal average daily influent flow rates for calendar year 2023. Report daily flow rates in millions of gallons per day (MGD) to at least one decimal place (e.g., 12.3 MGD). If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

Table 5. Facility Influent Daily Flow Rates for 2023

Flow Rate Measurements	Influent Flow Rate (in MGD)
Design Maximum Daily Influent Flow Rate	
Average Daily Influent Flow Rate for 2023	
Average Daily Influent Flow Rate for January – March 2023	
Average Daily Influent Flow Rate for April – June 2023	
Average Daily Influent Flow Rate for July – September 2023	
Average Daily Influent Flow Rate for October – December 2023	

6. Report the total influent flow rate to the facility in millions of gallons per year (MGY) for calendar year 2023. Report annual flow rate in MGY to at least one decimal place (e.g., 4489.5 MGY). If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

2023 total influent flow rate to the facility: _____ MGY

7. In Table 7, estimate the relative contribution of industrial wastewater and non-industrial wastewater (e.g., domestic wastewater or sewage, commercial/institutional wastewater, stormwater) to the 2023 total influent flow reported in Question 6.[3] Relative contributions of each type of wastewater may be reported as a gross flow rate in MGY or as a percent of the total influent flow rate. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

Where possible, report the relative contributions of each type of non-industrial wastewater separately. If the facility does not measure or distinguish between non-industrial wastewater influents, report only the estimated total non-industrial wastewater influent flow rate (i.e., the sum of these non-industrial wastewater influent flows).

Table 7. Facility Total Influent Flow Rate and Relative Contributions to Total Flow in 2023

Type of Wastewater	Units of Measure (select only one)	Annual Flow Rate or Relative Contribution of 2023 Total Influent Flow (enter 0 if not applicable)
Industrial wastewater	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Non-industrial wastewater	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Domestic wastewater or sewage (optional)	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Commercial/institutional wastewater (optional)	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Stormwater (optional)	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Groundwater (optional)	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Other (optional), specify: _____	☐ MGY ☐ %	
Other (optional), specify: _____	☐ MGY ☐ %	

[3] The GLOSSARY defines industrial wastewater, non-industrial wastewater, and each type of non-industrial wastewater.

8. Did the facility administer a local pretreatment program as regulated by 40 CFR §403.8(a) in calendar year 2023?

   ☐ No.

   ☐ Yes. Specify the approval authority authorized to administer the local pretreatment program (e.g., the director in an NPDES authorized state with an approved state pretreatment program, or the appropriate EPA regional administrator in a non-NPDES authorized state or NPDES state without an approved state pretreatment program).

   _____

   Approval Authority

9. Report all significant industrial users (SIUs) permitted to discharge to the POTW in calendar year 2023. If the POTW is aware of any non-SIU facilities that are significant sources of PFAS to the POTW, also report up to 10 of the most significant known or suspected non-SIU sources of PFAS to the POTW.

   Note: Only SIUs are required to be reported in the SIUs & Other PFAS Sources worksheet. Non-SIU facilities may be reported as known or suspected sources of PFAS to the POTW if the information requested is readily available or the respondent has reasonable cause. However, submission of information on known or suspected sources of PFAS to the POTW is not required and is provided at the discretion of the respondent. The respondent is not required to generate or collect new data to complete this question. If there is uncertainty or inadequate available data to identify a discharger as a known or suspected PFAS source, select "Unknown" from the drop-down menu when prompted. You may report any rationale for why a facility is a known or suspected PFAS source in the Notes field.

   Download the template file titled "Questionnaire ID_Question 9_SIUs and Non-SIU PFAS Sources.xlsx", read the Instructions worksheet, enter the required information for each applicable facility into the SIUs & Non-SIU PFAS Sources worksheet, and upload a copy of the completed workbook. See the Instructions worksheet of the template file for additional information on what should be included in your response.

   Download template file here: **Questionnaire ID_Question 9_SIUs and Non-SIU PFAS Sources.xlsx**

   Upload a completed copy of the template file in workbook (e.g., xls, xlsx) format. Title the file following this format: "POTW####_ Question 9_SIUs and Non-SIU PFAS Sources.xlsx" using your assigned Questionnaire ID. You may upload one file. See the General Instructions file for guidance on submitting electronic copies of workbooks and other attachments via Qualtrics.

