



Archived Publication

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The Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (2000 MSGP), issued in October 2000, expired at midnight on October 30, 2005. A new permit, the 2008 Multi-Sector General Permit (2008 MSGP) was issued on September 29, 2008. Visit www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/msgp to view the final 2008 MSGP and supporting documents.



Appendix A
Definitions, Abbreviations and Acronyms

Appendix A. Definitions.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) - schedules of activities, practices (and prohibitions of practices), structures, vegetation, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Co-located Industrial Activities – occurs when a facility has industrial activities included in more than one industrial sector. Stormwater discharges from co-located activities must comply with requirements for all relevant sectors.

Control Measure - refers to any BMP or other method (including effluent limitations) used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States.

Director - a regional administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency or an authorized representative.

Discharge - when used without qualification, means the "discharge of a pollutant."

Discharge of a pollutant - any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source," or any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. This includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works.

Discharge-related activities - activities which cause, contribute to, or result in stormwater and allowable non-stormwater point source discharges, and measures such as the siting, construction and operation of BMPs to control, reduce, or prevent pollution in the discharges.

Facility or Activity - any NPDES "point source" or any other facility or activity (including land or appurtenances thereto) that is subject to regulation under the NPDES program.

Impaired Water – a water is impaired if it does not meet its designated use(s). For purposes of this permit 'impaired' refers to threatened and impaired waters in categories 4a (those for which TMDLs have been established), 4b (those for which existing controls such as permits are expected to resolve the impairment), and 5 (those needing a TMDL) of a state's or tribe's integrated report on water quality. Impaired waters compilations are also sometimes referred to as 303(d) lists; 303(d) lists generally include only waters for which TMDLs have not yet been developed. States will generally have associated, but separate lists of impaired waters for which TMDLs have already been established.

Indian Country - (a) all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and including rights-

of-way running through the reservation; (b) all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States, whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a State, and (c) all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through the same. This definition includes all land held in trust for an Indian Tribe. (18 U.S.C. 1151)

Industrial Activity - the 11 categories of industrial activities included in the definition of “stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity.”

Industrial Stormwater - stormwater runoff associated with the definition of “stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity.”

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer - a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):

- (i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States;
- (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
- (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and
- (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2.

New Discharger - as used in this permit, means an operator applying for coverage under this permit for discharges not covered previously under an NPDES general or individual permit.

New Source - any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a “discharge of pollutants,” the construction of which commenced:

- after promulgation of standards of performance under section 306 of the CWA which are applicable to such source, or
- after proposal of standards of performance in accordance with section 306 of the CWA which are applicable to such source, but only if the standards are promulgated in accordance with section 306 within 120 days of their proposal.

No exposure - all industrial materials or activities are protected by a storm-resistant shelter to prevent exposure to rain, snow, snowmelt, and/or runoff.

Owner or operator - the owner or operator of any “facility or activity” subject to regulation under the NPDES program.

Person - an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof.

Point source - any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel, or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural stormwater runoff.

Primary industrial activity - includes any activities performed on-site which are identified in the narrative descriptions of 122.26(b)(14)(i), (iv), (v), or (vii), and (ix); and activities which are identified by the facility's primary SIC code. [It is recommended that this determination be based on the value of receipts or revenues or, if such information is not available for a particular facility, the number of employees or production rate for each process may be compared. The operation that generates the most revenue or employs the most personnel is the operation in which the facility is primarily engaged.] Narrative descriptions identified above include: (i) activities subject to stormwater effluent limitations guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards; (iv) hazardous waste treatment storage, or disposal facilities including those that are operating under interim status or a permit under subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); (v) landfills, land application sites and open dumps that receive or have received industrial wastes; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; and (ix) sewage treatment works with a design flow of 1.0 mgd or more.

Pollutant - dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial, municipal and agricultural waste discharged into water.

Qualified Personnel - Qualified personnel are those who possess the knowledge and skills to assess conditions and activities that could impact stormwater quality at your facility, and who can also evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs.

Reportable Quantity Release – a release of a hazardous substance at or above the established legal threshold that requires emergency notification. Refer to 40 CFR Parts 110, 177, and 302 for complete definitions and reportable quantities for which notification is required.

Runoff coefficient - the fraction of total rainfall that will appear at the conveyance as runoff.

Significant materials - includes, but is not limited to: raw materials; fuels; materials such as solvents, detergents, and plastic pellets; finished materials such as metallic products; raw materials used in food processing or production; hazardous substances designated under section 101(14) of CERCLA; any chemical the facility is required to report pursuant to section 313 of Title III of SARA; fertilizers; pesticides; and waste products such as ashes, slag and sludge that have the potential to be released with stormwater discharges.

Special Aquatic Sites - sites identified in 40 CFR 230 Subpart E. These are geographic areas, large or small, possessing special ecological characteristics of productivity, habitat, wildlife protection, or other important and easily disrupted ecological values. These areas are generally

recognized as significantly influencing or positively contributing to the general overall environmental health or vitality of the entire ecosystem of a region.

