

**ATTACHMENT H****GLOSSARY**

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM  
(NPDES) GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORM WATER DISCHARGES  
ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES  
(GENERAL PERMIT)

**Active Treatment System**

A treatment system that employs chemical coagulation, chemical flocculation, or electrocoagulation to aid in the reduction of turbidity caused by fine suspended sediment.

**Adoption Date**

[Insert Adoption Date Here]

**Air Deposition**

Total suspended particulate matter found in the atmosphere as solid particles or liquid droplets. Chemical composition of particulates varies widely, depending on location and time of year. Sources of airborne particulates include but are not limited to: dust, emissions from industrial processes, combustion products from the burning of wood and coal, combustion products associated with motor vehicle or non-road engine exhausts, and reactions to gases in the atmosphere. Deposition is the act of these materials being added to a landform.

**Anticipated Precipitation Event**

Any weather pattern that is forecasted by the National Weather Service Forecast Office to have a 50% or greater probability of producing precipitation in the facility's weather zone. (General Permit Order Section IX.C.4).

**Beneficial Uses**

As defined in the California Water Code, beneficial uses of the waters of the state that may be protected against quality degradation, include but are not limited to, domestic, municipal, agricultural and industrial supply; power generation; recreation; aesthetic enjoyment; navigation; and preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources or preserves.

**Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT)**

As defined by US EPA, BAT is a technology-based standard established by the Clean Water Act (CWA) as the most appropriate means available on a national basis for controlling the direct discharge of toxic and nonconventional pollutants to navigable waters. The BAT effluent limitations guidelines, in general, represent the best existing performance of treatment technologies that are economically achievable within an industrial point source category or subcategory.

**Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT)**

As defined by US EPA, BCT is a technology-based standard for the discharge from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended sediment (TSS), fecal coliform, pH, oil and grease.

**Best Professional Judgment (BPJ)**

The method used by permit writers to develop technology-based NPDES permit conditions on a case-by-case basis using all reasonably available and relevant data.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

Scheduling of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

**Chain of Custody**

Form used to track sample handling as samples progress from sample collection to the laboratory. The chain of custody is also used to track the resulting analytical data from the laboratory to the client. Chain of custody forms can be obtained from an analytical laboratory upon request.

**Debris**

Litter, rubble, discarded refuse, and remains of destroyed inorganic anthropogenic waste.

**Discharger**

The Legally Responsible Person (see definition) or entity subject to this General Permit.

**Drainage Area**

The area of land that drains water, sediment, pollutants, and dissolved materials to a common outlet.

**Duly Authorized Representative**

A person who has been authorized by the Legally Responsible Person to sign, certify, and electronically submit Permit Registration Documents, Notices of Termination, and any other documents, reports, or information required by the General Permit, the State or Regional Water Board, or US EPA. Duly Authorized Representative eligibility is as follows:

- a. The LRP must authorize via SMARTS any person designated as a Duly Authorized Representative;

- b. The authorization shall specify that a person designated as a Duly Authorized Representative has responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as a person that is a manager, operator, superintendent, or another position of equivalent responsibility, or is an individual who has overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company; and,
- c. The authorization must be current (it has been updated to reflect a different individual or position) prior to any report submittals, certifications, or records certified by the Duly Authorized Representative.

**Effective Date**

The date, set by the State Water Board, when at least one or more of the new General Permit's requirements take effect and the previous permit expires. The staff-recommended Effective Date contained in this General Permit draft has most of the requirements (such as SMARTs filing, minimum BMPs, sampling and analysis requirements) taking effect on July 1, 2013.

**Effluent**

Any discharge of water either to the receiving water or beyond the property boundary controlled by the Discharger.

**Effluent Limitation**

Any numeric or narrative restriction imposed on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of pollutants that are discharged from point sources into waters of the United States, waters of the contiguous zone, or the ocean.

**Erosion**

The process by which soil particles are detached and transported by the actions of wind, water, or gravity.

**Erosion Control BMPs**

Vegetation, such as grasses and wildflowers, and other materials, such as straw, fiber, stabilizing emulsion, protective blankets, etc., placed to stabilize areas of disturbed soils, reduce loss of soil due to the action of water or wind, and prevent water pollution.

**Facility**

A collection of industrial processes discharging storm water associated with industrial activity within the property boundary or operational unit

**Field Measurements**

Testing procedures performed in the field with portable field-testing kits or meters.

### **Flow-Based Design Storm Criteria for Treatment Control BMPs**

The hourly flow representing two (2) times the maximum hourly flow of an 85th percentile 24-hour storm event.

### **Good Housekeeping BMPs**

BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate the addition of pollutants through analysis of pollutant sources, implementation of proper handling/disposal practices, employee education, and other actions.

### **Legally Responsible Person**

A person, company, agency, or other entity that is the operator of the industrial facility covered by this General Permit.

