NSF/ANSI Standard for Wastewater Treatment Systems —

Residential wastewater treatment systems

8 Performance testing and evaluation

This section describes the methods used to evaluate the performance of residential wastewater treatment systems. Systems shall be designated as Class I or Class II. The performance classification shall be based upon the evaluation of effluent samples collected from the system over a six-month period.

8.5 Criteria

8.5.1 General

8.5.1.1 If conditions during the testing and evaluation period result in system upset, improper sampling, improper dosing, or influent characteristics outside of the ranges specified in 8.2.1, an assessment shall be conducted to determine the extent to which these conditions adversely affected the performance of the system. Based on this assessment, specific data points may be excluded from the 7-d and 30-d averages of effluent measurements. Rationale for all data exclusions shall be documented in the final report.

8.5.1.2 In the event that a catastrophic site problem not described in this Standard including, but not limited to, influent characteristics, malfunctions of test apparatus, and acts of God, jeopardizes the validity of the performance testing and evaluation, manufacturers shall be given the choice to:

1) Perform maintenance on the system, reinitiate system start-up procedures, and restart the performance testing and evaluation; or

2) With no routine maintenance performed, have the system brought back to pre-existing conditions and resume testing within 3 wk after the site problem has been identified and corrected. Data collected during the system recovery period shall be excluded from 7-d and 30-d averages of effluent measurements.

   NOTE – Pre-existing conditions shall be defined as the point when the results of 3 consecutive data days are within 15% of the previous 30-d average(s).

8.5.1.3 A 7-d average discharge value shall consist of a minimum of 3 data days. If a calendar week contains less than 3 data days, sufficient data days may be transferred from the preceding calendar week to constitute a 7-d average discharge value. If there are not sufficient data days available in the preceding calendar week, the transfer of data days may take place from the following calendar week to constitute a 7-d average discharge value. No data day shall be included in more than one 7-d average discharge value.
8.5.1.4 A 30-d average discharge value shall consist of a minimum of 50% of the regularly scheduled sampling days per month. If a calendar month contains less than the required number of data days, sufficient data days may be transferred from the preceding calendar month to constitute a 30-d average discharge value. If there are not sufficient data days available in the preceding calendar month, the transfer of data days may take place from the following calendar month to constitute a 30-d average discharge value. No data day shall be included in more than one 30-d average discharge value.

8.5.1.5 During the stress loading sequence, consisting of wash-day, working-parent, power/equipment failure, and vacation stress loading periods, data shall be collected from a minimum of \( \frac{2}{3} \) of the total scheduled sampling days and from at least 2 of the scheduled sampling days during any single stress loading recovery period.