

Module 22:
Industrial Pretreatment Programs
Answer Key



Exercise for Unit 1 – Introduction to the National Pretreatment Program

1. NPDES is an abbreviation for National Pollution Discharge Elimination System.
2. POTW is an abbreviation for Publicly Owned Treatment Works.
3. List the four objectives of the General Pretreatment Regulations
 - a. Minimizing the mass of pollutants that pass through a POTW into a receiving stream.
 - b. Preventing or minimizing any interference with a POTW's treatment processes.
 - c. Preventing or minimizing the mass of pollutants contained in sewage sludge.
 - d. Encouraging recycling of wastewaters and sludge.
4. List three discharges prohibited under the National Pretreatment Program.

Answers may vary. See page 1-4.



Exercise for Unit 2 – Regulatory Authority

1. Explain the difference between direct and indirect discharges.

Direct discharge is into a stream or other body of water. Indirect discharge refers to an industrial user that discharges wastewater through a POTW rather than directly to a receiving stream, such as a river.

2. Only state discharge limits that are more stringent than federal requirements take precedence over the federal requirements.

True False

3. Pollutants of concern are defined as

contaminants that interfere with POTW performance

adversely impact POTW sludge

cause the POTW to exceed its NPDES discharge limits

chemicals that can adversely impact workers

all of the above

4. MAHL is an abbreviation for Maximum Allowable Headworks Loading.

5. Explain the meaning of a significance industrial user.

A user subject to categorical discharge requirements, OR

An Industrial User contributing an average of 25,000 gallons per day of process wastewater, OR

An Industrial User contributing a process discharge with at least 5% of the total POTW dry weather influent flow or 5% of the organic load, OR

An Industrial User designated as a significant Industrial User by the control authority.



Exercise for Unit 3 – Identifying and Monitoring Industrial Users

1. List three general steps to follow in completing an inspection of industrial facilities.
 - a. preparation
 - b. on-site assessment
 - c. follow-up activities

2. What are some essential elements of a good sampling and analysis plan?

Answers may vary. See pages 3-6 and 3-7 for elements including sampling locations, sampling frequency and sample protocol.
