



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

PATRICIA W. AHO  
COMMISSIONER

Ms. Janelle Gunning  
FMC Biopolymer  
P.O. Box 308  
Rockland, ME 04841  
[Janelle.gunning@fmc.com](mailto:Janelle.gunning@fmc.com)

December 3, 2012

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit # ME0000400  
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application # W001999-5R-G-R  
**Final Permit**

Dear Ms. Gunning:

Enclosed please find a copy of your **final** MEPDES permit and Maine WDL **renewal** which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read this permit/license renewal and its attached conditions carefully. You must follow the conditions in the order to satisfy the requirements of law. Any discharge not receiving adequate treatment is in violation of State Law and is subject to enforcement action.

Any interested person aggrieved by a Department determination made pursuant to applicable regulations, may appeal the decision following the procedures described in the attached DEP FACT SHEET entitled "*Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision.*"

Please contact me at (207) 287-7693 or email: [gregg.wood@maine.gov](mailto:gregg.wood@maine.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gregg wood  
Division of Water Quality Management  
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc.

cc: James Crowley, DEP/CMRO  
Sandy Mojica, EPA  
Ivy Frignoca, Conservation Law Foundation



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

**DEPARTMENT ORDER**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

FMC BIOPOLYMER	)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
ROCKLAND, KNOX COUNTY	)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
COOLING WATERS AND STORM WATER	)	AND
ME0000400	)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W001999-5R-G-R	)	<b>RENEWAL</b>
<b>APPROVAL</b>	)	

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Title 33 USC, §1251, et seq. and *Conditions of Licenses*, 38 M.R.S.A. §414-A, et seq., and applicable regulations, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has considered the application of FMC CORPORATION d/b/a FMC BIOPOLYMER (permittee), with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

**APPLICATION SUMMARY**

The permittee has applied to the Department for the renewal of combination Waste Discharge License (WDL)#W001999-5R-F-R / Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0000400 (permit), which was issued on October 9, 2007 and is due to expire on October 9, 2012. The 10/09/07 permit authorized the discharge of a total of up to 12.1 million gallons per day (MGD) of contact and non-contact cooling waters and storm water via three discrete outfall points to Rockland Harbor, Class SC, in Rockland, Maine.

**PERMIT MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED**

The permittee has requested the following permit modifications of Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements*:

1. Intake Waters monitoring of #00Z can be removed. Testing is no longer required on this intake. (Special Condition A.1)
2. Remove TSS and BOD for required testing characteristics. These parameters are no longer required to be monitored. (Special Condition A.3)
3. Change "Measure" under sample type to "Grab" for pH and Temperature for all outfalls. (Special Conditions A. 2, 3 & 4)
4. Footnote #2: This paragraph can be removed as TSS and BOD are no longer required to be monitored.

### PERMIT MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED (cont'd)

The permittee has requested the following Fact Sheet modifications:

5. Cognizant Official: Please change from Kieran O'Dwyer to [Plant Manager] Dennis Kearney.
6. Permit Summary D. *Wastewater Treatment*: Food-grade antifoam is added to outfall #016 to control foaming.
7. *Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements*, D. TSS and E. BOD: Remove monitoring requirement[s] for monitoring during the 12-month period following issuance of permit. Monitoring is no longer required.

### PERMIT MODIFICATIONS GRANTED

The above permit modification requests are being granted in this permitting action with the exception of Request #5. The Fact Sheet will show the Cognizant Official as Ms. Janelle Gunning (the name submitted on the application); Mr. Kearney's name will be added as a contact.

### PERMIT SUMMARY

This permitting action is similar to the 10/09/07 permitting action in that it is:

1. Carrying forward the daily maximum discharge flow limitations for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A;
2. Carrying forward the daily maximum effluent temperature limitation of 95° Fahrenheit for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A;
3. Carrying forward the daily maximum total residual chlorine concentration limitations for Outfalls #015A, #016A and #019A;
4. Carrying forward the pH range limitation of 6.0 – 8.5 standard units for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A;
5. Carrying forward the requirement to maintain a current Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for all storm water discharges associated with this industrial site.

This permitting action is different from the 10/09/07 permitting action in that it is:

6. Eliminating monthly average and daily maximum concentration and mass reporting requirements for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) for Outfalls #016A and #00Z;
7. Changing the sample types from "Measure" to "Grab" for pH and Effluent Temperature.

## CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in the attached draft Fact Sheet dated August 23, 2012, and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following conclusions:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, *Classification of Maine waters*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
  - (a) Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
  - (b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding natural resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
  - (c) The standards of classification of the receiving water body are met or, where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;
  - (d) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and
  - (e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing water quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment as defined in 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A(1)(D).

**ACTION**

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of FMC BIOPOLYMER to discharge a daily maximum of up to 12.1 MILLION GALLONS PER DAY (MGD) of contact and non-contact cooling water and storm water via three discrete outfall points to Rockland Harbor, Class SC, in Rockland, Maine, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations including:

1. "Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits," revised July 1, 2002, copy attached.
2. The attached Special Conditions, including any effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.
3. This permit and the authorization to discharge become effective upon the date of signature below and expire at midnight five (5) years from the effective date. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the authorization to discharge and the terms and conditions of this permit and all modifications and minor revisions thereto remain in effect until a final Department decision on the renewal application becomes effective. [*Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S.A. § 10002 and *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters*, 06-096 CMR 2(21)(A) (effective April 1, 2003)]

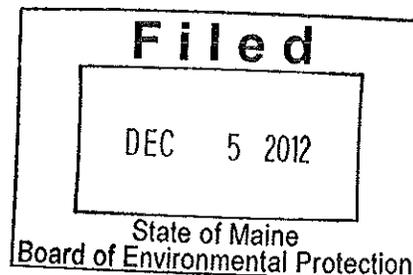
PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: Michael Kuhns  
For Patricia W. Aho, Commissioner

Date of initial receipt of application: July 5, 2012  
Date of application acceptance: July 6, 2012



Date filed with Board of Environmental Protection \_\_\_\_\_

This Order prepared by Phyllis Rand/Gregg Wood BUREAU OF LAND & WATER QUALITY

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

- The permittee is authorized to discharge **non-contact cooling water and storm water via Outfall #015A** to Rockland Harbor at Rockland. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below<sup>(1)</sup>:

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	<u>Monthly Average</u> as specified	<u>Daily Maximum</u> as specified	<u>Monthly Average</u> as specified	<u>Daily Maximum</u> as specified	<u>Measurement Frequency</u> as specified	<u>Sample Type</u> as specified
Flow <i>[50050]</i>	---	0.1 MGD <i>[03]</i>	---	---	Continuous <i>[99]</i>	Recorder <i>[RC]</i>
Effluent Temperature <i>[00011]</i> <i>June 1 – August 31</i>	---	95°F <i>[15]</i>		---	1/Day <i>[01/01]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
Effluent Temperature <i>[00011]</i> <i>September 1 – May 31</i>	---	95°F <i>[15]</i>		---	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
Total Residual Chlorine <i>[50060]</i>	---	---	---	1.0 mg/L <i>[19]</i>	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
pH <i>[00400]</i>	---	6.0 – 8.5 SU <i>[12]</i>		---	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>

The italicized numeric values bracketed in the table and in subsequent text are code numbers that Department personnel utilize to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports.

