

Companies That Violate Wastewater Rules Receive Penalties



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

King County's Industrial Waste Program (KCIW) regulates industries that discharge wastewater to the sanitary sewer system to protect worker safety, local and regional sewer and treatment infrastructure, and biosolids. KCIW monitors compliance according to federal, state, and local regulations. Many companies must pretreat their wastewater before they put it into the sanitary sewer system and comply with reporting, monitoring, and discharge requirements. KCIW is required to report on companies who violate wastewater rules.

Annually, KCIW publishes industrial facilities that were determined to be in significant noncompliance (SNC) status and/or received penalties. SNC is defined in King County Code Section 28.82.810. KCIW's last publication date was March 31, 2022. Since that date, the following companies were determined to be in SNC or were issued a penalty:

Violations Resulting in Significant Non-Compliance (SNC) Status	Reason for Publication and Additional Comments
<p>Art Brass Plating Inc. DISCHARGE VIOLATIONS: Multiple violations of the monthly average limit for cadmium. PERMIT VIOLATION: Failure to notify and receive approval prior to addition of new process line.</p>	<p>Art Brass Plating Inc. was determined to be in SNC for exceedance of the U.S. EPA Technical Review Criteria (TRC) factor for cadmium violations. They were issued a compliance order and penalty of \$500 and assessed \$10,560 in post violation charges for costs incurred by KCIW.</p>
<p>Blue Origin LLC DISCHARGE VIOLATIONS: Violation of the daily average limit for copper and violations of the daily average, daily mass loading, and monthly average limits for silver. PERMIT VIOLATIONS: Failure to implement spill/slug discharge control procedures and discharging untreated wastewater to the sewer.</p>	<p>Blue Origin LLC was determined to be in SNC for exceeding the TRC factor for silver violations. They were issued a compliance order and penalty of \$8,553 and assessed \$15,270 in post violation charges for costs incurred by KCIW.</p>
<p>Kerry Inc. REPORTING VIOLATION: Final Notice issued for failure to file a required report (14-Day Report).</p>	<p>Kerry Inc. was in SNC for failure to file a required report within 45 days of the due date. They were issued a penalty of \$300. The report was subsequently received by KCIW.</p>
<p>King County Solid Waste Division (KCSWD) – Cedar Hills Regional Landfill (CHRL) DISCHARGE VIOLATIONS: Multiple violations of the daily mass loading limit for arsenic.</p>	<p>KCSWD CHRL was determined to be in SNC for exceeding the TRC factor for arsenic mass loading limits. KCIW issued a compliance order.</p>
<p>Marine Vacuum Service Inc. DISCHARGE, PERMIT, and KING COUNTY CODE VIOLATIONS: Multiple violations related to the release of hydrogen sulfide gas to the sewer.</p>	<p>Marine Vacuum Service Inc. was determined to be in SNC for discharge of a pollutant that caused imminent danger to human health and welfare. They were issued a compliance order and penalty of \$5,624 and assessed \$12,510 in post violation charges for costs incurred by KCIW.</p>
<p>Rabanco Recycling Co. DISCHARGE VIOLATIONS: Multiple violations of the discharge limit for settleable solids. PERMIT VIOLATION: Failure to collect additional samples within 14 days of violation occurrences.</p>	<p>Rabanco Recycling Co. was determined to be in SNC for chronic violations of wastewater discharge limits. They were issued a compliance order and penalty of \$1,915 and assessed \$10,629 in post violation charges for costs incurred by KCIW.</p>
Violation Resulting in Penalty only	Reason for Publication and Additional Comments
<p>20 Corners Brewing REPORTING VIOLATION: Final notice issued for failure to submit required report (Permit Application).</p>	<p>20 Corners Brewing was issued a penalty of \$500. The report was subsequently received by KCIW.</p>
<p>Art Brass Plating Inc. REPORTING VIOLATION: Final notice issued for failure to submit required report (Professional Engineer Evaluation and Permit Application - Exhibit E).</p>	<p>Art Brass Plating Inc. was issued a penalty of \$100. The report was subsequently received by KCIW.</p>
<p>Northwest Gourmet Food Products Inc. DISCHARGE VIOLATIONS: Multiple violations of the discharge limit for settleable solids.</p>	<p>Northwest Gourmet Food Products Inc. was issued a compliance order and penalty of \$5,228 and assessed \$9,729 in post violation charges for costs incurred by KCIW.</p>
<p>RH Investment Holdings LLC REPORTING VIOLATION: Final notice issued for failure to submit required report (Installation Plan for Pretreatment System).</p>	<p>RH Investment Holdings LLC was issued a penalty of \$500. The report was subsequently received by KCIW.</p>

Other Violations

KCIW acted on 23 other violations at 18 facilities. These facilities were not in significant noncompliance status for these violations and were not issued a penalty. Where applicable, these facilities reimbursed KCIW for additional post violation administration, inspection, and monitoring program costs.

Questions or Info. for King County?

- Email info.KCIW@kingcounty.gov
- Call 205-477-5300 or 711: TTY Relay
- Visit www.kingcounty.gov/industrialwaste