

## Directions for Using Local Rainfall Data to Develop Site-Specific Rainfall Depths

The Central Coast Post-Construction Requirements stipulate that municipalities must require Regulated Projects to use rainfall statistics provided by the Central Coast Water Board or to calculate site-specific rainfall depths determined from local rainfall data using USEPA's methodology (see Post-Construction Requirements Provision B.4.c). Municipalities opting to allow Regulated Projects to develop site-specific rainfall depths, in place of using the rainfall depths provided by the Central Coast Water Board, may demonstrate compliance with this provision by requiring Regulated Projects to use local rainfall data obtained from a rain gage (or gages) that meets the criteria in Table 1.1 (Regulated Project Location Relative to Rain Gage) and Table 1.2 (Rain Gage and Data Quality).

Regulated Projects requesting municipal approval of a site-specific rainfall depth determined from local rainfall data should also describe the following information about the rain gage:

1. The method used for error detection and correction of the rainfall record,
2. The gage type (e.g., tipping bucket), and any gage repair or replacement that has occurred,
3. Individuals or entity responsible for gage data collection,
4. The location of the gage, including proximity to structures, trees and high relief landforms,
5. A description of the completeness of the rainfall record proposed for use in determining alternative 85th and 95th rainfall depths. Completeness should be described relative to the completeness of the record available from the nearest institutionally-operated (e.g., municipal, university, National Climatic Data Center) gage. Include a calculation of the percentage of rainfall events recorded in the institutionally-operated gage record that are also recorded for the same period in the record proposed for use.
6. A statement by the individual or entity submitting the request, that the gage data, upon which the site-specific rainfall depth is based, are an accurate record of actual rainfall events over the period of the entire record.

Once the Regulated Project demonstrates to the municipality it has acceptable rainfall data, the municipality must require the Regulated Project to use USEPA's methodology provided in Part I.D of the December 2009 *Technical Guidance on Implementing the Stormwater Runoff Requirements for Federal Projects under Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act* to calculate site-specific rainfall depths. The municipality should require the Regulated Project to include all documentation supporting the site-specific rainfall depths in the Regulated Project's Stormwater Control Plan. The municipality is responsible for reviewing and approving the site-specific rainfall depths.

**Table 1.1: Regulated Project Location Relative to Rain Gage**

Parameter	Standard	Units
Maximum elevation difference	500	feet
Maximum distance separation	5	miles

**Table 1.2: Rain Gage and Data Quality**

Parameter	Standard	Units
Minimum duration of rainfall data	30	years
Maximum gage depth increment	0.1	inches
Minimum data recording frequency	once per 24	hours
Minimum frequency of gage calibration records	annually	NA