

Dear [REDACTED],

EIR Reference: EIR/ID/540

Thank you for your request for environmental information. We appreciate your interest, and we want to let you know that your request has been carefully considered in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR).

Your request:

Under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, please provide for calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 YTD:

1. *Annual volumes/tonnages of landfill leachate imported as trade effluent to your sewage treatment works (WWTWs), broken down by:*
 - *Receiving WWTW name and location*
 - *Supplying landfill (site name, operator, permit no. if held)*
 - *Volume/tonnage per year (please state the unit)*
 - *Import route (tankered vs pipeline)*
 - *Any pre-treatment prior to receipt (if known)*
2. *Copies (or extracts) of trade effluent consents/agreements covering landfill leachate at each WWTW.*
3. *Any internal guidance or acceptance criteria specific to landfill leachate (e.g., limits for COD/BOD, ammoniacal-N, chloride, sulphate, metals, PFAS/POPs, solvents).*

Our response:

We receive landfill leachate in two ways, via the sewerage network, under trade effluent agreements, and via tanker under permit arrangements. We do not receive any tip leachate via tanker under trade effluent agreements.

Leachate received via the sewerage system under trade effluent agreements

Appendix A contains four worksheets, one for each year. Each worksheet provides;

- the name of the receiving WWTW,
- the name of the landfill operator,
- the discharge point ID (DPID), which is the unique reference number that identifies the location where trade effluent is discharged from a business into the public sewer system,

- and
- the volume of effluent received that year in cubic metres.

United Utilities is not responsible for any pre-treatment that a trader may choose to install and operate in order to comply with a specific consent or agreement. It is the responsibility of the trader (landfill operator) to comply with the requirements, conditions and limits within its consents. If this requires pre-treatment it is a matter for the landfill operator to design, install and implement the appropriate method.

Our local trade effluent officers, will in many cases, be aware that individual landfill operators may undertake pre-treatment (for example methane stripping, effluent balancing, biological treatment) but these processes and the level of information that we hold about them will vary depending on the individual site.

In accordance with the requirements of the EIR, we have provided, as Appendix B, the information that we do hold on these pretreatment processes. It must, however, be emphasised that the information within Appendix B, will not be complete and in some cases may not be current or accurate. If you do want to understand what pretreatment, if any, is located at an individual landfill site, you would need to approach the landfill operator directly.

Full copies of all the trade effluent agreements can be obtained by entering the DPID number, from Appendix A into the "Search The Register" page of the trade effluent consent register that can be found here our [website \(https://www.unitedutilities.com/trade-effluent-consent-register/\)](https://www.unitedutilities.com/trade-effluent-consent-register/).

Any relevant information that we hold on acceptance criteria for these discharges (e.g., limits for COD/BOD, ammoniacal-N, chloride, sulphate, metals, PFAS/POPs, solvents) are contained within the relevant agreements.

Leachate received by road tanker under Environmental permitting:

United Utilities only receives tankered landfill leachates at designated WwTW that hold an appropriate Environmental Permit (issued by the Environment Agency) which covers the importation of industrial waste by road tanker. We do not accept landfill leachate as a tankered import stream under a Trade Effluent consenting arrangement.

We have five permitted WwTW, which have received landfill leachate via tanker under Environmental Permits for the date period specified in your information request.

Appendix C contains a separate table for each of these five WwTW. This table provides the permit reference for the WwTW, a list of the relevant landfill operators, and the amount of leachate received from each landfill operator each year (expressed in tonnes). The data for 2025 year to date, is provided up to the end of June 2025. This is because the data is from our quarterly waste return to the Environment Agency and the data for period July to September has not yet been finalised or submitted.

I can confirm that none of our permitted WwTW have received any landfill leachate categorised under EWC 19 07 02 (i.e. the hazardous leachate entry). All landfill leachate received at our works under these permits is categorised as non-hazardous under EWC 19 07 03.

All of our permits are also held on the EA website and can be accessed using the permit reference number from Appendix C, via this link [Search all public registers](#).

We hope that this response answers your request. However, if you're not satisfied with how we've handled it, you can request an internal review. To do this, please write to us at Environmental Information Office, Haweswater House, Lingley Mere, Warrington, WA5 3LP or email us at EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk, addressing your request to [REDACTED]

██████████ and explaining why you're unhappy with our response. We'll be very happy to review your request and ensure we've done everything we can to assist you.

Any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this response, and we will reply within 40 working days from receipt of the request for internal review.

Kind regards