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**Part XIV**

**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

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**Final National Pollutant Discharge  
Elimination System Storm Water Multi-  
Sector General Permit for Industrial  
Activities; Notice**

definition of "storm water discharge associated with industrial activity" which addresses point source discharges of storm water from eleven major categories of industrial activities. Industrial activities from all of these categories with the exception of construction activities participated in the group application process. The information contained in the group applications indicates that type and amount of pollutants discharged in storm water varies from industrial activity to industrial activity because of the variety of potential pollutant sources present in different industrial activities, as well as the variety of pollution prevention measures commonly practiced by each of the regulated industries. To facilitate the process of developing permit conditions for each of the 1200 group applications submitted, EPA classified groups into 29 industrial sectors where the nature of industrial activity, type of materials handled and material management practices employed were sufficiently similar for the purposes of developing permit conditions. Each of the industrial sectors were represented by one or more groups which participated in the group application process. Table 1 lists each of the industrial activities covered by today's permit, and the corresponding sections of today's fact sheet and permit which discuss the specific requirements for that industry. EPA has further

divided some of the 29 sectors into subsectors in order to establish more specific and appropriate permit conditions, including best management practices and monitoring requirements.

Coverage under today's general permit is available to storm water discharges from industrial activities represented by the group application process. However, coverage under this permit is not restricted to participants in the group application process. To limit coverage under this general permit only to those who participated in the Group application process would not be appropriate for administrative, environmental, and national consistency reasons. The administrative burden for EPA to develop separate general permits for non-group members would be excessive, unnecessary, and wasteful of tax dollars. EPA would also need to use the same information in the development of such permits. The permits would be essentially the same. The time spent in this process would leave many facilities unregulated for some number of additional months. This would not address the environmental concerns of the Clean Water Act. Likewise, group members are not precluded from seeking coverage under other available storm water permits such as EPA's "baseline" general permits for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity, (57 FR 41175 and 57 FR 44412). Group members must consider,

however, that the deadlines for preparing and implementing the pollution prevention plan required under the baseline permit have already expired for existing facilities. Therefore, group members that seek coverage under the baseline general permit must have a pollution prevention plan developed and implemented prior to NOI submittal.

Unlike the baseline general permits, today's permit does not exclude all storm water discharges subject to effluent limitation guidelines. Four types of storm water discharges subject to effluent limitation guidelines may be covered under today's permit if they are not already subject to an existing or expired NPDES permit. These discharges include contaminated storm water runoff from phosphate fertilizer manufacturing facilities, runoff associated with asphalt paving or roofing emulsion production, runoff from material storage piles at cement manufacturing facilities and coal pile runoff at steam electric generating facilities. The permit does not, however, authorize all storm water discharges subject to effluent guidelines. Storm water discharges subject to effluent guidelines under 40 CFR part 436 or for mine drainage under 40 CFR part 440 are not covered under today's permit nor are discharges subject to effluent guidelines for acid or alkaline mine drainage under 40 CFR part 434.

TABLE 1.—INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES COVERED BY TODAY'S GENERAL PERMIT

Industrial activity	Fact sheet section describing discharges covered	Permit section describing discharges covered
Timber Products Facilities .....	VIII.A .....	XI.A.
Paper and Allied Products Manufacturing Facilities .....	VIII.B .....	XI.B.
Chemical and Allied Products Manufacturing Facilities .....	VIII.C .....	XI.C.
Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials Manufacturers and Lubricant Manufacturers .....	VIII.D .....	XI.D.
Glass, Clay, Cement, Concrete, and Gypsum Product Manufacturing Facilities .....	VIII.E .....	XI.E.
Primary Metals Facilities .....	VIII.F .....	XI.F.
Metal Mining (Ore Mining and Dressing) Facilities .....	VIII.G .....	XI.G.
Coal Mines and Coal Mining-Related Facilities .....	VIII.H .....	XI.H.
Oil and Gas Extraction Facilities .....	VIII.I .....	XI.I.
Mineral Mining and Processing Facilities .....	VIII.J .....	XI.J.
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities .....	VIII.K .....	XI.K.
Landfills and Land Application Sites .....	VIII.L .....	XI.L.
Automobile Salvage Yards .....	VIII.M .....	XI.M.
Scrap and Waste Recycling Facilities .....	VIII.N .....	XI.N.
Steam Electric Power Generating Facilities, Including Coal Handling Areas .....	VIII.O .....	XI.O.
Vehicle Maintenance or Equipment Cleaning Areas at Motor Freight Transportation Facilities, Passenger Transportation Facilities, Petroleum Bulk Oil Stations and Terminals, Rail Transportation Facilities, and the United States Postal Service.	VIII.P .....	XI.P.
Vehicle Maintenance Areas and/or Equipment Cleaning Operations at Water Transportation Facilities.	VIII.Q .....	XI.Q.
Ship and Boat Building or Repairing Yards .....	VIII.R .....	XI.R.
Vehicle Maintenance Areas, Equipment Cleaning Areas, or Deicing Area located at Air Transportation Facilities.	VIII.S .....	XI.S.
Treatment Works .....	VIII.T .....	XI.T.
Food and Kindred Products Facilities .....	VIII.U .....	XI.U.
Textile Mills, Apparel, and Other Fabric Product Manufacturing Facilities .....	VIII.V .....	XI.V.
Wood and Metal Furniture and Fixture Manufacturing Facilities .....	VIII.W .....	XI.W.

includes in the storm water pollution prevention plan a description of the location of the outfalls and explaining in detail why the outfalls are expected to discharge substantially identical effluent. In addition, for each outfall that the permittee believes is representative, an estimate of the size of the drainage area (in square feet) and an estimate of the runoff coefficient of the drainage area (e.g., low (under 40 percent), medium (40 to 65 percent) or high (above 65 percent)) shall be provided in the plan.