SECTION 3. WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

10. To understand the facility's wastewater treatment system configuration, management practices, and potential sampling points, the EPA is requiring the facility to provide one or more wastewater treatment diagrams depicting the source, wastewater treatment/management practices, and destination of wastewaters transferred to the wastewater treatment system in calendar year 2023. The diagram(s) should include and clearly label the following information and data:

    - the facility name and/or Questionnaire ID;
    - each influent stream entering the wastewater treatment system;
    - each wastewater treatment unit and solids treatment/stabilization unit operated on site;[4]
    - the influent and effluent for each treatment unit (aqueous and solid streams);
    - all interim and final destinations of effluent from wastewater and solids treatment (include outfalls names where applicable); and
    - wastewater and solids pollutant monitoring and PFAS sample collection locations at the facility (e.g., sample collection locations for discharge monitoring or compliance).

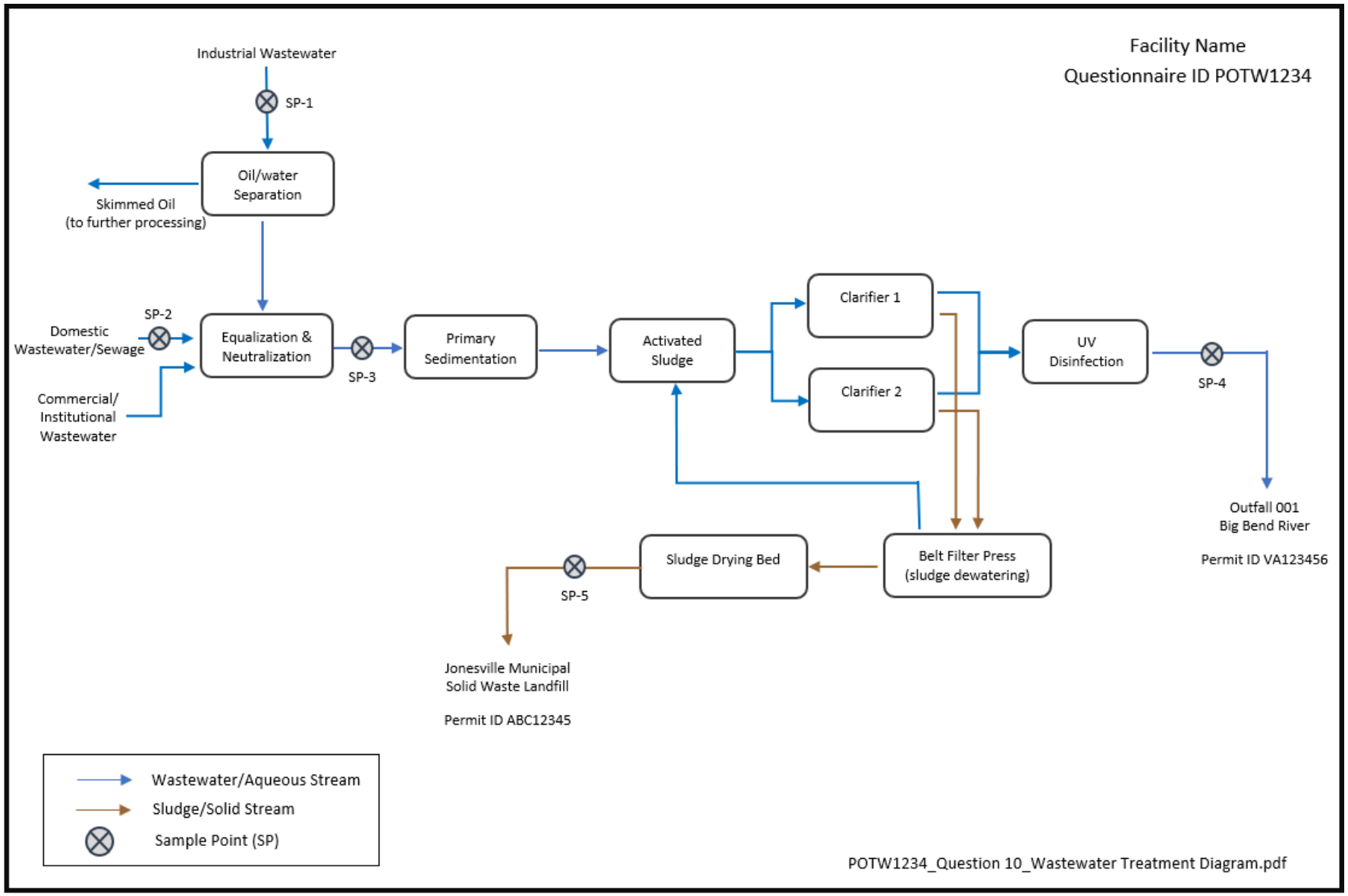
    The diagram should illustrate the flow of wastewater through the facility; all wastewaters should either be entering another operation or wastewater treatment unit shown on the diagram or the next destination should be noted (e.g., Outfall 001). If applicable, indicate where any wastewater is reused or recycled within the facility. Wastewater flow rate data may be included on the diagram but are not required.

