

Drainage Services Department  
Technical Circular No. 4/94

Discharge of Air-conditioning Cooling Water  
to Public Drainage System

Introduction

C.E.O. Instruction No. 9/71 and H.O. Instruction No. 8/71 prohibit the discharge of cooling water from water-cooled air-conditioning plants to the public drainage system, and require, among other things, the discharge of cooling water to the sea by a separate system. This circular is an update of the above instructions and confines itself to matters related to the public drainage system.

Background

2. Water-cooled air-conditioning plants normally discharge vast quantities of water during their operation. The public drainage system is not designed to cater for this extraordinary demand. Acceptance of the cooling water into the public drainage system may overload the system.

Processing of Applications

3. All applications for the discharge of cooling water from water-cooled air-conditioning plants into the public drainage system, whether for private projects or government projects, should be refused. The applicant should be advised to discharge the cooling water to the sea via a separate discharge system after obtaining the approval of the relevant government departments.

4. Similarly, exceptional quantities of treated effluent from industrial processes should not be allowed to discharge into the public drainage system unless the design of the drainage system concerned has catered for such requirements.



( Y.Y. NG )

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