**FOOTNOTES:** See Page 8 of this permit for applicable footnotes.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

2. The permittee is authorized to discharge **contact cooling water, non-contact cooling water, and storm water via Outfall #016A** to Rockland Harbor at Rockland. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below<sup>(1)</sup>:

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	<u>Monthly Average</u> as specified	<u>Daily Maximum</u> as specified	<u>Monthly Average</u> as specified	<u>Daily Maximum</u> as specified	<u>Measurement Frequency</u> as specified	<u>Sample Type</u> as specified
Flow <i>[50050]</i>	---	11.0 MGD <i>[03]</i>	---	---	Continuous <i>[99/99]</i>	Recorder <i>[RC]</i>
Effluent Temperature <i>[00011]</i> <i>June 1 – August 31</i>	---	95°F <i>[15]</i>		---	1/Day <i>[01/01]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
Effluent Temperature <i>[00011]</i> <i>September 1 – May 31</i>	---	95°F <i>[15]</i>		---	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
Total Residual Chlorine <i>[50060]</i>	---	---	---	1.0 mg/L <i>[19]</i>	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
pH <i>[00400]</i>	---	6.0 – 8.5 SU <i>[12]</i>		---	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>

The italicized numeric values bracketed in the table and in subsequent text are code numbers that Department personnel utilize to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports.

**FOOTNOTES:** See Page 8 of this permit for applicable footnotes.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

3. The permittee is authorized to discharge **non-contact cooling water** via **Outfall #019A** to Rockland Harbor at Rockland. Such discharges shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below<sup>(1)</sup>:

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	<u>Monthly Average</u> as specified	<u>Daily Maximum</u> as specified	<u>Monthly Average</u> as specified	<u>Daily Maximum</u> as specified	<u>Measurement Frequency</u> as specified	<u>Sample Type</u> as specified
Flow <i>[50050]</i>	---	1.0 MGD <i>[03]</i>	---	---	Continuous <i>[99/99]</i>	Recorder <i>[RC]</i>
Effluent Temperature <i>[00011]</i> <i>June 1 – August 31</i>	---	95°F <i>[15]</i>		---	1/Day <i>[01/01]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
Effluent Temperature <i>[00011]</i> <i>September 1 – May 31</i>	---	95°F <i>[15]</i>		---	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
Total Residual Chlorine <i>[50060]</i>	---	---	---	1.0 mg/L <i>[19]</i>	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>
pH <i>[00400]</i>	---	6.0 – 8.5 SU <i>[12]</i>		---	1/Month <i>[01/30]</i>	Grab <i>[GR]</i>

The italicized numeric values bracketed in the table and in subsequent text are code numbers that Department personnel utilize to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports.

**FOOTNOTES:** See Page 8 of this permit for applicable footnotes.

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

#### FOOTNOTES:

1. **Sampling:** Sampling and analysis must be conducted in accordance with; a) methods approved by Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 136, b) alternative methods approved by the Department in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 136 or c) as otherwise specified by the Department. Samples that are sent out for analysis shall be analyzed by a laboratory certified by the State of Maine's Department of Health and Human Services. Samples that are sent to a POTW licensed pursuant to *Waste discharge licenses*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 413 are subject to the provisions and restrictions of *Maine Comprehensive and Limited Environmental Laboratory Certification Rules*, 10-144 CMR 263 (last amended February 13, 2000). Laboratory facilities that analyze compliance samples in-house are subject to the provisions and restrictions of 10-144 CMR 263.

All analytical test results shall be reported to the Department including results which are detected below the respective reporting limits (RLs) specified by the Department or as specified by other approved test methods. If a non-detect analytical test result is below the respective RL, the concentration result shall be reported as <Y where Y is the RL achieved by the laboratory for each respective parameter. Reporting a value of <Y that is greater than an established RL or reporting an estimated value ("J" flagged) is not acceptable and will be rejected by the Department. Reporting analytical data and its use in calculations must follow established Department guidelines specified in this permit or in available Department guidance documents.

### B. NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. The effluent shall not contain a visible oil sheen, foam or floating solids at any time which would impair the usages designated for the classification of the receiving waters.
2. The effluent shall not contain materials in concentrations or combinations which are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life, or which would impair the usages designated for the classification of the receiving waters.
3. The discharge shall not cause visible discoloration or turbidity in the receiving waters, which would impair the usages designated by the classification for the receiving waters.
4. Notwithstanding specific conditions of this permit the effluent must not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification, or lower the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### C. AUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

The permittee is authorized to discharge only in accordance with: 1) the permittee's General Application for Waste Discharge Permit, accepted for processing on July 6, 2012; 2) the terms and conditions of this permit; and 3) only from Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A. Discharges of wastewater from any other point source that are not authorized under this or another Department permit shall be reported in accordance with Standard Condition B(5), *Bypasses*, of this permit.

### D. STORM WATER ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY

The permittee shall maintain a current Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the facility and all storm water outfall points. The SWPPP shall be consistent with the Storm Water Pollution Plans Requirements established in the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's *Multi-Sector General Permit Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity*, dated April 26, 2011. The permittee shall maintain a copy of the SWPPP onsite for Department or USEPA staff inspection.

### E. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with Standard Condition D, the permittee shall notify the Department of the following:

1. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants discharged.
2. For the purposes of this section, adequate notice shall include information on:
  - a. The quality and quantity of waste water discharged; and
  - b. Any anticipated impact of the change in the quantity or quality of the waste water to be discharged from the facility.

### F. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Monitoring results obtained during the previous month shall be summarized for each month and reported on separate Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms provided by the Department and **postmarked on or before the thirteenth (13<sup>th</sup>) day of the month** or hand-delivered to the Department's Regional Office such that the DMRs are **received by the Department on or before the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the month** following the completed reporting period. A signed copy of the DMR and all other reports required herein shall be submitted to the following address:

Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Land and Water Quality  
Division of Water Quality Management  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### F. MONITORING AND REPORTING (cont'd)

Alternatively, if submitting an electronic DMR (eDMR), the completed eDMR must be electronically submitted to the Department by a facility authorized DMR Signatory **not later than close of business on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month** following the completed reporting period. Hard Copy documentation submitted in support of the eDMR must be postmarked on or before the thirteenth (13<sup>th</sup>) day of the month or hand-delivered to the Department's Regional Office such that it is received by the Department on or before the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the month following the completed reporting period. Electronic documentation in support of the eDMR must be submitted not later than close of business on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the completed reporting period.

### G. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) PLAN

This facility shall have a current written comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Plan. The plan shall provide a systematic approach by which the permittee shall at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems related to the discharge of wastewater that are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.

**By December 31 of each year, or within 90 days of any process changes or minor equipment upgrades**, the permittee shall evaluate and modify the O&M Plan to ensure that it is up-to-date. The O&M Plan shall be kept on-site at all times and made available to Department and EPA personnel upon request.

**Within 90 days of completion of new and or substantial upgrades of the waste water system**, the permittee shall submit the updated O&M Plan to their Department inspector for review and comment.

