C.5. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The purpose of this provision is to implement the illicit discharge prohibition and to ensure illicit discharges are detected and controlled that are not otherwise controlled under provision C4, Industrial and Commercial Site Controls and C6, Construction Site Controls. Permittees shall develop and implement an illicit discharge program that includes an active surveillance component and a centralized complaint collection and follow-up component to target illicit discharge and non-stormwater sources. Permittees shall maintain a complaint tracking and follow-up data system as their primary accountability reporting for this provision.

C.5.a. Legal Authority

i. Task Description – Permittees shall have the legal authority to prohibit and control illicit discharges and escalate stricter enforcement to achieve expedient compliance.

ii. Implementation Level

(1) Permittees shall have adequate legal authority to address stormwater and non-stormwater pollution associated with, but not limited to the following:

(a) Sewage;

(b) Discharges of wash water resulting from the cleaning of exterior surfaces and pavement, or the equipment and other facilities of any commercial business, or any other public or private facility;

(c) Discharges of runoff from material storage areas, including containing chemicals, fuels, or other potentially polluting or hazardous materials;

(d) Discharges of pool or fountain water containing chlorine, biocides, or other chemicals; discharges of pool or fountain filter backwash water;

(e) Discharges of sediment, pet waste, vegetation clippings, or other landscape or construction-related wastes; and

(f) Discharges of food-related wastes (e.g., grease, fish processing, and restaurant kitchen mat and trash bin wash water, etc.).

(2) Permittees shall have adequate legal authority to prohibit, discover through inspection and surveillance, and eliminate illicit connections and discharges to storm drains.

(3) Permittees shall have adequate legal authority to control the discharge of spills, dumping, or disposal of materials other than storm water to storm drains.

C.5.b. Enforcement Response Plan (ERP)

i. Task Description – Permittees shall develop and implement an ERP that will serve as guidance for inspection staff to take consistent actions to achieve timely and effective abatement of illicit discharges.

ii. Implementation Level – The ERP shall contain the following:

(1) Recommended responses and enforcement actions – including timeframes for corrections of problems – for various types and degree of violations. The ERP shall provide guidelines on when to employ the range of regulatory responses from warnings, citations and cleanup and cost recovery, to administrative or criminal penalties.

(2) Timely Correction of Violations: All violations must be corrected in a timely manner with the goal of correcting them before the next rain event but no longer than 10 business days after the violations are discovered. If more than 10 business days are required for compliance, a rationale shall be recorded in the electronic database or equivalent tabular system. Immediate correction can be temporary and short-term if a long-term, permanent correction will involve significant resources and construction time. An example would be replumbing of a wash area to the sanitary sewer, which would involve an immediate short-term, temporary fix followed by permanent replumbing.

(3) If corrective actions are not implemented promptly or if there are repeat violations, Permittees shall escalate responses as needed to achieve compliance, including referral to other agencies were necessary.

(4) The ERP shall be developed and implemented by April 1, 2010.

C.5.c. Spill and Dumping Response, Complaint Response, and Frequency of Inspections

i. Task Description – Permittees shall have a central contact point, including a phone number for complaints and spill reporting, and publicize this number to both internal Permittee staff and the public. If 911 is selected, also maintain and publicize a staffed, non-emergency phone number with voicemail, which is checked ~~daily~~during normal business hours.

Permittees shall develop a spill/dumping response flow chart and phone tree or contact list for internal use that shows the various responsible agencies and their contacts, who would be involved in illicit discharge incident response that goes beyond the Permittees immediate capabilities. The list shall be maintained and updated as changes occur.

Permittees shall conduct reactive inspections in response to complaints and follow-up inspections as needed to ensure that corrective measures have been implemented to achieve and maintain compliance.

ii. **Implementation Level** – Permittees will have the phone number and contact information available and integrated into training and outreach both to Permittee staff and the public by July 1, 2010.

iii. **Reporting** – Submit the complaint and spill response phone number and spill contact list with the 2010 Annual Report and update annually if changes occur.