Stormwater - stormwater runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity - a discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff from areas where soil disturbing activities (e.g., clearing, grading, or excavation), construction materials, or equipment storage or maintenance (e.g., fill piles, borrow areas, concrete truck washout, fueling), or other industrial stormwater directly related to the construction process (e.g., concrete or asphalt batch plants) are located. (See 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)(x) and 40 CFR 122.26(b)(15) for the two regulatory definitions on regulated stormwater associated with construction sites.)

Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity - the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying stormwater and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. The term does not include discharges from facilities or activities excluded from the NPDES program under Part 122. For the categories of industries identified in this section, the term includes, but is not limited to, stormwater discharges from industrial plant yards; immediate access roads and rail lines used or traveled by carriers of raw materials, manufactured products, waste material, or by-products used or created by the facility; material handling sites; refuse sites; sites used for the application or disposal of process waste waters (as defined at part 401 of this chapter); sites used for the storage and maintenance of material handling equipment; sites used for residual treatment, storage, or disposal; shipping and receiving areas; manufacturing buildings; storage areas (including tank farms) for raw materials, and intermediate and final products; and areas where industrial activity has taken place in the past and significant materials remain and are exposed to stormwater. For the purposes of this paragraph, material handling activities include storage, loading and unloading, transportation, or conveyance of any raw material, intermediate product, final product, by-product or waste product. The term excludes areas located on plant lands separate from the plant's industrial activities, such as office buildings and accompanying parking lots as long as the drainage from the excluded areas is not mixed with stormwater drained from the above described areas. Industrial facilities include those that are federally, State, or municipally owned or operated that meet the description of the facilities listed in Appendix D of this permit. The term also includes those facilities designated under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v).

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) - A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. It is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL stipulates wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point source discharges, load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources, and a margin of safety (MOS).

Waters of the United States - means:

- All waters which are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;
- All interstate waters, including interstate “wetlands”;
- All other waters, such as interstate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds, the use, degradation, or destruction of which would affect or could affect interstate or foreign commerce, including any such waters
 - a. Which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes;
 - b. From which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or
 - c. Which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce;
- All impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States under this definition;
- Tributaries of waters identified in paragraphs (1) through (4) of this definition;
- The territorial sea; and
- Wetlands adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in paragraphs 1 through 6 of this definition.

Waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of the CWA (other than cooling ponds for steam electric generation stations as specified in 40 CFR 423) which also meet the criteria of this definition, are not waters of the United States. Waters of the United States do not include prior converted cropland. Notwithstanding the determination of an area’s status as prior converted cropland by any other Federal agency, for the purposes of the CWA, the final authority regarding CWA jurisdiction remains with EPA.

Water Quality Impaired – See ‘Impaired Water’.

“You” and “Your” - as used in this permit, are intended to refer to the permittee, the operator, or the discharger as the context indicates and that party’s facility or responsibilities. The use of “you” and “your” refers to a particular facility and not to all facilities operated by a particular entity. For example, “you must submit” means the permittee must submit something for that particular facility. Likewise, “all your discharges” would refer only to discharges at that one facility.

A.2. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACHP – Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

APA – Administrative Procedure Act

BAT – Best Available Technology Economically Achievable

BOD5 – Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day test)

BMP – Best Management Practice

BPJ – Best Professional Judgment

BPT – Best Practicable Control Technology Currently Available

CAA – Clean Air Act

CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

CGP – Construction General Permit

COD – Chemical Oxygen Demand

CSGWPP – Comprehensive State Ground Water Protection Program

CWA – Clean Water Act (or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 *et seq*)

CWT – Centralized Waste Treatment

DMR – Discharge Monitoring Report

ELG – Effluent Limitations Guidelines

EPA – U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPCRA – Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act

ESA – Endangered Species Act

FEMA – U. S. Federal Emergency Management Agency

FWS – U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

LA – Load Allocation

MGD – Million Gallons per Day

MOS – Margin of Safety

MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

MSDS – Material Safety Data Sheet

MSGP – Multi-Sector General Permit

NAICS – North American Industry Classification System

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

NHPA – National Historic Preservation Act

NMFS – U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service

NOI – Notice of Intent

NOT – Notice of Termination

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRC – National Response Center

NRHP – National Register of Historic Places

NSPS – New Source Performance Standard

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

NURP – Nationwide Urban Runoff Program

OMB – U. S. Office of Management and Budget

ORW – Outstanding Resource Water

OSM – U. S. Office of Surface Mining

POTW – Publicly Owned Treatment Works

PRA – Paperwork Reduction Act

RCRA – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

RFA – Regulatory Flexibility Act

RQ – Reportable Quantity

SARA – Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act

SBREFA – Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

SDWA – Safe Drinking Water Act
SHPO – State Historic Preservation Officer
SIC – Standard Industrial Classification
SMCRA – Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act
SPCC – Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure
SWPPP – Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
THPO – Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
TRI – Toxic Release Inventory
TSDF – Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facility
TSS – Total Suspended Solids
UMRA – Unfunded Mandates Reform Act
USGS – United States Geological Survey
WLA – Wasteload Allocation
WQS – Water Quality Standard