



Less Than 1 Acre Project Requirements In Coastal Counties Not Within 0.5 Miles of Coastal Receiving Waters AND Automatic Permit Coverage

This document is to provide guidance for projects located within in one of the 8 coastal counties (**Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, Horry and Jasper**), and is not part of a larger common plan (LCP).

Construction sites located in the Coastal Zone disturbing less than 1 acre and not draining within 0.5 miles of *receiving waters as defined in **South Carolina's Coastal Zone Management Program*** or meeting the criteria for automatic permit coverage, submit notification via a **Notification-Less than 1-Acre, Not Within 0.5 Miles of a Coastal Receiving Water AND Automatic Permit Coverage** (DHEC Form 0451) form as detailed below.

Automatic permit coverage under the NPDES CGP applies to sites that comprise 0.5 acres and less of land disturbance, are not part of a larger common plan, and drain within 0.5 miles of a coastal receiving water *unless DHEC specifically requests an NOI and SWPPP for review and approval*. Contact **DHEC's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management** (DHEC-OCRM) for Coastal Zone Consistency submittal requirements on sites qualifying for automatic permit coverage.

The following is a list of DHEC's submittal requirements for projects that meet one of the above conditions.

1. **Notification Form.** Provide one (1) **Notification-Less than 1-Acre, Not Within 0.5 Miles of a Coastal Receiving Water AND Automatic Permit Coverage** (DHEC Form 0451), signed and dated.
2. **Construction Plans.** Provide one (1) copy of the plan/sketch. Note: Plans are not required to be prepared by an engineer, Tier B surveyor, or landscape architect; however, if an individual with one of these licenses prepares the plan, then they must sign and seal the plans. The sketched plan should include:
 - a. A site location drawing of the proposed project, indicating the location of the proposed project in relation to roadways, jurisdictional boundaries, streams and rivers;
 - b. The boundary lines of the site on which the work is to be performed;
 - c. The location of temporary and permanent vegetative and structural stormwater management and sediment control measures; and
 - d. A topographic map of the site (if required by the implementing agency).

3. **SWPPP Narrative.** A narrative description of the stormwater management and sediment control plan to be used during land disturbing activities. *Note:* This may be included on the plans instead of in a written narrative. Include a general description of topographic and soil conditions of the property. Include a general description of adjacent property and a description of existing structures, buildings, and other fixed improvements located on surrounding properties.

Projects within a MS4 or Urbanized Area

If the less than one (1) acre project is to be constructed inside a MS4 or Urbanized Area, you must first contact the respective MS4 or UA to identify applicable project requirements and received approval if the MS4 deems such approval appropriate.

Larger Common Plan (LCP)

The term LCP is “*broadly defined as any announcement or piece of documentation (including a sign, public notice or hearing, sales pitch, advertisement, drawing, permit application, zoning request, computer design, etc.) or physical demarcation (including boundary signs, lot stakes, surveyor markings, etc.) indicating construction activities may occur on a specific plot.*” [63 Federal Register No. 128, July 6, 1998, p. 36491]

For example, if master calculations have been prepared and/ or submitted for an entire site, then all phases and parcels at that site would be considered part of an LCP. If the site is part of a subdivision, industrial park, commercial park, etc., then it is considered to be part of an LCP. If there have been land-disturbing activities, including clearing, grading or excavating, that resulted in 1 disturbed acre or more since 1992, then any future land-disturbing activities at the site are considered to be part of an LCP.

Coastal Receiving Water (CRW)

The term CRW means “*a receiving water body as defined in the Policies and Procedures of the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program, updated July 1995. This includes all regularly tidally influenced salt and fresh water marsh areas, all lakes or ponds which are used primarily for public recreation or a public drinking water supply, and other water bodies within the coastal zone, excluding wetlands, swamps, ditches and stormwater management ponds which are not contiguous via an outfall or similar structure with a tidal water body.*” [NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges From Construction Activities]