    You are **NOT** required to create a new wastewater flow diagram if an existing diagram will suffice. You may submit an existing diagram, such as one included in a permit application, and mark the additional required information on the diagram. You may use a diagram from previous years, as long as the diagram is still representative of 2023 or current operations. Provide as many pages of diagrams as necessary to convey the information requested above. See the example diagram in Figure 10 for the level of detail requested.

    Upload copies of all applicable wastewater treatment diagrams in one of the following file types: PDF, ZIP, text document (e.g., docx), graphic file (e.g., jpg, png), or workbook (e.g., xls, xlsx). You may upload one file. Where multiple pages are required or multiple diagrams are being provided, combine all pages/diagrams into a single file (e.g., combine PDF files, create a compressed ZIP file). Title the file following this format: "POTW####_Question 10_Wastewater Treatment Diagram" using your assigned Questionnaire ID. See the General Instructions file for guidance on submitting electronic copies of wastewater treatment diagrams and other attachments via Qualtrics.

[4] Where multiple units of the same type are present at the facility (e.g., the facility operates two clarifiers), each should be depicted separately on the diagram and identified.

Figure 10. Example Wastewater Treatment Diagram



11. Identify the wastewater treatment technologies operated at the facility to treat wastewater at any time during calendar year 2023. A list of common wastewater treatment technologies is presented below and these terms are defined in the GLOSSARY. If a wastewater treatment technology was operated that is not included in the list, or if a unique variation of a listed technology operated, include this information in the space provided after "Other, specify". Select all that apply.

Preliminary Operations

- ☐ Equalization
- ☐ Neutralization/pH adjustment
- ☐ Oil/water separation
- ☐ Grit removal
- ☐ Screening

Physical/Chemical Treatment

- ☐ Primary clarification/sedimentation
- ☐ Secondary clarification/sedimentation
- ☐ Tertiary clarification/sedimentation
- ☐ Chemical precipitation/ flocculation
- ☐ Ion exchange
- ☐ Granular activated carbon
- ☐ Other adsorptive media
- ☐ Media filtration
- ☐ Surface filtration
- ☐ Microfiltration or ultrafiltration
- ☐ Nanofiltration
- ☐ Reverse osmosis
- ☐ Gas stripping
- ☐ Dissolved air flotation (DAF)

Biological Treatment

- ☐ Activated sludge
- ☐ Oxidation or orbital ditch
- ☐ Sequencing batch reactor (SBR)
- ☐ Waste stabilization pond
- ☐ Lagoon
- ☐ Wetland or vegetative pond
- ☐ Terrestrial treatment
- ☐ Trickling filter system
- ☐ Membrane bioreactor (MBR)
- ☐ Other biological treatment, specify: _____

Disinfection

- ☐ Chlorine disinfection
- ☐ Other Chemical disinfection, specify: _____
- ☐ UV disinfection

Other

- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ Other, specify: _____

List all the treatment systems, if any, from the list above that were installed or operated specifically to treat, remove, or destroy PFAS:

☐ None of the wastewater treatment technologies selected above were installed or are operated to treat, remove, or destroy PFAS.

☐ Wastewater treatment technologies installed or operated specifically to treat, remove, or destroy PFAS:

_____

12. In Table 12, report the total flow rate, in MGY, of treated wastewater transferred to each final destination during calendar year 2023. The sum of flow rates to all destinations should equal the total treated wastewater flow rate for 2023. If your facility did not transfer any wastewater to the destination during calendar year 2023, enter "0" (zero) into the "Treated Wastewater Flow Rate for 2023" column. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