### **Licensee**

A California licensed professional civil engineer, professional geologist or certified engineering geologist is referred to as a Licensee in this General Permit and are considered QISPs without having to take the State Water Board sponsored or approved training.

### **Monitoring Implementation Plan (MIP)**

Planning document included in the SWPPP. Dischargers are required to record information on the implementation of the monitoring requirements in this General Permit. The MIP should include relevant information on: the Quarterly visual observation schedule, Sampling Parameters, SLR, SFR, and Qualified Combined Samples.

### **Monitoring Requirements**

Includes sampling and analysis activities as well as visual observations.

### **Natural Background**

Natural background pollutants include those substances that are naturally occurring in soils or groundwater. Natural background pollutants do not include legacy pollutants from earlier activity on your site, or pollutants in run-on from neighboring sources which are not naturally occurring.

### **NAL Exceedance**

Annual NAL exceedance - the Discharger shall determine the average concentration for each parameter using the results of all the sampling and analytical results for the entire facility for the reporting year (i.e., all "effluent" data) and compare this to the corresponding Annual NAL values in Table 4. For Dischargers using composite sampling or flow measurement in accordance with standard practices, the average concentrations shall be calculated in accordance with the US EPA Guidance Manual for the Monitoring and Reporting Requirements of the NPDES Multi-Sector Storm Water General Permit.<sup>1</sup> An

---

<sup>1</sup> US EPA. "Industrial Stormwater Monitoring and Sampling Guide." April 2009. Web. 5 May. 2012. [http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/msgp\\_monitoring\\_guide.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/msgp_monitoring_guide.pdf).

annual NAL exceedance occurs when the average of all the analytical results for a parameter from samples taken within a reporting year exceeds an annual NAL value for that parameter listed in Table 4 (or is outside the NAL pH range);

Instantaneous maximum NAL exceedance - the Discharger shall compare all sampling and analytical results from each distinct sample (individual or composite) to the corresponding Instantaneous maximum NAL values in Table 4. An instantaneous maximum NAL exceedance occurs when two or more analytical results for TSS, O&G or pH from samples taken within a reporting year exceed the instantaneous NAL value (or is outside the NAL pH range).

### **Non-Storm Water Discharges**

Discharges that do not originate from precipitation events. Including, but not limited to, discharges of process water, air conditioner condensate, non-contact cooling water, vehicle wash water, sanitary wastes, concrete washout water, paint wash water, irrigation water, or pipe testing water.

### **Non-Visible Pollutants**

Pollutants associated with a specific site or activity that can have a negative impact on water quality, but cannot be seen through observation (ex: chlorine). Such pollutants being discharged are not authorized.

### **Numeric Action Level (NAL)**

Pollutant concentration levels used to evaluate if best management practices are effective and if additional measures are necessary to control pollutants. NALs are not effluent limits. The exceedance of an NAL is not a permit violation.

### **pH**

Unit universally used to express the intensity of the acid or alkaline condition of a water sample. The pH of natural waters tends to range between 6 and 9, with neutral being 7. Extremes of pH can have deleterious effects on aquatic systems.

### **Plastic Materials**

Plastic resin pellets, powders, flakes, additives, regrind, scrap, dust, and industrial process waste or recycling that has the potential to discharge or migrate and discharge off-site.

### **Qualified Industrial SWPPP Practitioner (QISP I, II, III)**

The individual assigned responsibility for preparing the SWPPP, performing the permit's monitoring requirements, and ensuring full compliance with the permit and implementation of all elements of the SWPPP. This includes the performance of the Annual Comprehensive Facility Compliance Evaluation (Annual Evaluation) and the elimination of all unauthorized discharges. The individual must take the appropriate state approved or sponsored training to be qualified (or be a Licensee). Dischargers shall ensure that the designated QISP is geographically located in an area where they will be able to adequately

perform the permit requirements at all of the facilities they represent. There are three types of QISPs as described below:

**QISP I** – Performs the basic permit functions, such as developing and implementing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and can perform the monitoring requirements of this General Permit. A QISP I can represent either one facility or multiple facilities with substantially similar industrial activities. The QISP I training is designed for an individual with little or no environmental background or experience.

**QISPII** – Performs more advanced permit functions and duties, such as preparing the No Exposure Certification (NEC), the Sampling Frequency Reduction Request (SFR) and Sampling Location Reduction Request (SLR). A QISP II can represent multiple facilities with any type of industrial activity. The QISP II training is designed for an individual that has some environmental background and experience.

**QISP III** – Performs the most advanced permit functions and duties, such as preparing Level 2 ERA Technical Reports and Demonstration Technical Reports. A QISP III can represent multiple facilities with any type of industrial activity. The QISP III training is the most advanced training required by this General Permit and is designed for environmental professionals (some aspects of these technical reports require a California licensed professional engineer).