### H. REOPENING OF PERMIT FOR MODIFICATIONS

Upon evaluation of the tests results in the Special Conditions of this permitting action, new site specific information, or any other pertinent test results or information obtained during the term of this permit, the Department may, at any time and with notice to the permittee, modify this permit to: 1) include effluent limits necessary to control specific pollutants or whole effluent toxicity where there is a reasonable potential that the effluent may cause water quality criteria to be exceeded; (2) require additional monitoring if results on file are inconclusive; or (3) change monitoring requirements or limitations based on new information.

### I. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision, or part thereof, of this permit is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the permit shall remain in full force and effect, and shall be construed and enforced in all aspects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, had been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

**MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT  
MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE**

**Draft FACT SHEET**

**August 23, 2012**

PERMIT NUMBER: **ME0000400**  
WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE: **W001999-5R-G-R**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**FMC BIOPOLYMER  
P.O. BOX 308  
ROCKLAND, MAINE 04841**

COUNTY: **KNOX**

NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE DISCHARGE(S) OCCUR(S):

**FMC BIOPOLYMER  
1 CROCKETTS POINT  
ROCKLAND, MAINE 04841**

RECEIVING WATER/CLASSIFICATION: **ROCKLAND HARBOR/CLASS SC**

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER: **JANELLE GUNNING  
(207) 226-3145  
Janelle.Gunning@fmc.com**

PLANT MANAGER: **DENNIS KEARNEY  
(207) 226-3225  
dennis.kearney@fmc.com**

**1. APPLICATION SUMMARY**

Application: FMC Biopolymer (permittee) has applied to the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) for the renewal of combination Waste Discharge License (WDL)#W001999-5R-F-R / Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0000400 (permit), which was issued on October 9, 2007 and is due to expire on October 9, 2012. The 10/09/07 permit authorized the discharge of a total of up to 12.1 million gallons per day (MGD) of contact and non-contact cooling waters and storm water via three discrete outfall points to Rockland Harbor, Class SC, in Rockland, Maine.

## 2. PERMIT MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED

The permittee has requested the following permit modifications of Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements*:

1. Intake Waters monitoring of #00Z can be removed. Testing is no longer required on this intake. (Special Condition A.1)
2. Remove TSS and BOD for required testing characteristics. These parameters are no longer required to be monitored. (Special Condition A.3)
3. Change "Measure" under sample type to "Grab" for pH and Temperature for all outfalls. (Special Conditions A. 2, 3 & 4)
4. Footnote #2: This paragraph can be removed as TSS and BOD are no longer required to be monitored.

The permittee has requested the following Fact Sheet modifications:

5. Cognizant Official: Please change from Kieran O'Dwyer to [Plant Manager] Dennis Kearney.
6. Permit Summary D. *Wastewater Treatment*: Food-grade antifoam is added to outfall #016 to control foaming.
7. *Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements*, D. TSS and E. BOD: Remove monitoring requirement[s] for monitoring during the 12-month period following issuance of permit. Monitoring is no longer required.

## 3. PERMIT MODIFICATIONS GRANTED

The above permit modification requests are being granted in this permitting action with the exception of Request #5. The Fact Sheet will show the Cognizant Official as Ms. Janelle Gunning (the name submitted on the application); Mr. Kearney's name will be added as a contact.

## 4. PERMIT SUMMARY

- a. Terms and Conditions: **This permitting action is similar to the 10/09/07 permitting action in that it is:**

1. Carrying forward the daily maximum discharge flow limitations for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A;
2. Carrying forward the daily maximum effluent temperature limitation of 95° Fahrenheit for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A;
3. Carrying forward the daily maximum total residual chlorine concentration limitations for Outfalls #015A, #016A and #019A;

**4. PERMIT SUMMARY (cont'd)**

4. Carrying forward the pH range limitation of 6.0 – 8.5 standard units for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A;
5. Carrying forward the requirement to maintain a current Storm Water pollution prevention Plan for all storm water discharges associated with this industrial site.

**This permitting action is different from the 10/09/07 permitting action in that it is:**

6. Eliminating monthly average and daily maximum concentration and mass reporting requirements for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) for Outfalls #016A and #00Z;
  7. Changing the sample types from “Measure” to “Grab” for pH and Effluent Temperature.
- b. History: This section provides a summary of significant licensing/permitting actions and milestones that have been completed for the permittee.

May 16, 1974 – The USEPA issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit #ME0000400 to the permittee for a five-year term.

October 30, 2001 – The USEPA issued the Multi-Sector General Permit for Storm Water for a five-year term. The permittee received coverage for storm water discharges under this general permit through permit #MER05A851.

August 13, 2002 – The Department issued combination WDL #W001999-5R-E-R / MEPDES permit #ME0000400 to the permittee for a five-year term. The 8/13/02 permit superseded WDL #W001999-57-D-R issued on February 7, 1996, WDL #W001999-57-B-R issued on May 23, 1990, WDL #1999 issued on May 11, 1983, and WDL #1999 issued on February 22, 1978 (earliest Order on file with the Department).

November 17, 2005 – The Department approved the permittee’s Notice of Intent (NOI) to Comply with the Maine Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity. The NOI was assigned #MER05B129.

October 9, 2007 – The Department issued combination WDL #W001999-5R-F-R / MEPDES permit #ME0000400 to FMC for a five-year term.

July 5, 2012 – The permittee submitted a timely application for renewal of combination WDL #W001999-5R-F-R / MEPDES permit #ME0000400. The application was accepted as complete on July 6, 2012 and assigned WDL #W001999-5R-G-R.

#### 4. PERMIT SUMMARY (cont'd)

- c. Source Description: The permittee is engaged in the extraction and refining of natural hydrocolloids from seaweed to produce suspension aids for food grade products. The permittee extracts and/or refines several different hydrocolloids including, but not limited to carrageenans, clarified locus bean gum, Konjac and agarose. The food and pharmacological industries are the principal users of the permittee's finished products.

The permittee utilizes approximately 15% potable (municipal) water and 85% salt water from Rockland Harbor for production-related processes and cooling waters. Based on Aqua Maine, Inc.'s 2005 Consumer Confidence Report, the potable water supplier treats raw water to a maximum chlorine concentration of 1.1 mg/L. The permittee adds approximately five (5) pounds of calcium hypochlorite per day to their seawater intake to discourage the growth and attachment of marine life in the piping.

The sources of wastewater conveyed to Outfall #015A are non-contact cooling water generated by a product dryer condenser, tank jackets and heat exchangers and storm water runoff from 0.5 acres of impervious area. Wastewater from Outfall #015A discharges from an 18-inch diameter pipe located 1 foot below mean low water.

The sources of wastewater conveyed to Outfall #016A are contact cooling water from three (3) barometric condensers that may contain trace amounts of carrageenan, a naturally occurring polysaccharide from seaweed, which is the main product at the facility, non-contact cooling water from condensers and heat exchangers and storm water runoff from a 1.46-acre impervious area. Food-grade antifoam is added to the discharge stream in quantities considered *de minimus* by the Department. Wastewater from Outfall #016A discharges from a 24-inch diameter pipe 1.5 feet below mean low water.

The sources of wastewater conveyed to Outfall #019A consist solely of non-contact cooling water from a shell and tube heat exchanger, condensers and a series of tank cooling jackets. Wastewater from Outfall #019A discharges from a 6-inch diameter pipe located 11.5 feet above mean low water.