Table 12. Treated Wastewater Destinations in 2023

Final Destination	**Treated Wastewater Flow Rate for 2023** (in MGY; enter 0 if not applicable)
Discharged to surface water	
Land applied (onsite or offsite, including irrigation)	
Onsite underground injection	
Offsite underground injection	
Onsite recycle/reuse	
Offsite recycle/reuse	
Onsite evaporation	
Offsite evaporation	
Offsite wastewater treatment	
Other, specify:_____	
Other, specify:_____	
Other, specify:_____	

Total treated wastewater flow rate for 2023: _____ MGY

SECTION 4. SEWAGE SLUDGE AND BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT

Key Terms

Sewage Sludge: The solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a wastewater treatment plant. Sewage sludge includes, but is not limited to, domestic septage; scum or solids removed in primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes; and a material derived from sewage sludge. Sewage sludge does not include ash generated during the firing of sewage sludge in a sewage sludge incinerator or grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works. 40 CFR §503.9(w). [5]

Biosolids: Sewage sludge treated to meet the requirements in 40 CFR §503 and intended to be applied to land as a soil amendment or fertilizer.

13. Did the POTW generate any sewage sludge during calendar year 2023?

☐ No. **Skip to Question 19.**

☐ Yes. Specify the total weight, in dry metric tons (DMT), of sewage sludge generated during calendar year 2023.

Sewage Sludge Generated in 2023 (DMT): _____

[5] Clean Water Act regulations codified at 40 CFR §503 (Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge) govern minimum requirements for sludge quality, management practices, and monitoring and reporting applicable to the generation or stabilization of sewage sludge from a wastewater treatment plant treating domestic sewage or use or disposal of that sewage sludge by any person. These regulations ensure that sewage sludges meet federal requirements when they are: 1) applied to land as a fertilizer or soil amendment; 2) placed in a surface disposal site (e.g., sewage sludge-only landfills); or 3) incinerated in a sewage sludge incinerator.

14. Did the facility complete and submit a Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Annual Report to the regulatory agency authorized to administer the NPDES sewage sludge program in calendar year 2023?[6]

☐ No.

☐ Yes. Specify the Biosolids NPDES identification number(s) associated with the 2023 Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Annual Report, if available, and provide a copy of the report as an attachment. **Then skip to Question 17.**

_____

Biosolids NPDES Identification Number(s)

Upload copies of all applicable Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Annual Reports for calendar year 2023 in one of the following file types: PDF, ZIP, text document (e.g., docx), graphic file (e.g., jpg, png), or workbook (e.g., xls, xlsx). You may upload one file. Where multiple pages are required or multiple files are being provided, combine all pages/files into a single file (e.g., combine PDF files, create a compressed ZIP file). Title the file following this format: "POTW####_Question 14_2023 Biosolids Annual Report" using your assigned Questionnaire ID. See the General Instructions file for guidance on submitting electronic copies of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Annual Reports and other attachments via Qualtrics.

[6] As part of the EPA Biosolids Program, the EPA requires large domestic wastewater or sewage treatment plants to complete a Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Annual Report. These annual reports are required by 40 CFR §503 for the larger public facilities that land apply, incinerate, or dispose of their sewage sludges via surface disposal; meet the applicability requirements; and operate in the 41 states where the EPA implements the EPA Biosolids Program. These reporting requirements apply to domestic wastewater or sewage treatment plants if the design flow rate is equal to or greater than 1 MGD, they serve 10,000 or more people, are required to have an approved pretreatment program (Class I Sludge Management Facility), or are otherwise required to report.

15. In Table 15, report the total weight, in DMT, of sewage sludge transferred to each final destination during calendar year 2023. Sewage sludge transferred to multiple destinations of the same type (e.g., sewage sludge transferred to three different municipal solid waste landfills) should be reported on the same line as a sum. The sum of the sewage sludge weight transferred to all destinations should equal the total sewage sludge generated in 2023 (reported in response to Question 13). If your facility did not transfer any sewage sludge to the destination during calendar year 2023, enter "0" (zero) into the "Sewage Sludge Transferred during 2023" column. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

Table 15. Sewage Sludge Destinations in 2023

Final Destinations	**Sewage Sludge Transferred during 2023** (in DMT; enter 0 if not applicable)
Land application	
Offsite Class 1 Sludge Management Facility	
Surface disposal (e.g., sewage sludge-only landfill)	
Municipal solid waste landfill	
Hazardous waste landfill	
Onsite surface impoundment	
Onsite incineration	
Offsite incineration	
Pyrolysis	
Gasification	
Supercritical water oxidation	
Other, specify: _____	
Other, specify: _____	
Other, specify: _____	

