

## MCERTS Bulletin 18 Sites with multiple discharges

This bulletin clarifies the inspection requirements for sites with multiple (one or more) emission points.

MCERTS for the self-monitoring of effluent flow applies to sites regulated by the Environment Agency under the Environment Permitting Regulations (EPR) and has been introduced to ensure that flow data sent to the Environment Agency is reliable and accurate.

The MCERTS performance standard requires that the total daily volume of the discharge **as specified in the permit** shall be measured with a target uncertainty of  $\pm 8\%$  (or better).

Some permits specify more than one emission point for emissions to water with specific emission limits and monitoring requirements for each emission point. Therefore, flow measurement will often be required for each separate process operated on the site.

For example, a power station may have a large cooling water discharge **and** a smaller discharge for an effluent treatment plant. Where emission limits and monitoring requirements are specified in the permit for each of these discharges, they will be measured separately and will be inspected separately.

The MCERTS Inspection report shall include details of all the discharge flow monitoring arrangements on site where these are included in the permit.

Each discharge included on the permit shall meet the target uncertainty of  $\pm 8\%$  (or better).

The target uncertainty of  $\pm 8\%$  (or better) therefore applies to **each** emission point and **not** to the sum of all the emission points.