C.5.d. Control of Mobile Sources

i. **Task Description** – The purpose of this section is to establish oversight and control of pollutants associated with mobile business sources.

ii. Implementation Level – Each Permittee shall develop and implement a program to reduce the discharge of pollutants from mobile businesses.

(1) The program shall include the following:

(a) Development and implementation of minimum standards and BMPs to be required for each of the various types of mobile businesses such as automobile washing, power washing, steam cleaning, and carpet cleaning. This guidance can be developed via county-wide or regional collaboration.

(b) Development and implementation of an enforcement strategy which specifically addresses the unique characteristics of mobile businesses.

(c) Outreach to mobile businesses operating within the Permittee's jurisdiction with minimum standards and BMP requirements and local ordinances through an outreach and education strategy.

(d) Inspection of mobile businesses as needed.

(2) Permittees should cooperate regionally in developing and implementing their programs for mobile businesses, including sharing of mobile business inventories, BMP requirements, enforcement action information, and education.

iii. Reporting – Permittees shall report on implementation of minimum standards and BMPs for mobile business and their enforcement strategy in each Annual Report.

C.5.e. Collection System Screening - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Map Availability

i. Task Description – Permittees shall perform routine surveys for illicit discharges and illegal dumping in above ground check points in the collection system including elements that are typically inspected for other maintenance purposes, such as end of pipes, creeks, flood conveyances, storm drain inlets and catch basins, in coordination with public works/flood control maintenance surveys, video inspections of storm drains, and during other routine Permittee maintenance and inspection activities when Permittee staff are working in or near the MS4 system.

ii. Implementation Level – Permittees shall develop and implement a screening program utilizing the USEPA/Center for Watershed Protection publication, "Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination: A Guidance Manual for Program Development and Technical Assessment." Permittees shall implement the screening program by conducting a survey of strategic collection system check points (one screening point per square mile of Permittee urban and suburban jurisdiction area, less open space) including some key major outfalls draining industrial areas as defined in 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(5) once each year in dry weather conditions meaning no significant rainfall within the past 3 weeks. Routine surveys that occur on an ongoing basis during regular conveyance system inspections may be credited toward this requirement. Make maps of the MS4 publicly available, either electronically or in hard copy by July 1, 2010. The public availability shall be through a publicized single point of contact that

is convenient for the public, such as a staffed counter or web accessible maps. The MS4 map availability shall be publicized through Permittee directories and web pages.

iii. Reporting – Permittees shall provide a summary of their collection screening program, a summary of problems found during collection system screening, and any changes to the screening program in each Annual Report.

C.5.f. Tracking and Case Follow-up

i. Task Description – All incidents or discharges reported to the complaint/spill system that might pose a threat to water quality shall be logged to track follow-up and response through problem resolution. The data collected shall be sufficient to demonstrate escalating responses for repeated problems, and inter/intra-agency coordination, where appropriate.

ii. Implementation Level – Create and maintain a water quality spill and discharge complaint tracking and follow-up in an electronic database or equivalent tabular system by April 1, 2010.

The spill and discharge complaint tracking system shall contain the following information:

(1) Complaint information:
- (a) Date and time of complaint
- (b) Type of pollutant
- (c) Problem Status (potential or actual discharge.)

(2) Investigation information:
- (a) Date and time started
- (b) Type of pollutant
- (c) Entered storm drain and/or receiving water
- (d) Date abated
- (e) Type of enforcement (if applicable)

(3) Response time (days)
- (a) Call to investigation
- (b) Investigation to abatement
- (c) Call to abatement

The electronic database or equivalent tabular system shall be made available to Water Board staff as needed for review of enforcement response through problem resolution.

iii. Reporting – Permittees shall provide the following information in the Annual Report:

(1) Number of discharges reported;

(2) Number of discharges reaching storm drains and/or receiving waters;

(3) Number and percentage of discharges resolved in a timely manner; and

(4) Summary of major types of discharges and complaints.