16. Did the facility produce biosolids at any time during calendar year 2023?

☐ No. **Skip to Question 18.**

☐ Yes. Report the total weight, in DMT, of biosolids produced by the POTW during calendar year 2023 in Table 16. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

Table 16. Biosolids Produced in 2023

Biosolids Class	**2023 Total Biosolids Production** (in DMT)
Class A – Exceptional Quality (EQ) Biosolids	
Class A Biosolids	
Class B Biosolids	
Other, specify: _____	
TOTAL	

17. (a) Identify the sewage sludge treatment and stabilization processes/technologies that were performed at the facility to produce biosolids during calendar year 2023. A list of common sewage sludge treatment and stabilization processes/technologies are presented below and these terms are defined in the GLOSSARY. If a sewage sludge treatment or stabilization process/technology is used that is not included in the list, or if a unique variation of a listed process/technology is used, include this information in the space provided after "Other, specify:" Select all that apply.

Preliminary Operations

- ☐ Sludge grinding
- ☐ Grit removal
- ☐ Blending
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

Thickening/Dewatering

- ☐ Gravity thickening
- ☐ Flotation thickening
- ☐ Belt filter press
- ☐ Screw press
- ☐ Vacuum filter
- ☐ Drying beds
- ☐ Heat drying
- ☐ Centrifuge
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

Conditioning

- ☐ Ferric chloride chemical conditioning
- ☐ Lime chemical conditioning
- ☐ Other chemical conditioning, specify: _____
- ☐ Polymer addition
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

Stabilization

- ☐ Anaerobic digestion
- ☐ Aerobic digestion
- ☐ Lime treatment
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

Disinfection

- ☐ Lime chemical disinfectant
- ☐ Chlorine chemical disinfectant
- ☐ Other chemical disinfectant, specify: _____
- ☐ Pasteurization
- ☐ Heat drying
- ☐ Heat treatment
- ☐ Beta ray irradiation
- ☐ Gamma ray irradiation
- ☐ Composting
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

Other Not Specified Above

- ☐ Thermal reduction
- ☐ Thermal hydrolysis
- ☐ Pyrolysis
- ☐ Gasification
- ☐ Supercritical water oxidation
- ☐ Methane/biogas capture and recovery
- ☐ Other, specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

17. (b) If you selected anaerobic digestion in 17.a, does your treatment unit accept any additional sources for co-digestion? Select all that apply.

☐ Septage

☐ Fats, oils, and grease

☐ Food waste

☐ Other, specify: _____

☐ None of the above

☐ I did not select anaerobic digestion in 17(a).

18. In Table 18, report the estimated average onsite storage time of fully processed sewage sludge and biosolids, prior to transfer to the final destination during each season of calendar year 2023. If your facility did not send any fully processed sewage sludge or biosolids to the final destination during calendar year 2023, enter "0" (zero) into the Storage Time column and select "Not applicable" in the Storage Time Units column. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

Table 18. Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Average Onsite Storage Time in 2023

Sewage Sludge or Biosolids Destination	Season	Average Onsite Storage Time Prior to Transfer to Final Destination	Storage Time Units
Land Application: Class A – Exceptional Quality (EQ) Biosolids	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		
Land Application: Class A Biosolids	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		
Land Application: Class B Biosolids	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		
Surface Disposal (e.g., sewage sludge-only landfill)	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		
Municipal Solid Waste Landfill	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		
Incineration	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		
Other, specify: _____	January – March 2023		☐ Not applicable ☐ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Weeks ☐ Months
	April – June 2023		
	July – September 2023		
	October – December 2023		

SECTION 5. MONITORING AND SAMPLE ANALYSIS

19. Has the facility conducted any PFAS or AOF sampling or collected PFAS or AOF monitoring data for the facility's influent, treated effluent, industrial user effluent, domestic wastewater or sewage, sewage sludge, or biosolids? Please include all data that reflect samples collected since January 1, 2022.

☐ No.

☐ Yes. In Table 19, report the dates sampling occurred, the purpose for the sampling event, the locations samples were collected, and the analytical method(s) used for PFAS/AOF analysis.

