

## ATTACHMENT C

### GLOSSARY

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

**Adoption Date** April 1, 2014

#### **Aerial 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.

#### **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 United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. 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 U.S. 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 permits conditions on a case-by-case basis using all reasonably available and relevant data.

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**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.

**Detected Not Quantifiable**

A sample result that is between the Method Detection Limit (MDL) and the Minimum Level (ML).

**Discharger**

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

**Drainage Area**

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

**Effective Date**

The date, set by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), when at least one or more of the General Permit requirements take effect and the previous permit expires. This General Permit requires most of the requirements (such as minimum BMPs, sampling and analysis requirements) to take effect on July 1, 2015.

**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.

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**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.

**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.

**Industrial Materials**

Includes, but is not limited to: raw materials, recyclable materials, intermediate products, final products, by product, waste products, 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 (CERLCA); 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 and that are used, handled, stored, or disposed in relation to a facility's industrial activity.

**Method Detection Limit**

The minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero.

**Minimum Level**

The lowest level at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point for the analyte. It is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard, assuming that all method-specified sample weights, volumes, and cleanup procedures have been employed.

**Monitoring Implementation Plan**

Planning document included in the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (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:

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the Monthly Visual Observation schedule, Sampling Parameters, Representative Sampling Reduction, Sample Frequency Reduction, and Qualified Combined Samples.

**Monitoring Requirements**

Includes sampling and analysis activities as well as visual observations.

**Natural Background**

Pollutants including substances that are naturally occurring in soils or groundwater. Natural background pollutants do not include legacy pollutants from previous activity at a facility, or pollutants in run-on from neighboring sources which are not naturally occurring.

**New Discharge(r)**

A facility from which there is a discharge, that did not commence the discharge at a particular site prior to August 13, 1979, which is not a new source as defined in 40 Code of Federal Regulations 122.29, and which has never received a finally effective NPDES permit for discharges at that site. See 40 Code of Federal Regulations 122.2.

**Numeric Action Level (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 2. For Dischargers using composite sampling or flow measurement in accordance with standard practices, the average concentrations shall be calculated in accordance with the U.S. EPA Guidance Manual for the Monitoring and Reporting Requirements of the NPDES Multi-Sector Storm Water General Permit.<sup>1</sup> An 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 2 (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 2. An instantaneous maximum NAL exceedance occurs when two or more analytical results from samples taken for any parameter within a reporting year exceed the instantaneous maximum NAL value (for TSS and O&G), or are outside of the instantaneous maximum NAL range (for pH).

**Non Detect**

Sample result is less than Method Detection Limit; Analyte being tested cannot be detected by the equipment or method.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. EPA. NPDES Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document. <<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/owm0093.pdf>>. [as of July 3, 2013]  
Order 2014-0057-DWQ amended by Order 2015-0122-DWQ & Order 20XX-XXXX-DWQ

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**Non-Storm Water Discharges (NSWDs)**

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.

**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.

**Operator**

In the context of storm water associated with industrial activity, any party associated with an industrial facility that meets either of the following two criteria:

- a. The party has operational control over the industrial SWPPP and SWPPP specifications, including the ability to make modifications to those plans and specifications
- b. The party has day-to-day operational control of activities at the facility which are necessary to ensure compliance with a SWPPP for the facility or other permit conditions (e.g., authorized to direct workers at a site to carry out activities required by the SWPPP or comply with other permit conditions).

**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 6.0 and 9.0, with neutral being 7.0.

**Plastic Materials**

Plastic Materials are virgin and recycled plastic resin pellets, powders, flakes, powdered additives, regrind, dust, and other similar types of preproduction plastics with the potential to discharge or migrate off-site.

**Qualified Industrial Storm Water Practitioner (QISP)**

Only required once a Discharger reaches Level 1 status, a QISP is the individual assigned to ensure compliance with this General Permit or to assist New Dischargers with determining coverage eligibility for discharges to an impaired water body. A QISP's responsibilities include implementing the SWPPP, performing the Annual Comprehensive Facility Compliance Evaluation (Annual Evaluation), assisting in the preparation of Annual Reports, performing ERAs, and training appropriate Pollution Prevention Team members. The individual must take the appropriate state approved or sponsored training to be qualified. 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.

