

FACT SHEET
INDUSTRIAL STORM WATER (except construction)
GENERAL NPDES PERMIT; SCR000000
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
May 27, 2016

Introduction:

This fact sheet describes the basis and procedures for reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (SCR000000) for discharge of storm water from industrial activities (excluding construction) by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Storm water for construction activity is covered separately under South Carolina permit SCR100000. This permit will be referenced throughout this Fact Sheet as the IGP.

An NPDES permit was first issued in South Carolina for industrial storm water in October 1992. The permit was reissued in 1998, 2004 (having an effective date of July 1, 2005 because of an appeal of the permit), and most recently in 2010.

The 2010 permit expired January 1, 2016. However, that permit continues in effect under language in 1.3.2. of the permit and under South Carolina Regulation 61-9, Water Pollution Control Permits, item 122.6, and will do so until this draft permit becomes effective, with any appropriate changes based on public participation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) review.

Permit Basis:

This permit would be available to facilities throughout South Carolina.

This permit is based on requirements in the Federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S. Code §§ 1251 et seq., and the South Carolina Pollution Control Act, S.C. Code Sections 48-1-10 et seq., that discharges of pollutants apply for and receive permits for the discharges. Additional requirements are established in South Carolina Regulation 61-9, Water Pollution Control Permits, and especially S.C. R.61-9.122.26 Storm Water Discharges.

The draft permit is patterned after the EPA Multi-Sector General NPDES Permit (MSGP) for industrial storm water issued June 4, 2015. See the EPA permit and fact sheet at:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/final-2015-msgp-documents>

Activities Covered by the Permit:

South Carolina Regulation 61-9.122.26(b)(14) lists categories of industrial facilities that are required to obtain NPDES permit coverage for their storm water discharges:

Sector A: Timber Products	Sector R: Ship and Boat Building and Repairing Yards
Sector B: Paper and Allied Products	Sector S: Air Transportation Facilities
Sector C: Chemical and Allied Products	Sector T: Treatment Works

Manufacturing	
Sector D: Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials and Lubricant Manufacturing	Sector U: Food and Kindred Products
Sector E: Glass, Clay, Cement, Concrete, and Gypsum Products	Sector V: Textile Mills, Apparel, and Other Fabric Product Manufacturing; Leather and Leather Products
Sector F: Primary Metals	Sector W: Furniture and Fixtures
Sector G: Metal Mining (Ore Mining and Dressing)	Sector X: Printing and Publishing
Sector K: Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities	Sector Y: Rubber, Miscellaneous Plastic Products, and Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries
Sector L: Landfills, Land Application Sites, and Open Dumps	Sector Z: Leather Tanning and Finishing
Sector M: Automobile Salvage Yards	Sector AA: Fabricated Metal Products
Sector N: Scrap Recycling Facilities	Sector AB: Transportation Equipment, Industrial or Commercial Machinery
Sector O: Steam Electric Generating Facilities	Sector AC: Electronic, Electrical, Photographic, and Optical Goods
Sector P: Land Transportation and Warehousing	Sector AD: Non-Classified Facilities
Sector Q: Water Transportation	

A more specific and detailed listing of facilities required to obtain coverage under the IGP are listed in S.C. R. 61-9.122.26(b)(14). This listing includes the SIC codes associated with these facilities.

In addition, the Department may designate a particular facility to obtain an NPDES permit, such as coverage under this permit through S.C. R.61-9.122.26 (a)(1)(v), even though the facility does not meet a definition of a category of activities generally required to be covered by a permit. This corresponds with Sector AD. Such a designation would be made where there is a concern, as defined in the regulation, for the discharge to cause a water quality problem. However, this has been done rarely, and it is expected to continue to be the case.

Maintaining Coverage Under the Reissued Permit

The Department will **not** require the submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to maintain coverage under the re-issued permit through S.C. R.61-9.122.28 (b)(2)(v) & (vi).

Major Changes in the Draft Permit from the 2010 South Carolina Permit:

1. Saltwater/Freshwater benchmark metal concentrations are set for all facilities covered by the draft permit as applicable. The 2010 permit had only Freshwater values.
2. The draft permit would add various bacteriological parameter monitoring based on a site's receiving waterbody classification. This is in the form of a benchmark for domestic wastewater treatment plants, meat packing (animal killing) plants, wool scouring (textile)

plants, and rawhide (leather) plants only. The previous permit had only the old (pre-2013 change) Freshwater bacteriological standard for these types of industrial activity covering the entire state. This approach didn't take into account any given site's receiving water classification.

