

Title	Manage, monitor, and optimise treated sludge and biosolids processes, and dispose of biosolids, in wastewater treatment		
Level	5	Credits	15

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: manage, monitor, and optimise treated sludge and biosolids processes; and manage disposal of biosolids, in wastewater treatment.
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Classification	Water Industry > Wastewater Treatment
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- Evidence presented for assessment against this unit standard must be consistent with safe working practices and be in accordance with applicable legislative and industry requirements.
- Legislation and references relevant to this unit standard include: Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, Water Services Act 2021, Resource Management Act 1991, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996, and subsequent amendments; *Guidelines for the safe application of biosolids to land in New Zealand* (2003) available at www.waternz.org.nz.
- Definitions

Biosolids – sewage sludges or sewage sludges mixed with other materials that have been treated and/or stabilised to the extent that they can be safely returned to the environment.

Critical control point – specific point, procedure, or step in water treatment processes at which control can be exercised to reduce, eliminate, or prevent the possibility of a public health hazard.

Industry requirements include manufacturers' specifications; and enterprise requirements which may include documented workplace policies, procedures, specifications, business, and quality management requirements relevant to the workplace in which assessment is carried out.

Optimise – adjusting plant input variables to make the process as effective as possible to achieve the desired output, taking into account the constraints of cost, human input, effluent quality, and resource consent requirements.

Sludge – wastewater solids from separation processes including scum.

Wastewater may include stormwater and sewage systems.
- Learning and assessment activities for this unit standard must be informed by Te Mana o te Wai (refer to [Taumata Arowai](http://www.taumataarowai.govt.nz)) and the *National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020* from <https://environment.govt.nz/>.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Manage treated sludge and biosolids processes in wastewater treatment.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Process variables are managed to achieve the desired parameters and maintain process performance.

Outcome 2

Monitor treated sludge and biosolids processes in wastewater treatment.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Sampling is managed to ensure samples are collected.
- 2.2 Data is collected and interpreted in accordance with treated sludge and biosolids processes.

Range heavy metals, micro-organisms.

Outcome 3

Optimise treated sludge and biosolids processes in wastewater treatment.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 The treated sludge and biosolids process variables and operating factors are adjusted in accordance with the results of monitoring.
- 3.2 The critical control points in processes are managed.

Outcome 4

Manage disposal of biosolids in wastewater treatment.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Biosolids disposal is managed.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 March 2017	31 December 2023
Review	2	28 April 2022	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0101

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council at qualifications@waihanga.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.