Table 19. PFAS and AOF Monitoring Data Collected Since 2022

Sampling Dates (mm/dd/yyyy)	**Purpose of Sampling Event** (select only one)	**Sampling Locations** (check all that apply)	**Analytical Methods Used** (check all that apply)
	☐ Permit monitoring requirement ☐ Source identification ☐ Third-party sampling effort ☐ Academic research ☐ Compliance with state-issued order ☐ Other, specify: _____	☐ POTW influent (combined) ☐ POTW effluent/final discharge ☐ Sewage sludge or biosolids ☐ Industrial user effluent (industrial wastewater) ☐ Domestic wastewater or sewage ☐ Other non-industrial wastewater ☐ Partially-treated wastewater	☐ EPA Method 1633 ☐ EPA Method 1621 ☐ Other PFAS method; specify: _____
	☐ Permit monitoring requirement ☐ Source identification ☐ Third-party sampling effort ☐ Academic research ☐ Compliance with state-issued order ☐ Other, specify: _____	☐ POTW influent (combined) ☐ POTW effluent/final discharge ☐ Sewage sludge or biosolids ☐ Industrial user effluent (industrial wastewater) ☐ Domestic wastewater or sewage ☐ Other non-industrial wastewater ☐ Partially-treated wastewater	☐ EPA Method 1633 ☐ EPA Method 1621 ☐ Other PFAS method; specify: _____

The EPA requests facilities that have collected PFAS or AOF monitoring data analyzed using EPA Method 1633, EPA Method 1621, or other PFAS method, respectively, for POTW influent, POTW effluent, POTW sewage sludge, POTW biosolids, industrial user effluent, or domestic wastewater or sewage since January 1, 2022 to **voluntarily** submit these data to the EPA. Visit the EPA's POTW Influent PFAS Study webpage for information on what data the EPA is requesting and instruction for how to submit applicable data. Submission of existing data is not required to complete this questionnaire and may be completed after the questionnaire response period. The EPA will use voluntarily submitted PFAS and AOF monitoring data, including data submitted from entities not required to complete the questionnaire, to augment information collected by the EPA through this questionnaire and the sampling program.

20. Will the facility or municipality operate a laboratory for analysis of aqueous wastewater, sewage sludge, or biosolids samples by December 31, 2024? Select only one. If unknown, provide an estimate using best professional judgement.

☐ No.

☐ Yes. Specify which below-listed laboratory analyses the facility anticipates the laboratory will be capable of performing by December 31, 2024. Select all that apply.

Aqueous Samples

☐ EPA Method 1633

☐ EPA Method 1621

☐ None of the above

Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Samples

☐ EPA Method 1633

☐ Standard Method 2540

☐ EPA Method 6010

☐ EPA Method 9060

☐ None of the above

SECTION 6. COMMENTS

In this section, provide any comments, additional information/detail, or clarifications on your responses. You may also provide the basis for any estimations, note where alternate units were used in your answers, or explain how any information and data submitted in response to this questionnaire may be considered not representative of normal operations. Year-to-year operations are expected to fluctuate; however, you may indicate if information provided for calendar year 2023 is not representative of typical wastewater management at the facility and why (e.g., supply chain disruptions, economic conditions, plant maintenances/upgrades). If a question did not provide sufficient space for your response, you may continue it here. Include in the table the question number(s) to which your comment pertains.

Comments

Question Number	Comment

THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS NOW COMPLETE.
REVIEW YOUR RESPONSES, COMPLETE THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT, AND PROCEED TO SUBMIT RESPONSES AS INDICATED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

The individual responsible for directing or supervising the preparation of the questionnaire must read and sign this Certification Statement. The certifying official must be a principle executive officer, ranking elected official, or his/her authorized representative.

Certification Statement

I certify under penalty of law that the submitted questionnaire was prepared under my direction or supervision and that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. The information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, accurate and complete. In those cases, where we did not possess the requested information for questions applicable to our facility, we provided best estimates. I am aware that failure to comply with this information collection request may result in enforcement proceedings under Section 309 of the Clean Water Act, 33 USC § 1319, which could result in the imposition of civil or criminal penalties. In addition, I am aware that there is potential criminal liability for the falsification of any response to the requested information.

Signature of Certifying Official	Date
Printed Name of Certifying Official	Phone Number
Title of Certifying Official	
Company Name	

THE POTW INFLUENT PFAS STUDY AND NSSS QUESTIONNAIRE IS NOW COMPLETE.
SAVE A COPY OF YOUR COMPLETED RESPONSE FOR YOUR RECORDS AND SUBMIT THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE AND ALL SUPPLEMENTAL FILES TO THE EPA AS NOTED IN THE INSTRUCTIONS