3. A numeric effluent limit has been added for Sector S. The limit is for ammonia analyzed as nitrogen and pertains to de-icing compounds used at airports with a 1000 or more annual departures. The New Source Performance Standard (NSPS) that has this limit was promulgated mid-term of the IGP in 2012. The draft permit will capture this requirement.
4. The inclusion of the unauthorized non-stormwater discharges evaluation into the comprehensive inspection requirements. This reinforces 5.1.3.4. of the permit. The previous permit had only the language in 5.1.3.4. and gave no frequency for the evaluation. Including the evaluation in the comprehensive inspection eliminates that ambiguity.
5. While the draft permit will continue the exemption from monitoring for discharges that are determined to be natural background or would not contribute the pollutant of concern to an impaired receiving waterbody, it will also extend those exemptions to the TMDL level as well. Reference language in 6.2.4.2.b.i. of the draft permit.
6. Related to the change above, the draft permit also has an additional "out" from monitoring for discharges into a TMDL watershed. If the water quality monitoring station immediately downstream of a site (and upstream if in tidally-influenced waters) is fully supporting the water quality standard for the impaired parameter(s), then the site is exempt from the TMDL monitoring required in 6.2.4.2.b.i.
7. The draft permit will continue to require that each permittee check the South Carolina list of approved TMDL during each comprehensive site inspection. The new permit will also add a check of the 303(d) list as well. The 303(d) list is reviewed and updated biennially by the Department. Inclusion of a check of the 303(d) list in the comprehensive inspection along with the TMDL check offers a streamlined, complete review of a site's water quality status.
8. TSS benchmarks have been added for Sectors F and N. These requirements were removed in the 2010 version of the IGP and are added back due to the MSGP continuing to have them in the Sectors.

Differences between Draft Permit and EPA MSGP 2015:

1. Reporting.
 - a. No reporting of the monitoring required for benchmarks or water quality is required under the draft permit.
 - b. No annual report of facility inspections or corrective actions is proposed for the draft permit. Instead, monitoring and, for some Sectors, a benchmark for TSS have been added.

2. Sector J: Non-metallic Mineral Mining and Dressing will continue to be covered by the separate NPDES General Permit for Discharges Associated with Nonmetal Mineral Mining, SCG730000.
3. The draft permit will continue to exclude Sector H: Coal Mines and Coal Mining-Related Facilities and Sector I: Oil and Gas Extraction. After consultation with the Department's Bureau of Land and Waste Management, it has been determined that it is highly unlikely for activities covered under these sectors to be located in the state.
4. NOI.
 - a. Coverage will occur in 17 days after receipt of an administratively complete NOI by the Department, rather than 30 days as U.S. EPA designates.
 - b. For individual coverages, it is proposed there will be no public notice.
5. The draft permit will include a specific allowance for salt storage/pavement deicing (see 5.1.3.5 of the draft permit) outside of the requirements in Sector S. The requirement is taken from the 2005 version of the IGP (item 3.4.H).
6. The requirement to submit information related to the Endangered Species Act and the Historic Properties Preservation policies continues to be removed and reserved.
7. There is a fee required by S.C. Regulation 61-30, Environmental Protection Fees, for submittal of the No-exposure Certification (NEC) for each five-year period. The fee is presently \$350 for each five-year period.
8. A definition was added in Appendix A for legacy pollutants.
9. Federal CERCLA sites language was removed. 1.1.4.9. of the MSGP pertains to sites in EPA, Region 10. South Carolina is located in Region 4.
10. The addition of an "at our discretion" option under the Allowable Non-Stormwater Discharges (see 1.1.3 of the draft permit). This option will allow certain non-stormwater discharges to be authorized by the IGP that meet the general spirit of the other discharges stated in 1.1.3. Inclusion of this language allows the Department to have flexibility in cases where the existing list of allowed discharges does not clearly and explicitly match the situation in question but does meet the intent. A written submittal to the Department will be required, as will a written response, before the discharge is allowed under the IGP.

Miscellaneous - Streams with Reduced pH

If the pH of the receiving waterbody is less than 6.0 standard units (6.5 for classifications SFH, SA, and SB), the discharge pH may be less than 6.0 standard units (6.5 for classifications SFH, SA, and SB) only if the discharge pH is not less than the stream pH by a difference of more than 0.2 standard units. This variance will be granted only if the waterbody's pH is analyzed on the day of the discharge.

Example: If a Freshwater classification waterbody's pH is 5.5, the discharge pH must be between 5.3 and 8.5. The difference between the waterbody's pH (5.5) and the discharge pH (5.3) is 0.2 standard units.

Administrative Considerations:

The receiving streams for the various permittees may be characterized by any class stated in South Carolina Regulation 61-68, Water Classifications and Standards, except that no new discharge is allowed to streams classed Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW).

The Department has made a preliminary determination that these storm water discharges are necessary to important economical or social development, and they will be allowed if water quality necessary for existing and classified uses will be maintained and protected consistent with Antidegradation Rules. The Department is seeking comment on this preliminary finding. In accordance with the Section D (2), Antidegradation, of the State Water Quality Standards, this notice provides public participation and intergovernmental coordination for this decision.

NOTE: DHEC is not involved in zoning, land use, or property tax/value issues. Please contact your local County or Municipal officials for questions or concerns on these issues.