**f. Compliance Monitoring Requirements.** Today's permit requires permittees with coal pile runoff associated with steam electric power generation to monitor for the presence of total suspended solids and pH at least annually. These monitoring requirements are necessary to evaluate compliance with the numeric effluent limitation imposed on these discharges. Monitoring shall be performed upon a minimum of one grab sample. All samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. The grab sample shall be taken during the first 30 minutes of the discharge. If the collection of a grab sample during the first 30 minutes is impracticable, a grab sample can be taken during the first hour of the discharge, and the discharger shall submit with the monitoring report a description of why a grab sample during the first 30 minutes was impracticable. Monitoring results shall be submitted on Discharge Monitoring Report Form(s) postmarked no later than the last day of the month following collection of the sample. For each outfall, one Discharge Monitoring Report from must be submitted per storm event sampled. Facilities which discharge through a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system (systems serving a population of 100,000 or more) must also submit signed copies of discharge monitoring reports to the operator of the municipal separate storm sewer system. Alternative Certification provisions described in Section XI.O.5 do not apply to facilities subject to compliance monitoring requirements in this section. Compliance monitoring is required at least annually for discharges subject to effluent limitations. Therefore, EPA cannot permit a facility to waive compliance monitoring.

**g. Quarterly Visual Examination of Storm Water Quality.** Quarterly visual examinations of storm water discharges from each outfall are required at steam

electric generating facilities. The examination must be of a grab sample collected from each storm water outfall. The examination of storm water grab samples shall include any observations of color, odor, clarity, floating solids, settled solids, suspended solids, foam, oil sheen, or other obvious indicators of storm water pollution. The examination must be conducted in a well lit area. No analytical tests are required to be performed on these samples.

The examination must be made at least once in each quarter of the permit during daylight unless there is insufficient rainfall or snow-melt to runoff. Where practicable, the same individual should carry out the collection and examination of discharges throughout the life of the permit to ensure the greatest degree of consistency possible. Grab samples shall be collected within the first 30 minutes (or as soon thereafter as practical, but not to exceed 60 minutes) of when the runoff begins discharging. Reports of the visual examination include: the examination date and time, examination personnel, visual quality of the storm water discharge, and probable sources of any observed storm water contamination. The visual examination reports must be maintained onsite with the pollution prevention plan.

EPA believes that this quick and simple assessment will allow the permittee to approximate the effectiveness of his/her plan on a regular basis at very little cost. Although the visual examination cannot assess the chemical properties of the storm water discharged from the site, the examination will provide meaningful results upon which the facility may act quickly. The frequency of this visual examination will also allow for timely adjustments to be made to the plan. If BMPs are performing ineffectively, corrective action must be implemented. A set of tracking or follow-up procedures must be used to ensure that appropriate actions are taken in response to the examinations. The visual examination is intended to be performed by members of the pollution prevention team. This hands on examination will enhance the staff's understanding of the storm water problems on that site and effects on the management practices that are included in the plan.

When a discharger is unable to collect samples over the course of the visual examination period as a result of adverse climatic conditions, the discharger must document the reason for not performing the visual examination and retain this documentation onsite with the records

of the visual examinations. Adverse weather conditions which may prohibit the collection of samples include weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms, etc.) or otherwise make the collection of a sample impracticable (drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).

EPA realizes that if a facility is inactive and unstaffed it may be difficult to collect storm water discharge samples when a qualifying event occurs. Today's final permit has been revised so that inactive, unstaffed facilities can exercise a waiver of the requirement to conduct quarterly visual examination.

**P. Storm Water Discharges Associated With Industrial Activity From Motor Freight Transportation Facilities, Passenger Transportation Facilities, Petroleum Bulk Oil Stations and Terminals, Rail Transportation Facilities, and United States Postal Service Transportation Facilities**

**1. Discharges Covered Under This Section**

Special conditions have been developed for ground transportation facilities and rail transportation facilities that have vehicle and equipment maintenance shops (vehicle and equipment rehabilitation, mechanical repairs, painting, fueling and lubrication) and equipment cleaning operations. Vehicle and equipment maintenance is a broad term used to include the following activities: vehicle and equipment fluid changes, mechanical repairs, parts cleaning, sanding, refinishing, painting, fueling, locomotive sanding (loading sand for traction), storage of vehicles and equipment waiting for repair or maintenance, and storage of the related materials and waste materials, such as oil, fuel, batteries, tires, or oil filters. Equipment cleaning operations include areas where the following types of activities take place: vehicle exterior wash down, interior trailer washouts, tank washouts, and rinsing of transfer equipment. Any storm water discharges from facilities where such activities take place are subject to the special conditions described in Part XI.P. of today's permit.

The conditions in this section apply to storm water discharges from vehicle and equipment maintenance shops or cleaning operations located on any of the industrial facilities covered under the storm water application regulations (40 CFR 122.26) and applying for coverage under this permit.