

MSD Significant Non Compliance (SNC) Advisory

MSD

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This advisory is produced for our
industrial customers to reduce the
SNC rate

Agenda

- Understanding SNC
- Consequences of SNC
- Four “R’s”
 - Review
 - Repair
 - Resample
 - Report
- Tips to avoid SNC

Understanding SNC

- SNC is a kind of violation
 - defines how bad violations can be before actions including “publication” and a “compliance schedule” must result
- EPA has made all POTWs follow the SNC rule (June 24, 1990)
- This presentation shows common pitfalls that lead to SNC and how to respond to SNC.

Understanding SNC

- 1) Chronic Violation - 66% of the samples > limit during a 6 mo.. period
- 2) Technical Review Criteria Violations - 33% of the samples > 1.2 times the limit (1.4 times the limit if conventional pollutant) during a 6 mo. period

Understanding SNC

- 3) Failure to attain a compliance schedule due date by > 90 days after
- 4) Failure to report on the due date of the report by > 30 days
- 5) Failure to accurately report non compliance
- 6) Any violation or group of violations which the Control Authority considers “significant”

Understanding SNC: the Monthly Average

- Monthly averages are typically found in Federal Categorical Permits
- There are only 6 potential monthly average values for an SNC calculation
- Monthly averages are more “tight” than daily
- SNC for violation of the monthly average is therefore more likely

Understanding SNC: more on the Monthly Average

- If only one sample result is obtained for a month, that result stands also for the monthly average.

Consequences of SNC

- MSD is directed to publish all companies in SNC in the Courier Journal
- An agreement signed by MSD and the user in SNC must be designed and executed
- Statistics for overall SNC for the POTW are reviewed by the State to assess success in implementation of the pretreatment program.

Consequences of SNC

- Most instances of SNC arise from minimal sampling programs.
- For example, Quarterly self sampling can result in SNC for only one out-of-compliance sample (50% of samples $> 1.2x$ limit)
- To make progress in face of violations follow the “Four R’s”

The Four R's are:

- R*ev*iew your pretreatment set-up
- R*ep*air any noticed problem
- R*es*ample the discharge to see if the repairs fixed the problem
- R*ep*ort all analytical results to MSD.

Tips to avoid SNC

- Sample early in the reporting period and sample often if violations occur.
 - If you are required to sample quarterly or biannually, sample early in that period to avoid statistically being in SNC due to a small number of samples

Tips to avoid SNC

- Sample early in the month. By sampling early in the month:
 - you can avoid a monthly violation by obtaining more samples during the month that are in compliance
- Sample during several months if monthly average violations occur.
 - Violations of the monthly average are just as important, or more so, in the SNC definition

Tips to avoid SNC

- When a violation is discovered, call your MSD pretreatment inspector immediately (Federal law requires 24 hour notice)
- Always submit all monitoring results to MSD on schedule no matter how small they seem.

Tips to avoid SNC

- Keep a sampling history of your facility close by and current so you always know where you stand with the SNC definitions
- If you are not sure about your compliance obligations, call your pretreatment inspector for a current list of pending deadlines.
- Other key efforts

Other key efforts

- Results from MSD databases are available as e-mail attachments from your pretreatment inspector.
- Ask for this data and review it to assure that MSD data and your data are the same quality. Once in your hands, data re-use allows for value added analysis and trending.

Other key efforts

- MSD sends out a complimentary reminder by e-mail to customers (for example, to sample your effluent regularly)
- IF your company does not have e-mail, or policy does not allow outside e-mail reminders, MSD specialists can set “scheduled tasks” in your computer (MS Windows) operating system to remind you of reporting and sampling deadlines.
- Let us help you get in compliance during our next inspection.

Summary

- SNC is easy to fall into if you are not vigilant
- MSD is affected by SNC
- Controlling SNC requires more work on the 4 “R’s”
- Compressing the Compliance Cycle will improve the environment and reduce the amount of time SNC persists.