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**Qualifying Storm Event (QSE)**

A precipitation event that:

- a. Produces a discharge for at least one drainage area; and
- b. Is preceded by 48 hours with no discharge from any drainage area.

**Regional Water Board**

Includes the Executive Officer and delegated Regional Water Board staff.

**Responsible Discharger**

A Discharger with Notice of Intent (NOI) coverage under this General Permit who discharges storm water associated with industrial activities (and Authorized NSWDS) to impaired waterbodies or to an upstream reach or tributary to impaired waterbodies either directly or through a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) included in a U.S. EPA approved TMDL.

**Runoff Control BMPs**

Measures used to divert run-on 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 that flow by gravity. Control of sedimentation is 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 (i.e., silt fence, sediment basin, fiber rolls, etc.).

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**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.

**Source**

Any facility or building, property, road, or area that causes or contributes to pollutants in storm water.

**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 which is used for collecting and conveying storm water and which 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. The term includes, but is not limited to, storm water discharges from industrial plant yards; immediate access roads and rail lines used or traveled by carriers of raw materials; manufactured products, waste material, or by-products used or created by the facility; material handling sites; refuse sites; sites used for the application or disposal of process wastewaters (as defined at 40 C.F.R. section 401); sites used for the storage and maintenance of material handling equipment; sites used for residual treatment, storage, or disposal; shipping and receiving areas; manufacturing buildings; storage areas (including tank farms) for raw materials, and intermediate and finished products; and areas where industrial activity has taken place in the past and significant materials remain and are exposed to storm water. The term does not include discharges from facilities or activities excluded from the NPDES program under 40 C.F.R. section 122.

Material handling activities include the: storage, loading and unloading, transportation, or conveyance of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, by-product, or waste product. The term excludes areas located on plant lands separate from the plant's industrial activities, such as office buildings and accompanying parking lots as long as the drainage from the excluded areas is not mixed with storm water drained from the above described areas. Industrial facilities (including industrial facilities that are federally, State, or municipally owned or operated that meet the description of the facilities listed in this paragraph) include those facilities designated under 40 C.F.R. section 122.26(a)(1)(v).

**Structural Controls**

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

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)**

The sum of the individual Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) for point sources and load allocations for nonpoint sources and natural background.



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**TMDL Numeric Action Level (TNAL)**

Pollutant concentration levels used to evaluate if best management practices are effective and if additional measures are necessary to control pollutants to comply with applicable TMDLs. All TNALs translated from a Waste Load Allocation are instantaneous maximums, and are set forth in the TMDL Compliance Table in Attachment E. TNALs are not effluent limits. The exceedance of a TNAL is not a permit violation.

**TNAL Exceedance**

An instantaneous maximum TNAL exceedance occurs when two or more analytical results from samples taken for any parameter within a reporting year exceed the instantaneous maximum TNAL value in the TMDL Compliance Table in Attachment E.

**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.

**Trade Secret**

Information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or process, that: (1) derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to the public or to other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (2) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

**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).

**Waste Load Allocation (WLA)**

The portion of a receiving water's loading capacity that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution.

**Water Effect Ratio**



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[A factor that can be used under the U.S. EPA's system of Water Quality Criteria \(WQC\) to customize national aquatic life criteria to reflect site-specific water column conditions. The WER is used to derive site-specific criteria that maintain the level of protection of aquatic life intended by the "Guidelines for deriving numerical national WQC" \(U.S. EPA 1985\).](#)

**Waters of the United States**

Generally refers to surface waters, as defined for the purposes of the federal Clean Water Act.

**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 established in Regional Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) and statewide Water Quality Control Plans. U.S. EPA has also adopted water quality criteria (the same as objectives) for California in the National Toxics Rule and California Toxics Rule.