

Council Directive of 21 May 1991 concerning  
urban waste water treatment (91/271/EEC)

*Article 6*

1 For the purposes of paragraph 2, Member States may by 31 December 1993 identify less sensitive areas according to the criteria laid down in Annex II.

2 Urban waste water discharges from agglomerations of between 10 000 and 150 000 p.e. to coastal waters and those from agglomerations of between 2 000 and 10 000 p.e. to estuaries situated in areas described in paragraph 1 may be subjected to treatment less stringent than that prescribed in Article 4 providing that:

- such discharges receive at least primary treatment as defined in Article 2 (7) in conformity with the control procedures laid down in Annex I D,
- comprehensive studies indicate that such discharges will not adversely affect the environment.

Member States shall provide the Commission with all relevant information concerning the abovementioned studies.

3 If the Commission considers that the conditions set out in paragraph 2 are not met, it shall submit to the Council an appropriate proposal.

4 Member States shall ensure that the identification of less sensitive areas is reviewed at intervals of not more than four years.

5 Member States shall ensure that areas no longer identified as less sensitive shall within seven years meet the requirements of Articles 4 and 5 as appropriate.