



# Bypass of Secondary Treatment – Fact Sheet

- New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit requires that bypass of secondary treatment be considered as part of the Evaluation of Alternatives
- Allowed by the National Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy
- Flows in excess of the secondary treatment capacity are routed around secondary treatment facilities, and then blended secondary treatment effluent prior to disinfection.
- Effluent from Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) has to meet all permit requirements
- Bypass occurrences are reported on a monthly basis
- Requires a No Feasible Alternative to Bypass Analysis
- Allows more wet weather flow to receive treatment at the POTW
- **Secondary treatment bypass is the most cost effective way to reduce CSO discharges and bacteria loads to receiving waters**

## USEPA CSO Control Policy Section 2.C.7. Maximizing Treatment at the Existing POTW Treatment Plant

“In some communities, POTW may have primary treatment capacity in excess of their secondary treatment capacity.

One effective strategy to abate pollution resulting from CSOs is to maximize the delivery of flows during wet weather to the POTW treatment plant for treatment. Delivering these flows can have two significant water quality benefits:

1. Increased flows during wet weather to the POTW treatment plant may enable the permittee to eliminate or minimize overflows to sensitive areas;
2. This would maximize the use of available POTW facilities for wet weather flows and would ensure that combined sewer flows receive at least primary treatment prior to discharge.

Under EPA regulations, the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility, including secondary treatment, is a bypass. EPA bypass regulations at 40 CFR 122.41(m) allow for a facility to bypass some or all the Row from its treatment process under specified limited circumstances...”

## Wastewater Flow Diagram – with Bypass

