GENERAL PERMIT REGISTRATION DOCUMENT INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF THIS GENERAL PERMIT

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION AND LAND DISTURBANCE ACTIVITIES

A. Permit Registration Document (PRD) Requirements

All linear underground and overhead projects (LUPs) shall comply with the Permit Registration Document (PRD) requirements in Attachments A, A.1, A.2 of this General Permit. All Traditional Construction Projects shall comply with PRD requirements in this General Permit and this Attachment B.

B. Who Must Submit PRDs

Discharges of stormwater associated with construction activity that result in the disturbance of one acre or more of land area shall apply and obtain coverage under NPDES General Construction for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (General Permit). Any construction activity that is a part of a larger common plan of development or sale must also be covered under this General Permit, regardless of size. For example, if 0.5 acre of a 20-acre subdivision is disturbed by the construction activities of discharger A and the remaining 19.5 acres is to be developed by discharger B, discharger A must obtain this General Permit for the 0.5-acre project.

Other discharges from construction activities that are covered under this General Permit can be found in Section II of the Order of this General Permit.

It is the Legally Responsible Person’s responsibility to obtain coverage under this General Permit by electronically certifying and submitting complete PRDs.

C. Annual Fees and Fee Calculation

1. Annual fees are calculated based upon the total area of land disturbance not the total size of the acreage owned. However, the calculation includes all acres to be disturbed during the duration of the project. For example, if 10 acres are scheduled to be disturbed the first year and 10 acres in each subsequent year for 5 years; the annual fees would be based upon 50 acres of total disturbance. The State Water Board will evaluate adding acreage to an existing General Permit WDID Number on a case-by-case basis. Any acreage addition must be contiguous to the permitted land area and the existing SWPPP must be appropriate for the construction activity and topography. The Change of Information process enables the applicant to remove acres from inclusion in the annual fee calculation as acreage is built out, stabilized, and/or sold.
2. The annual fees are established through regulations adopted by the State Water Board. Annual fees are subject to change by regulation.

3. Dischargers that apply for and satisfy the Small Construction Rainfall Erosivity Waiver requirements shall pay the applicable fee.

D. When to Apply

Dischargers proposing to conduct construction activities subject to this General Permit shall submit PRDs prior to the commencement of construction activity. Construction activity cannot commence until the Waste Discharge Identification number is issued.

In all cases, except public emergencies (e.g., wildfire, flood), PRDs must be completed and Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) Number issued before construction can commence (refer to Section II.B.3-5 of the Order of this General Permit).

E. Requirements for Completing Permit Registration Documents (PRDs)

All dischargers required to comply with this General Permit shall electronically certify and submit the required PRDs, through the current Water Board-approved system (the Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System, or SMARTS), for their project’s type of construction as defined below.

PRDs shall be included and completed to obtain coverage under this General Permit. If the PRD submittal is considered incomplete and will be rejected if any of the required items are missing. The State Water Board will process the application package in the order received and assign a WDID Number upon receipt of a complete PRD submittal. Permit coverage begins once a WDID Number is assigned.

F. Standard PRD Requirements (All Dischargers)

1. The Notice of Intent is a site-specific application to obtain coverage for discharges of stormwater and authorized non-stormwater from construction

1 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9. Waste Discharge Reports and Requirements, Article 1. Fees

2 Currently this is the Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS). Upon the Water Board notifying the permittee in writing that this Water Board-approved system has changed, the permittee shall use the newly specified system.
activities to waters of the United States. The application includes the entry of site information, contact information, and PRD-specific requirements.

2. The Risk Assessment is a requirement for all dischargers and is a Water Board generated Standard Risk Assessment or a Site-Specific Risk Assessment as described below and in Appendix 1 of this General Permit or in the Risk tab SMARTS.

a. The Standard Risk Assessment includes utilization of the following:

   i. Receiving water Risk Assessment interactive map;

   ii. U.S. EPA Rainfall Erosivity Factor Calculator Website;  

   iii. Sediment Risk interactive map; and,

   iv. Sediment sensitive water bodies list.

b. The Site-Specific Risk Assessment includes the completion of the hand calculated R Factor.

3. The SWPPP (including site specific drawings and map) is a site-specific document developed for implementation of this General Permit. The SWPPP shall be developed by a Qualified SWPPP Developer and certified and submitted by each discharger with the other PRDs.

4. Annual Fee (as described in Section D above).

5. The Legally Responsible Person shall certify and submit all PRDs required by this General Permit through SMARTS. The discharger’s Legally Responsible Person shall have a signed original Electronic Authorization Form on file with the State Water Board for each organization in SMARTS.

G. Additional PRD Requirements Related to Construction Type

1. Dischargers in unincorporated areas of the State not covered under adopted Phase I or II MS4 permits with post-construction requirements and/or not a linear underground and overhead project as defined in Attachment A of this General Permit shall also complete the Post-Construction Calculations as part of the Notice of Intent in SMARTS.

3 U.S. EPA, Rainfall Erosivity Factor Calculator for Small Construction Sites, <https://lew.epa.gov/> [as of October 19, 2020]. Dischargers are required to hand-calculate the R Factor when this website is unavailable.
2. Dischargers within a Phase I or II permitted area and are not a linear underground and overhead project as defined in Attachment A shall upload the post construction plan in SMARTS.

3. Dischargers who are proposing to implement active treatment system shall also certify and submit a Change of Information containing:
   a. Complete Active Treatment System Plan in accordance with Attachment F at least 14 days prior to the planned operation of the active treatment system and a copy shall be available on-site during active treatment system operation;
   b. System design and supporting documentation; and,
   c. Proof that the system and/or Active Treatment System Plan was designed by a qualified active treatment system professional in accordance with Attachment F of this General Permit.

Dischargers who are proposing to implement passive treatment shall certify and submit a Change of Information containing:
   d. Complete Passive Treatment Plan in accordance with Attachment G of this General Permit at least 14 days prior to the planned operation of the passive treatment system and a copy shall be available on-site during operation;
   e. System design and any supporting documentation; and,
   f. Proof that the Passive Treatment Plan and/or system was designed by an appropriate licensed professional (see Attachment G of this General Permit).

4. Dischargers who are proposing an alternate Risk Justification shall include:
   a. Soil type identification through laboratory analysis certified by a CBPELSG\(^4\) license holder; and,
   b. Site slope determination topographic survey certified by a CBPELSG license holder.

\(^4\) California Board of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists
H. Exceptions to Standard PRD Requirements

Construction sites with a valid Small Construction Rainfall Erosivity Wavier are not required to submit a SWPPP (including site specific drawings and map).

I. Questions

Email stormwater@waterboards.ca.gov if you have any questions on completing the PRDs.