All manufacturing process and sanitary waste waters are conveyed to the City of Rockland Water Pollution Control Facility.

- d. Wastewater Treatment: The permittee does not provide a formal level of treatment to the waste waters. Rather, best practicable treatment (BPT) consists of operational constraints for contact and non-contact cooling waters and best management practices for storm water. These controls ensure compliance with the effluent limitations established in this permit. Waste waters are conveyed for discharge to the tidewaters of Rockland via Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A.

## 5. CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

*Conditions of licenses*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 414-A, requires that the effluent limitations prescribed for discharges, including, but not limited to, effluent toxicity, require application of best practicable treatment (BPT), be consistent with the U.S. Clean Water Act, and ensure that the receiving waters attain the State water quality standards as described in Maine's Surface Water Classification System. In addition, *Certain deposits and discharges prohibited*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 420 and *Surface Water Toxics Control Program*, 06-096 CMR 530 (effective October 9, 2005), require the regulation of toxic substances not to exceed levels set forth in *Surface Water Quality Criteria for Toxic Pollutants*, 06-096 CMR 584 (effective October 9, 2005), and that ensure safe levels for the discharge of toxic pollutants such that existing and designated uses of surface waters are maintained and protected.

## 6. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

*Classifications of estuarine and marine waters*, 38 M.R.S.A. §469(3)(C)(1) classifies the Atlantic Ocean at Rockland Harbor as Class SC waters. *Standards for classification of estuarine and marine waters*, 38 M.R.S.A. §465-B(3) describes the standards for Class SC waters.

## 7. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS

The State of Maine 2010 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (also known as the "305b Report"), prepared by the Department pursuant to Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, lists the estuarine and marine waters at Rockland as, "*Category 4-A: Estuarine and Marine Waters With Impaired Use, TMDL Completed*" (Waterbody ID#722-40 and Waterbody ID#722-8). The cause of the impairment is elevated fecal coliform bacteria counts. The Report states, "*A TMDL is complete, but there is insufficient new data to determine if attainment has been achieved. Note: Bacteria may impair either recreational uses (swimming) or shellfish consumption uses, or both. Shell fish consumption impairments only apply to waters naturally capable of supporting the shellfish-harvesting use (i.e., waters of high enough salinity for propagation of shellfish.)*" On September 28, 2009, the USEPA approved the Department's *Maine Statewide Bacteria TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Loads)*, dated August 2009, for fresh, marine and estuarine waters impaired by bacteria. The discharge from the permittee is not considered a contributing source of fecal coliform bacteria to the receiving water.

The City of Rockland has developed and implemented a combined sewer overflow (CSO) master plan for the elimination of all CSO points associated with the Rockland Water Pollution Control Facility. The Department acknowledges that elimination of all CSO points is a costly and long-term project. As the City of Rockland's treatment plant and sewer collection system are upgraded and maintained in accordance to the CSO Master Plan and Nine Minimum Controls, there should be reductions in the frequency and volume of CSOs and primary treatment activities and, over time, improvement in the quality of the wastewater discharged to the receiving waters.

In addition, all estuarine and marine waters of the State are listed as, "*Category 5-D: Estuarine and Marine Waters Impaired by Legacy Pollutants.*" Impairment in this context refers to the estuarine and marine waters partially supporting the designated use of fishing and harvesting of shellfish due to elevated levels of mercury, PCBs, dioxin, and other persistent, bioaccumulating

**7. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS (cont'd)**

substances in tissues of some fish and in lobster tomalley. Pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. § 420(1-B)(B), "a facility is not in violation of the ambient criteria for mercury if the facility is in compliance with an interim discharge limit established by the Department pursuant to section 413 subsection 11." The Department has not established interim mercury limits for this facility pursuant to *Interim Effluent Limitations and Controls for the Discharge of Mercury*, 06-096 CMR 519 (last amended October 6, 2001), as the Department does not suspect the facility contributes detectable levels of mercury above the raw water intake concentrations.

The Maine Department of Marine Resources (MeDMR) assesses information on shellfish growing areas to ensure that shellfish harvested are safe for consumption. The MeDMR has authority to close shellfish harvesting areas wherever there is a pollution source, a potential pollution threat, or poor water quality. The MeDMR traditionally closes shellfish harvesting areas if there are known sources of discharges with unacceptable bacteria levels (instream thresholds established in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program) or maintains shellfish harvesting closure areas due to lack of updated information regarding ambient water quality conditions. In addition, the MeDMR prohibits shellfish harvesting in the immediate vicinity of all wastewater treatment outfall pipes as a precautionary measure in the event of a failure in the treatment plant's disinfection system. Thus, shellfish harvesting area #C29 is closed to the harvesting of shellfish due to insufficient or limited ambient water quality data to determine that the area meets the standards in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. The shellfish closure area is identified on the map included as **Attachment C** of this Fact Sheet. The Department is making the determination that implementation of best management practices for storm water associated with this industrial site ensure that the discharges from the permittee will not cause or contribute to the failure of the receiving waters to meet the standards of its designated classification.

**8. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

- a. Flow: This permitting action is carrying forward the daily maximum discharge flow limitations of 0.1 million gallons per day (MGD) for Outfall #015A, 11.0 MGD for Outfall #016A, and 1.0 MGD for Outfall #019A.

A review of the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period February 13, 2009 – February 13, 2012 indicates the following:

**Flow**

Outfall	Daily Maximum Limit (MGD)	Range (MGD)	Average (MGD)	Percent Compliance	# DMRs
Outfall #015A	0.1	0 – 0.03	0.02	100%	10
Outfall #016A	11.0	5.8 – 11.0	8.1	100%	34
Outfall #019A	1.0	0.50 – 0.70	0.56	100%	33

**8. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

- b. Dilution Factors: This permitting action does not establish water quality-based effluent limitations based on available dilution of the effluents with the receiving waters. Therefore, acute, chronic and harmonic mean dilution factors associated with the discharges have not been established in this permitting action.
- c. Temperature: This permitting action is carrying forward the daily maximum effluent temperature limitations of 95 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) for Outfalls #015A, #016A and #019A based on best professional judgment of the limitations necessary to ensure compliance with the temperature requirements of *Regulations Relating to Temperature*, 06-096 CMR 582 (last amended February 18, 1989). For marine discharges, 06-096 CMR 582 states,

*No discharge of pollutants shall cause the monthly mean of the daily maximum ambient temperatures in any tidal body of water, as measured outside the mixing zone, to be raised more than 4 degrees Fahrenheit, nor more than 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit from June 1 to September 1. In no event shall any discharge cause the temperature of any tidal waters to exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit at any point outside a mixing zone established by the Board.*

A review of the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period February 13, 2009 – February 13, 2012 indicates the following:

**Temperature**

<b>Outfall</b>	<b>Daily Maximum Limit (°F)</b>	<b>Range (°F)</b>	<b>Average (°F)</b>	<b>Percent Compliance</b>	<b># DMRs</b>
Outfall #015A	95	42 – 70	57	100%	10
Outfall #016A	95	54 – 86	70	100%	34
Outfall #019A	95	51 – 85	68	100%	33

This permitting action is carrying forward the effluent temperature minimum monitoring frequency requirement of once per day between June 1 and August 31 and once per month between September 1 and May 31 of each year based on Department best professional judgment and for consistency with the monitoring requirements established for similar discharges.

