



Fact Sheet – Point of Entry Treatment Devices & Sampling in Public Water Systems

(Ver. 1, October 2021)

Introduction

Point of Entry (POE) treatment devices are units which are installed at the entry point to a building and treat all water entering the building. As part of the implementation of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Supply and Geoscience (Division) allows POE treatment devices to be installed to comply with Maximum Contaminant Levels only if the following requirements are met.

Federal Requirements for POE Treatment in Public Water Systems:

- It is the responsibility of the water system to operate, own, and maintain each POE treatment system.
 - POE units cannot be added to individual’s homes/buildings if they are not owned by the water system.
- The POE device must provide water that meets all national primary drinking water regulations and be of acceptable quality similar to water distributed by a well-operated central treatment plant.
- All consumers shall be protected – every POE device installed must be maintained and monitored adequately.
- Microbiological safety of the water must be maintained.

Approval Process:

Before more than one POE device is installed, a water system must receive approval from the state per federal 40 CFR 141.100. The water system must send a request including the required information in the table below.

Justification of why the system requires more than one POE device.
Rigorous engineering design plan of the POE devices being installed.
Adequate certification of performance and field testing.
Treatment plan for <u>each</u> POE device (note: treatment should be consistent from device to device).
Monitoring plan for <u>each</u> POE device. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring must include all regulated contaminants at a POE per state and federal SDWAs, physical measurements, and observations (e.g., total flow treated and mechanical condition of the treatment equipment).
Evaluation of the potential increase in heterotrophic bacteria concentrations in water treated with activated carbon. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include if It is necessary to use frequent backwashing, post-contactor disinfection, and Heterotrophic Plate Count monitoring to ensure that the microbiological safety of the water is not compromised.
Maintenance plan for <u>each</u> POE device. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public water system must be equipped with effective technology to maintain the microbiological safety of the water.

Depending on a water system’s configuration, a water system may be required to perform additional Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) sampling (e.g., if the water system is required under RTCR to collect one sample per month and there is more than one POE device, the system will be required to sample total coliform from each area/building served by each POE.)

*If your system has more than one POE device and has **not** obtained state approval, follow the process below. Failure to obtain state approval is a violation of the Federal SDWA and the water system and if applicable, the licensed operator of record, may be subject to enforcement action and penalties.



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Community Water Systems and State and Federally Owned Non-Community Water Systems:

- Before POE devices are installed, a water system must submit the information outlined in the table on page 1 with their construction permit to the Bureau of Water System Engineering.
- Questions may be submitted to the Bureau of Water System Engineering, Engineering Section’s attention at watersupply@dep.nj.gov with the subject line “PWSID#>1 POE Device – Engineering Permit”.

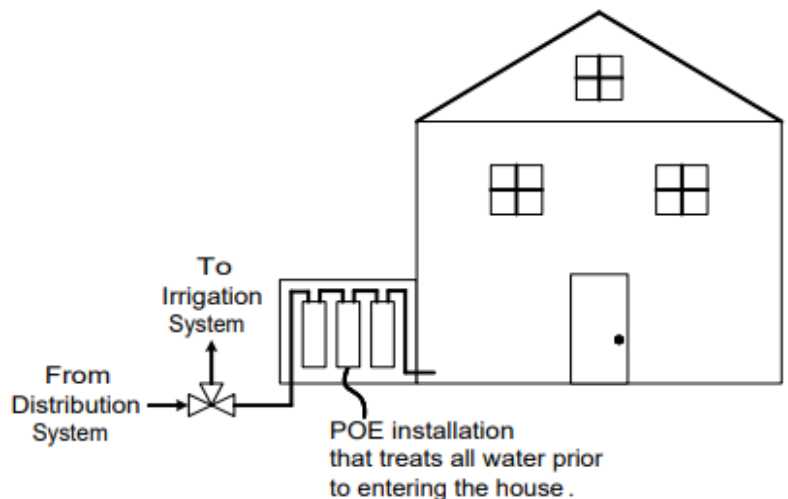
Non-Community Water System Approval Process:

- Before POE devices are installed, a water system must submit a request with all required information outlined in the table on page 1, to their County Environmental Health Agency (CEHA) for approval.
- If the CEHA indicates in writing it will not approve nor deny the request, the water system must then obtain approval from the state by sending all required information to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at watersupply@dep.nj.gov with the subject line “PWSID#> 1 POE Device – BSDW NCWS”.
- If a water system already has an unapproved installed POE device, the process above must be followed to comply with the Federal SDWA.
 - For example, if the water system does not have separate treatment plant (TP) numbers (e.g., TP001001) for each building/device, TP number(s) must be acquired from the Bureau of Water System Engineering by sending an email to watersupply@dep.nj.gov with “Approved POE TP Number Request” in the subject line.

Typical Point of Entry Treatment Device Installation

Per EPA’s “Point-of-Use or Point-of-Entry Treatment Options for Small Drinking Water Systems”

<http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockey=P1009UBF.txt>



Additional Resources:

Federal Safe Drinking Water Act:

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-03/documents/cfr-2011-title40-vol23-part141.pdf>

EPA’s “Point-of-Use or Point-of-Entry Treatment Options for Small Drinking Water Systems”

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/guide_smallsystems_pou-poe_june6-2006.pdf

County Environmental Health Agency Directory:

<https://www.state.nj.us/health/lh/documents/LocalHealthDirectory.pdf>

For further assistance, please contact the Division of Water Supply and Geoscience:

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/>

Email: watersupply@dep.nj.gov