

# Volume, Allowances & Calculated Discharge

Calculating TE volume can be tricky. We'll explain the factors to consider when working out TE.

## Volume

TE volume is measured through metered discharge or estimated using a Calculated Discharge (CD). The site type and discharge arrangement is defined during TE consent and site setup process – as mentioned in the Handy Intro Guide to TE.

## Metered Discharge Arrangements

Meter(s) have been installed at the site to record the volume of water to be treated for TE, as not all water is discharged as TE. "MDVol" is the term used to indicate the percentage of a meter's volume to be treated for TE.

- A TE Meter MDVol is always Fixed at 100%, as it only measures TE.
- A Water or Sewerage Meter MDVol can range from 0% – 100%. (as it measures both water and TE). The % is set by the wholesaler with a Discharge Point Meter Association transaction (T123.W/T123.M).

## Discharge Arrangements

When the discharge point lacks a suitable meter, a Calculated Discharge (CD) is put in place. The site CD annual estimate is set by the wholesaler. Once 'Calculated Discharge Notified Volumes' have been provided by the retailer (via T125.R) the TE charges will be updated in the next settlement run. Going forward, the Notified Volumes are used.

## Allowances:

When calculating treatable effluent, Sewerage Volume allowances are deducted, as not all the water returns down the sewer. 3 types of allowances are:



### Fixed Allowance

Set amount of water assigned to the site deducted from the total water volume. E.g. Watering allowance for a farm.



### Percentage Allowance

% figure applied to account for water not returning down the sewer. E.g. Evaporating during commercial laundering.



### Domestic Allowance (DA)

A fixed volume assigned to a site to account for domestic purposes. E.g. Water usage at an employee canteen at a TE site.

## Volume Adjustments:

At a TE site, the Sewerage Volume also needs to be adjusted, to ensure the volume is correctly allocated between the TE DPID and Sewerage SPID.

Sewerage Volume Adjustment Method (SVAM) is used to calculate this volume. 1 of 3 SVAM methods are set by the wholesaler for each DPID:

1. **None** – The TE DPID does not reduce Sewage Volume.
2. **DA** – Indicates a DA value that has been removed from TE calculation, to be billed as sewerage, not TE. (e.g. if DA is 50m<sup>3</sup> then Sewerage Volume is 50m<sup>3</sup>)
3. **SUBTRACT** – The Sewerage Volume is calculated as the inverse of the TE volume (E.g. if TE is 25m<sup>3</sup>, the Sewerage Volume is -25m<sup>3</sup>)

A DPID can have multiple allowances but only one SVAM applied at any given time. Allowances and SVAMs are updated through a T127.W (Notify DPID Details)

TE is a crucial area of a water retailer's customer base and has a significant impact on business cash flow. Understanding the key components will help build Trade Effluent confidence.

### Future topics in our TE series will include:

1. Intro to TE
2. TE Volume, Allowances & Calculated Discharge
3. Charge Types and Components
4. England Charge Calculations
5. Scotland Charge Calculations
6. TE Calculation Examples
7. Valytica Cloud and Trade Effluent