**8. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

- d. Total Suspended Solids (TSS): In the previous permitting action, the Department determined that additional effluent and influent monitoring for TSS at Outfall #016A and Pipe #00Z (intake waters) were necessary to adequately determine this permittee's contribution of TSS to the effluent. Further, the Department was to evaluate these test results to determine if it was appropriate to reopen the permit to establish additional monitoring requirements or limitations to protect receiving water quality. Therefore, monthly average and daily maximum concentration and mass monitoring and reporting requirements for TSS for Outfalls #016A and #00Z (intake waters) were established for the twelve-month period following issuance of the previous permit.

A review of the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the 12-month period of November 1, 2007 – November 1, 2008 indicates the following:

**TSS, mass**

Outfall	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range (Lbs/day)	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range Arithmetic Mean (Lbs/day)	# DMRs
Outfall #00Z	982 – 3,917	2,259	12
Outfall #016A	1,650 – 4,856	2,709	12

**TSS, concentration**

Outfall	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range (mg/L)	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range Arithmetic Mean (mg/L)	# DMRs
Outfall #00Z	16 – 77	44	12
Outfall #016A	23 – 76	49	12

It is noted that the monthly average and daily maximum values are equivalent as monitoring was required at a frequency of once per month.

Based on the results over the 12-month monitoring period, the Department has determined the permittee's effluent TSS data at Outfall #016A is similar to the influent TSS data at Outfall #00Z. Therefore, this permitting action is eliminating TSS monitoring requirements at Outfall #016A and Outfall #00Z.

**8. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

- e. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5): In the previous permitting action, the Department determined that limited influent and effluent monitoring for BOD5 was appropriate to assess the permittee's contribution of BOD<sub>5</sub> to the effluent. Therefore, the previous permitting action established monthly average and daily maximum influent and effluent monitoring requirements for BOD5 for the twelve-month period following issuance of the permit so the Department could evaluate these test results to determine if it was appropriate to establish additional monitoring requirements or limitations to protect receiving water quality.

A review of the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the 12-month period of November 1, 2007 – November 1, 2008 indicates the following:

**BOD5, mass**

Outfall	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range (Lbs/day)	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range Arithmetic Mean (Lbs/day)	# DMRs
Outfall #00Z	68 – 130	103	12
Outfall #016A	94 – 1,026*	203	12

**BOD5, concentration**

Outfall	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range (mg/L)	Monthly Average/ Daily Max Range Arithmetic Mean (mg/L)	# DMRs
Outfall #00Z	2 – 2	2	12
Outfall #016A	2 – 15**	3	12

It is noted that the monthly average and daily maximum values are equivalent as monitoring was required at a frequency of once per month.

\*One result recorded in February 2008 was 1,026 lbs/day. Next highest result was 180 lbs/day.

\*\*One result recorded in February 2008 was 15 mg/L. Next highest result was 3 mg/L.

Based on the results of the 12-month monitoring period, the Department has determined the permittee's effluent BOD5 data at Outfall #016A is similar to the influent BOD5 data at Outfall #00Z. Therefore, this permitting action is eliminating BOD5 monitoring requirements at Outfall #016A and at Outfall #00Z.

**8. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

- f. Total Residual Chlorine (TRC): Limitations on TRC are specified to ensure that ambient water quality standards are maintained and that BPT technology is being applied to the discharge. The permittee utilizes potable water from Aqua Maine, Inc., which has been treated to a maximum chlorine concentration of 1.1 mg/L, and treats intake sea water with calcium hypochlorite.

This permitting action is carrying forward the technology-based TRC daily maximum concentration limit of 1.0 mg/L for Outfalls #015A, #016A and #019A, based on a Department best professional judgment determination that the discharges receive adequate dilution with the receiving waters such that water quality-based limitations are not warranted.

A review of the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period February 13, 2009 – February 13, 2012 indicates the following:

**Total Residual Chlorine**

Outfall	Daily Maximum Limit (mg/L)	Range (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)	Percent Compliance	# DMRs
Outfall #015A	1.0	0 – 1	0.3	100%	10
Outfall #016A	1.0	0 – 0.2	0.01	100%	34
Outfall #019A	1.0	0 – 0.4	0.02	100%	33

- g. pH: This permitting action is carrying forward the pH range limitation of 6.0 – 8.5 standard units (SU) for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A, which is considered by the Department as a best practicable treatment standard. This permitting action is carrying forward the minimum monitoring frequency requirement of once per month for pH for Outfalls #015A, #016A, and #019A.

A summary of the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period February 13, 2009 – February 13, 2012 indicates the permittee has been in compliance with the 6.0-8.5 SU pH range limitations 100% of the time during said reporting period for all outfall points.

- h. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET), Priority Pollutant, and Analytical Chemistry Testing: Surface Water Toxics Control Program, 06-096 CMR 530(2)(A), specifies the dischargers subject to the rule as, “*all licensed dischargers of industrial process wastewater or domestic wastes discharging to surface waters of the State must meet the testing requirements of this section. Dischargers of other types of wastewater are subject to this subsection when and if the Department determines that toxicity of effluents may have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to exceedences of narrative or numerical water quality criteria.*” The permittee is not authorized to discharge process waste waters or domestic wastes and the Department is making a best professional judgment determination that toxicity of the

## 8. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

effluents do not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to exceedences of narrative or numerical water quality criteria. Therefore, this permitting action is not establishing WET, priority pollutant or analytical chemistry testing requirements for the discharges via Outfalls #015A, #016A or #019A.

## 9. DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY

As permitted, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards for Class SC classification.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the *Courier Gazette* newspaper on or about June 7, 2012. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on the application. Those persons receiving copies of draft permits shall have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to *Application Processing Procedures for Waste Discharge Licenses*, 06-096 CMR 522 (effective January 12, 2001).

## 11. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from, and written comments sent to:

Gregg Wood  
Division of Water Quality Management  
Bureau of Land & Water Quality  
Department of Environmental Protection  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017      Tel: (207) 287-7693      Fax: (207) 287-3435  
e-mail: [gregg.wood@maine.gov](mailto:gregg.wood@maine.gov)

## 12. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the period of August 23, 2012, through the issuance date of the permit/license, the Department solicited comments on the proposed draft permit/license to be issued for the discharge(s) from the permittee's facility. The Department received written comments from the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) in a letter dated September 24, 2012. The Department has prepared responses to those comments as follows:

## 10. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS (cont'd)

**Comment #1:** **BOD Outfall #016** - The CLF noted that for the month of February 2008, there was an unexplained 7.5 fold spike in BOD from Outfall #016 and wants to know why the Department made the determination the permittee is not required to continue to monitor for BOD. CLF is concerned high levels of BOD discharged into Rockland Harbor can delay the breakdown of fecal coliform bacteria and this could thwart the cleanup of Rockland Harbor.

**Response #1:** The permittee is authorized to discharge contact cooling water, non-contact cooling water and stormwater from Outfall #016. A review of the DMR forms for the 12-month period November 2007 – October 2008 which was the one-year monitoring period for BOD from Outfall #016 indicates 11 of the 12 months in said period, BOD was measured as 2 mg/L which coincides with the minimum detection level for BOD using EPA approved methods. The February 2008 concentration was measured as 15 mg/L which CLF is citing as the 7.5 fold spike in BOD.