#### **Qualifying Storm Event**

A discharge of storm water that occurs:

1. From a storm event that has produced a minimum of 1/10 inch of rainfall within the preceding 24 hour period as measured by an on-site rainfall measurement device, and
2. From a storm event that was preceded by 72 hours of dry weather. Dry weather shall be defined as 72 hours of combined rainfall of less than 1/10 inch as measured by an on-site rainfall measurement device.

#### **Regional Water Board**

Includes the Executive Officer and appointed Regional Water Board staff.

#### **Runoff Control BMPs**

Measures used to divert runoff from offsite and runoff within the site.

#### **Run-on**

Discharges that originate offsite and flow onto the property of a separate facility or property or, discharges that originate onsite from areas not related to industrial activities and flow onto areas on the property with industrial activity.

**Scheduled Facility Operating Hours**

The time periods when the facility is staffed to conduct any function related to industrial activity, but excluding time periods where only routine maintenance, emergency response, security, and/or janitorial services are performed.

**Sediment**

Solid particulate matter, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its origin by air, water, gravity, or ice and has come to rest on the earth's surface either above or below sea level.

**Sedimentation**

Process of deposition of suspended matter carried by water, wastewater, or other liquids by gravity. Accomplished by reducing the velocity of the liquid below the point at which it can transport the suspended material.

**Sediment Control BMPs**

Practices that trap soil particles after they have been eroded by rain, flowing water, or wind. Includes those practices that intercept and slow or detain the flow of storm water to allow sediment to settle and be trapped (e.g., silt fence, sediment basin, fiber rolls, etc.).

**Sheet Flow**

Flow of water that occurs overland in areas where there are no defined channels and where the water spreads out over a large area at a uniform depth.

**Significant Materials**

Includes, but is not limited to: raw materials; fuels; materials such as solvents, detergents, and plastic pellets; finished materials such as metallic products; raw materials used in food processing or production; hazardous substances designated under Section 101(14) of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); any chemical the facility is required to report pursuant to Section 313 of Title III of Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); fertilizers; pesticides; and waste products such as ashes, slag, and sludge that have the potential to be released with industrial storm water discharges.

**Significant Spills**

Includes, but are not limited to, releases of oil or hazardous substances in excess of reportable quantities under Section 311 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311 (see also 40 C.F.R. §§110.10 and 117.21), or Section 102 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. § 9602 (see also 40 C.F.R. § 302.4).

**Source**

Any facility or building, property, road, or area that causes or contributes to pollution.

**Storm water**

Storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, and storm water surface runoff and drainage.

**Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity**

The discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying industrial storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant as identified in Attachment A of this General Permit. The term does not include discharges from facilities or activities excluded from the NPDES program under 40 C.F.R. section 122.

**Structural Controls**

Any structural facility designed and constructed to mitigate the adverse impacts of storm water and urban runoff pollution.

**Total Suspended Solids (TSS)**

The measure of the suspended solids in a water sample including inorganic substances such as soil particles, organic substances such as algae, aquatic plant/animal waste, and particles related to industrial/sewage waste, etc. The TSS test measures the concentration of suspended solids in water by measuring the dry weight of a solid material contained in a known volume of a sub-sample of a collected water sample. Results are reported in mg/L.

**Toxicity**

The adverse response(s) of organisms to chemicals or physical agents ranging from mortality to physiological responses such as impaired reproduction or growth anomalies.

**Turbidity**

The cloudiness of water quantified by the degree to which light traveling through a water column is scattered by the suspended organic and inorganic particles it contains. The turbidity test is reported in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) or Jackson Turbidity Units (JTU).

**Volume-based Design Storm Criteria for Treatment Control BMPs**

The volume of runoff produced from an 85th percentile storm event. This is determined by either calculating (1) the volume of runoff produced by the 85th percentile storm event, determined as the maximized capture runoff volume for the facility, from the formula recommended in Urban Runoff Quality Management, WEF Manual of Practice No. 23/ ASCE Manual of Practice No. 87, page 175 Equation 5.2; (1998), or (2) the volume of annual runoff based on unit basin storage volume, to achieve 90% or more volume treatment by the method recommended in the latest edition of the California Stormwater Quality Association's (CASQA) Best Management Practices Handbook.

**Waters of the United States**

Generally refers to surface waters, as defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in 40 C.F.R. section 122.2.<sup>2</sup>

**Water Quality Objectives**

Defined in the California Water Code as limits or levels of water quality constituents or characteristics which are established for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses of water or the prevention of nuisance within a specific area.

**Water Quality Standards**

Consists of beneficial uses, water quality objectives to protect those uses, an antidegradation policy, and policies for implementation. Water quality standards are found in Regional Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) and statewide water quality control plans (e.g. Ocean Plan). US EPA has also adopted water quality criteria (the same as objectives) for California in the National Toxics Rule and California Toxics Rule.

---

<sup>2</sup> The application of the definition of “waters of the United States” may be difficult to determine; there are currently several judicial decisions that create some confusion. If a landowner is unsure whether the discharge must be covered by this General Permit, the landowner may wish to seek legal advice.