

The standards, which set maximum concentrations for a given pollutant that may vary with the category of industry, are based on the degree of reduction attainable through the application of two levels of technology:

- . the Best Practicable Technology (BPT);
- . the Best Available Technology (BAT).

Pretreatment⁴ Standards

Firms which discharge their polluted waters into publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) are called indirect dischargers. NPDES licences are not required for such discharges. Under the national pretreatment program, however, industry must treat its own effluent before they go to POTWs.

This pretreatment program imposes three main types of restriction on industry, which will be examined in section 1.2.3.

⁴ PRETREATMENT: procedures used to reduce, eliminate or change the nature of pollutants found in industrial (not domestic) wastewaters before they enter publicly owned treatment works (POTWs).