A review of the "49 Forms" for the City of Rockland's waste water treatment facility for the month of February 2008 indicates Rockland received 6.49 inches of precipitation with an average temperature of 38°F resulting in significant rain and melting of snow that contributed to the discharge from Outfall #016. This likely explains the elevated levels of BOD. Along with elevated levels of BOD, the February DMR for the permittee's facility indicates a two-fold increase above the mean annual average TSS discharged from Outfall #016, again likely caused by significant precipitation and runoff events.

The February 2008 BOD test result of 15 mg/L is not representative of typical BOD being discharged from Outfall #016 as six consecutive month of test results for BOD after the spike were all 2 mg/L which is why the Department made the determination that Outfall #016 was not a significant source of BOD and further testing would not likely prove otherwise. The Department maintains the position that additional BOD testing for Outfall #016 is not necessary and Outfall #016 is not contributing to the delay in the breakdown of fecal coliform bacteria in Rockland Harbor. The final permit remains unchanged.

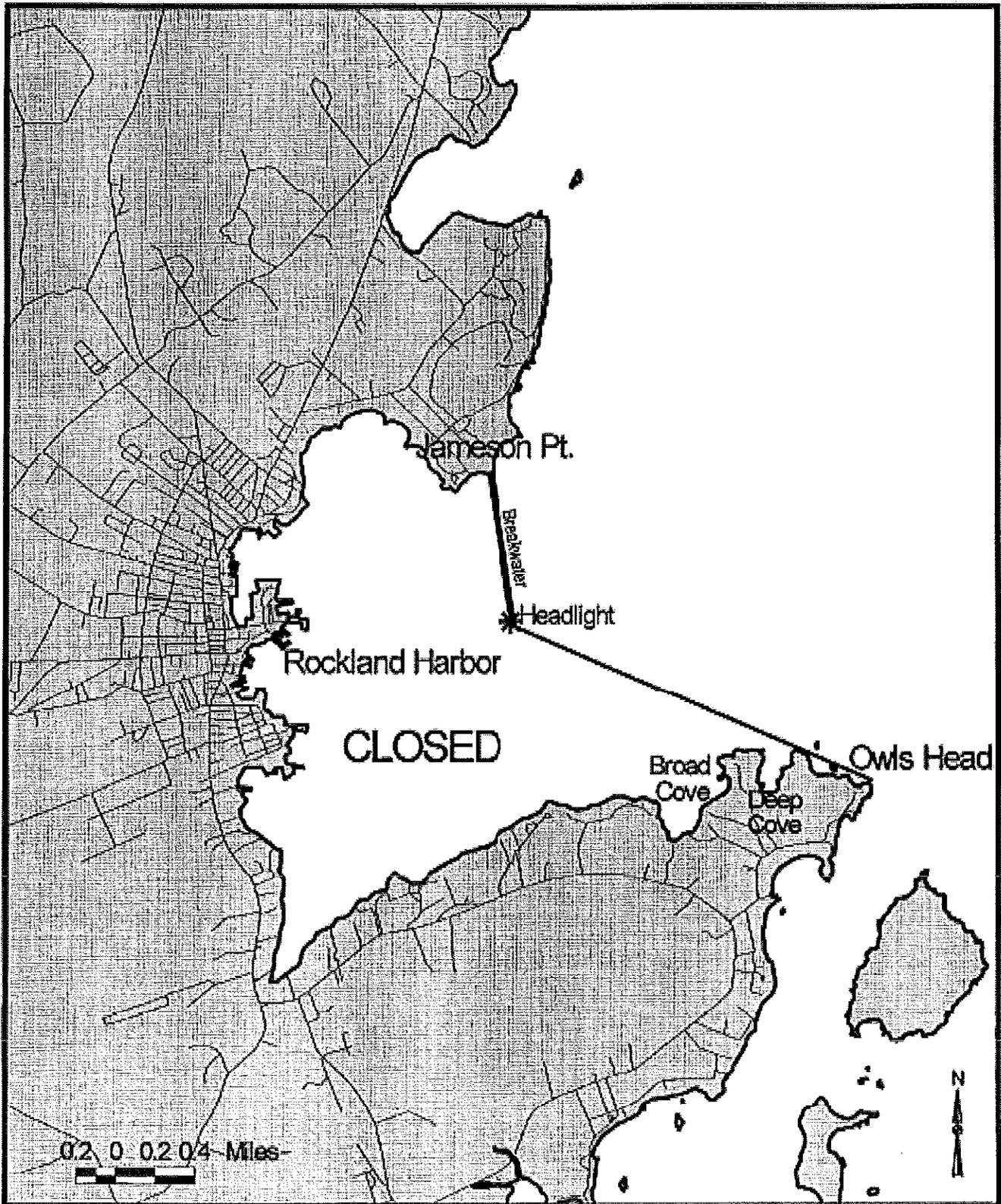
# **ATTACHMENT A**



# Department of Marine Resources

Legal Notice of Shellfish Closure Area

## C 29, Rockland



MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

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**A. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. **General compliance.** All discharges shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit; any changes in production capacity or process modifications which result in changes in the quantity or the characteristics of the discharge must be authorized by an additional license or by modifications of this permit; it shall be a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit to discharge any pollutant not identified and authorized herein or to discharge in excess of the rates or quantities authorized herein or to violate any other conditions of this permit.

2. **Other materials.** Other materials ordinarily produced or used in the operation of this facility, which have been specifically identified in the application, may be discharged at the maximum frequency and maximum level identified in the application, provided:

(a) They are not

- (i) Designated as toxic or hazardous under the provisions of Sections 307 and 311, respectively, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; Title 38, Section 420, Maine Revised Statutes; or other applicable State Law; or
- (ii) Known to be hazardous or toxic by the licensee.

(b) The discharge of such materials will not violate applicable water quality standards.

3. **Duty to comply.** The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of State law and the Clean Water Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

- (a) The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act, and 38 MRSA, §420 or Chapter 530.5 for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.
- (b) Any person who violates any provision of the laws administered by the Department, including without limitation, a violation of the terms of any order, rule license, permit, approval or decision of the Board or Commissioner is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

4. **Duty to provide information.** The permittee shall furnish to the Department, within a reasonable time, any information which the Department may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Department upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

5. **Permit actions.** This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

6. **Reopener clause.** The Department reserves the right to make appropriate revisions to this permit in order to establish any appropriate effluent limitations, schedule of compliance or other provisions which may be authorized under 38 MRSA, §414-A(5).

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**7. Oil and hazardous substances.** Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under section 311 of the Federal Clean Water Act; section 106 of the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980; or 38 MRSA §§ 1301, et. seq.

**8. Property rights.** This permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

**9. Confidentiality of records.** 38 MRSA §414(6) reads as follows. "Any records, reports or information obtained under this subchapter is available to the public, except that upon a showing satisfactory to the department by any person that any records, reports or information, or particular part or any record, report or information, other than the names and addresses of applicants, license applications, licenses, and effluent data, to which the department has access under this subchapter would, if made public, divulge methods or processes that are entitled to protection as trade secrets, these records, reports or information must be confidential and not available for public inspection or examination. Any records, reports or information may be disclosed to employees or authorized representatives of the State or the United States concerned with carrying out this subchapter or any applicable federal law, and to any party to a hearing held under this section on terms the commissioner may prescribe in order to protect these confidential records, reports and information, as long as this disclosure is material and relevant to any issue under consideration by the department."

**10. Duty to reapply.** If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit.

**11. Other laws.** The issuance of this permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other property rights, nor does it relieve the permittee of its obligation to comply with other applicable Federal, State or local laws and regulations.

**12. Inspection and entry.** The permittee shall allow the Department, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the EPA Administrator), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- (a) Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
- (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

**B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES**

**1. General facility requirements.**

- (a) The permittee shall collect all waste flows designated by the Department as requiring treatment and discharge them into an approved waste treatment facility in such a manner as to

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

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maximize removal of pollutants unless authorization to the contrary is obtained from the Department.

- (b) The permittee shall at all times maintain in good working order and operate at maximum efficiency all waste water collection, treatment and/or control facilities.
- (c) All necessary waste treatment facilities will be installed and operational prior to the discharge of any wastewaters.
- (d) Final plans and specifications must be submitted to the Department for review prior to the construction or modification of any treatment facilities.
- (e) The permittee shall install flow measuring facilities of a design approved by the Department.
- (f) The permittee must provide an outfall of a design approved by the Department which is placed in the receiving waters in such a manner that the maximum mixing and dispersion of the wastewaters will be achieved as rapidly as possible.

**2. Proper operation and maintenance.** The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

**3. Need to halt or reduce activity not a defense.** It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

**4. Duty to mitigate.** The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

**5. Bypasses.**

(a) Definitions.

- (i) Bypass means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
- (ii) Severe property damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.

(b) Bypass not exceeding limitations. The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.

(c) Notice.

- (i) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

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(ii) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in paragraph D(1)(f), below. (24-hour notice).

(d) Prohibition of bypass.

(i) Bypass is prohibited, and the Department may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:

(A) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

(B) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and

(C) The permittee submitted notices as required under paragraph (c) of this section.

(ii) The Department may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Department determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in paragraph (d)(i) of this section.

**6. Upsets.**

(a) Definition. Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.

(b) Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

(c) Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:

(i) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;

(ii) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated; and

(iii) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in paragraph D(1)(f), below. (24 hour notice).

(iv) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under paragraph B(4).

(d) Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

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**C. MONITORING AND RECORDS**

**1. General Requirements.** This permit shall be subject to such monitoring requirements as may be reasonably required by the Department including the installation, use and maintenance of monitoring equipment or methods (including, where appropriate, biological monitoring methods). The permittee shall provide the Department with periodic reports on the proper Department reporting form of monitoring results obtained pursuant to the monitoring requirements contained herein.

**2. Representative sampling.** Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. If effluent limitations are based wholly or partially on quantities of a product processed, the permittee shall ensure samples are representative of times when production is taking place. Where discharge monitoring is required when production is less than 50%, the resulting data shall be reported as a daily measurement but not included in computation of averages, unless specifically authorized by the Department.

**3. Monitoring and records.**

- (a) Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
- (b) Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years, the permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Department at any time.
- (c) Records of monitoring information shall include:
  - (i) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
  - (ii) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
  - (iii) The date(s) analyses were performed;
  - (iv) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
  - (v) The analytical techniques or methods used; and
  - (vi) The results of such analyses.
- (d) Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in the permit.
- (e) State law provides that any person who tampers with or renders inaccurate any monitoring devices or method required by any provision of law, or any order, rule license, permit approval or decision is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

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**D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**1. Reporting requirements.**

- (a) Planned changes. The permittee shall give notice to the Department as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:
  - (i) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR 122.29(b); or
  - (ii) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under Section D(4).
  - (iii) The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan;
- (b) Anticipated noncompliance. The permittee shall give advance notice to the Department of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- (c) Transfers. This permit is not transferable to any person except upon application to and approval of the Department pursuant to 38 MRSA, § 344 and Chapters 2 and 522.
- (d) Monitoring reports. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified elsewhere in this permit.
  - (i) Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) or forms provided or specified by the Department for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices.
  - (ii) If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136 or as specified in the permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Department.
  - (iii) Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Department in the permit.
- (e) Compliance schedules. Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date.
- (f) Twenty-four hour reporting.
  - (i) The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance

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has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.

(ii) The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph.

(A) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

(B) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

(C) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Department in the permit to be reported within 24 hours.

(iii) The Department may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under paragraph (f)(ii) of this section if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

(g) Other noncompliance. The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) of this section, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in paragraph (f) of this section.

(h) Other information. Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Department, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

**2. Signatory requirement.** All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Department shall be signed and certified as required by Chapter 521, Section 5 of the Department's rules. State law provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained by any order, rule, permit, approval or decision of the Board or Commissioner is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

**3. Availability of reports.** Except for data determined to be confidential under A(9), above, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Department. As required by State law, effluent data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal sanctions as provided by law.

**4. Existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers.** In addition to the reporting requirements under this Section, all existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers must notify the Department as soon as they know or have reason to believe:

(a) That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":

(i) One hundred micrograms per liter (100 ug/l);

(ii) Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 ug/l) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 ug/l) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/l) for antimony;

(iii) Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with Chapter 521 Section 4(g)(7); or

(iv) The level established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 523 Section 5(f).

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- (b) That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
- (i) Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 ug/l);
  - (ii) One milligram per liter (1 mg/l) for antimony;
  - (iii) Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with Chapter 521 Section 4(g)(7); or
  - (iv) The level established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 523 Section 5(f).

**5. Publicly owned treatment works.**

- (a) All POTWs must provide adequate notice to the Department of the following:
- (i) Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger which would be subject to section 301 or 306 of CWA or Chapter 528 if it were directly discharging those pollutants.
  - (ii) Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit.
  - (iii) For purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on (A) the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW, and (B) any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.
- (b) When the effluent discharged by a POTW for a period of three consecutive months exceeds 80 percent of the permitted flow, the permittee shall submit to the Department a projection of loadings up to the time when the design capacity of the treatment facility will be reached, and a program for maintaining satisfactory treatment levels consistent with approved water quality management plans.

**E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

**1. Emergency action - power failure.** Within thirty days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall notify the Department of facilities and plans to be used in the event the primary source of power to its wastewater pumping and treatment facilities fails as follows.

- (a) For municipal sources. During power failure, all wastewaters which are normally treated shall receive a minimum of primary treatment and disinfection. Unless otherwise approved, alternate power supplies shall be provided for pumping stations and treatment facilities. Alternate power supplies shall be on-site generating units or an outside power source which is separate and independent from sources used for normal operation of the wastewater facilities.
- (b) For industrial and commercial sources. The permittee shall either maintain an alternative power source sufficient to operate the wastewater pumping and treatment facilities or halt, reduce or otherwise control production and or all discharges upon reduction or loss of power to the wastewater pumping or treatment facilities.

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**2. Spill prevention.** (applicable only to industrial sources) Within six months of the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall submit to the Department for review and approval, with or without conditions, a spill prevention plan. The plan shall delineate methods and measures to be taken to prevent and or contain any spills of pulp, chemicals, oils or other contaminants and shall specify means of disposal and or treatment to be used.

**3. Removed substances.** Solids, sludges trash rack cleanings, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed from or resulting from the treatment or control of waste waters shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Department.

**4. Connection to municipal sewer.** (applicable only to industrial and commercial sources) All wastewaters designated by the Department as treatable in a municipal treatment system will be cosigned to that system when it is available. This permit will expire 90 days after the municipal treatment facility becomes available, unless this time is extended by the Department in writing.

**F. DEFINITIONS.** For the purposes of this permit, the following definitions shall apply. Other definitions applicable to this permit may be found in Chapters 520 through 529 of the Department's rules

**Average** means the arithmetic mean of values taken at the frequency required for each parameter over the specified period. For bacteria, the average shall be the geometric mean.

**Average monthly discharge limitation** means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. Except, however, bacteriological tests may be calculated as a geometric mean.

**Average weekly discharge limitation** means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week.

**Best management practices ("BMPs")** means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the State. 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.

**Composite sample** means a sample consisting of a minimum of eight grab samples collected at equal intervals during a 24 hour period (or a lesser period as specified in the section on monitoring and reporting) and combined proportional to the flow over that same time period.

**Continuous discharge** means a discharge which occurs without interruption throughout the operating hours of the facility, except for infrequent shutdowns for maintenance, process changes, or other similar activities.

**Daily discharge** means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.

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**Discharge Monitoring Report ("DMR")** means the EPA uniform national form, including any subsequent additions, revisions, or modifications for the reporting of self-monitoring results by permittees. DMRs must be used by approved States as well as by EPA. EPA will supply DMRs to any approved State upon request. The EPA national forms may be modified to substitute the State Agency name, address, logo, and other similar information, as appropriate, in place of EPA's.

**Flow weighted composite sample** means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of aliquots collected at a constant time interval, where the volume of each aliquot is proportional to the flow rate of the discharge.

**Grab sample** means an individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

**Interference** means a Discharge which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, both:

- (1) Inhibits or disrupts the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal; and
- (2) Therefore is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation) or of the prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal in compliance with the following statutory provisions and regulations or permits issued thereunder (or more stringent State or local regulations): Section 405 of the Clean Water Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) (including title II, more commonly referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and including State regulations contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to subtitle D of the SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

**Maximum daily discharge limitation** means the highest allowable daily discharge.

**New source** means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced:

- (a) After promulgation of standards of performance under section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, or
- (b) After proposal of standards of performance in accordance with section 306 of 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.

**Pass through** means a discharge which exits the POTW into waters of the State in quantities or concentrations which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation).

**Permit** means an authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by EPA or an approved State to implement the requirements of 40 CFR parts 122, 123 and 124. Permit includes an NPDES general permit (Chapter 529). Permit does not include any permit which has not yet been the subject of final agency action, such as a draft permit or a proposed permit.

**Person** means an individual, firm, corporation, municipality, quasi-municipal corporation, state agency, federal agency or other legal entity.

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**Point source** means 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 or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

**Pollutant** means dredged spoil, solid waste, junk, incinerator residue, sewage, refuse, effluent, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemicals, biological or radiological materials, oil, petroleum products or byproducts, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, dirt and industrial, municipal, domestic, commercial or agricultural wastes of any kind.

**Process wastewater** means any water which, during manufacturing or processing, comes into direct contact with or results from the production or use of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, byproduct, or waste product.

**Publicly owned treatment works ("POTW")** means any facility for the treatment of pollutants owned by the State or any political subdivision thereof, any municipality, district, quasi-municipal corporation or other public entity.

**Septage** means, for the purposes of this permit, any waste, refuse, effluent sludge or other material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, vault privy or similar source which concentrates wastes or to which chemicals have been added. Septage does not include wastes from a holding tank.

**Time weighted composite** means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of equal volume aliquots collected over a constant time interval.

**Toxic pollutant** includes any pollutant listed as toxic under section 307(a)(1) or, in the case of sludge use or disposal practices, any pollutant identified in regulations implementing section 405(d) of the CWA. Toxic pollutant also includes those substances or combination of substances, including disease causing agents, which after discharge or upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation or assimilation into any organism, including humans either directly through the environment or indirectly through ingestion through food chains, will, on the basis of information available to the board either alone or in combination with other substances already in the receiving waters or the discharge, cause death, disease, abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions, including malfunctions in reproduction, or physical deformations in such organism or their offspring.

**Wetlands** means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

**Whole effluent toxicity** means the aggregate toxic effect of an effluent measured directly by a toxicity test.



# DEP INFORMATION SHEET

## Appealing a Department Licensing Decision

Dated: March 2012

Contact: (207) 287-2811

### SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's ("DEP") Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection ("Board"); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. An aggrieved person seeking review of a licensing decision over which the Board had original jurisdiction may seek judicial review in Maine's Superior Court.

A judicial appeal of final action by the Commissioner or the Board regarding an application for an expedited wind energy development (35-A M.R.S.A. § 3451(4)) or a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S.A. § 480-HH(1)) or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project (38 M.R.S.A. § 636-A) must be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court sitting as the Law Court.

This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with a review of the statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help a person to understand his or her rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

### I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

#### LEGAL REFERENCES

The laws concerning the DEP's *Organization and Powers*, 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 341-D(4) & 346, the *Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001, and the DEP's *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters* ("Chapter 2"), 06-096 CMR 2 (April 1, 2003).

#### HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written appeal within 30 days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board will be rejected.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by the Board's receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner a copy of the appeal documents and if the person appealing is not the applicant in the license proceeding at issue the applicant must also be sent a copy of the appeal documents. All of the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

#### WHAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

Appeal materials must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status.* The appeal must explain how the person filing the appeal has standing to maintain an appeal. This requires an explanation of how the person filing the appeal may suffer a particularized injury as a result of the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.
5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.
6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing on the appeal is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.
7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence, referred to as supplemental evidence, to be considered by the Board in an appeal only when the evidence is relevant and material and that the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2.

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD**

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license application file is public information, subject to any applicable statutory exceptions, made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.
2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.
3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* If a license has been granted and it has been appealed the license normally remains in effect pending the processing of the appeal. A license holder may proceed with a project pending the outcome of an appeal but the license holder runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

#### **WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD**

The Board will formally acknowledge receipt of an appeal, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal. The notice of appeal, any materials accepted by the Board Chair as supplementary evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members with a recommendation from DEP staff. Persons filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision or remand the matter to the Commissioner for further proceedings. The Board will notify the appellant, a license holder, and interested persons of its decision.

## II. JUDICIAL APPEALS

Maine law generally allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner or Board licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & M.R. Civ. P 80C. A party's appeal must be filed with the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Board's or the Commissioner's decision. For any other person, an appeal must be filed within 40 days of the date the decision was rendered. Failure to file a timely appeal will result in the Board's or the Commissioner's decision becoming final.

An appeal to court of a license decision regarding an expedited wind energy development, a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project, or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project may only be taken directly to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. See 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(4).

Maine's Administrative Procedure Act, DEP statutes governing a particular matter, and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure must be consulted for the substantive and procedural details applicable to judicial appeals.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, for administrative appeals contact the Board's Executive Analyst at (207) 287-2452 or for judicial appeals contact the court clerk's office in which your appeal will be filed.

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**Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.**

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