North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

# Technical Bulletin for N.C. General Stormwater Permits NCG05, 07, 11, & 13

Technical Bulletin for NCG050000/ 070000/ 110000/ 130000, Volume IV

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## What activities are covered by these general permits?

**NCG050000** allows stormwater discharges associated with activities classified as establishments primarily engaged in: Apparel and other finished products made from fabrics and similar materials [standard industrial classification (SIC) 23]; Printing, publishing, and allied industries [SIC 27]; Converted paper and paperboard products [SIC 267]; Paperboard containers and boxes [SIC 265]; Miscellaneous manufacturing industries [SIC 39]; Leather and leather products [SIC 31]; and Rubber and miscellaneous products [SIC 30]; and similar activities (see permit.) *Excluded:* Leather tanning and finishing [SIC 311] and Tires and inner tubes [SIC 301].

**NCG070000** allows stormwater discharges associated with activities classified as establishments primarily engaged in: Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products [standard industrial classification (SIC) 32]; similar activities. *Excluded:* Ready-mixed concrete [SIC 3273] and Hydraulic Cement [SIC 3241].

**NCG110000** allows stormwater discharges associated with activities classified as Treatment Works treating domestic sewage or any other sewage sludge or wastewater treatment device or system, used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal or domestic sewage, with a design flow of 1.0 million gallons per day or more, or facilities which are required to have an approved pretreatment program under Title 40 CFR §403, including lands dedicated to the disposal of sewage sludge that is located within the confines of the facility.

**NCG130000** allows stormwater discharges associated with activities classified as establishments primarily engaged in: wholesale trade of non-metal waste and scrap (hereafter referred to as the non-metal waste recycling industry, a portion of standard industrial classification (SIC) 5093); similar activities. *Excluded:* wholesale trade of metal waste and scrap, iron and steel scrap, and nonferrous metal scrap; waste oil recycling; and automobile wrecking for scrap.

## What does this permit require me to do?

*Key Permit Requirements*

- Implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) (Part II, Section A).
- Provide secondary containment for all bulk storage of liquid materials. (Part II, Section A, 2.(b)).
- Perform and document semi-annual qualitative monitoring during a representative storm event. (Part II, Section B).
- Perform semi-annual analytical monitoring for vehicle maintenance area, if present, and submit the results on the monitoring report forms provided with the permit. (Part II, Section C).

### What are BMPs, and why are they important?

The SPPP should include the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control discharge of pollutants from a facility's stormwater outfalls. BMPs include a variety of things that the industrial facility can do to minimize the potential for pollutants to get into the stormwater draining from a facility. There are different types of BMPs:

***Non-Structural BMP's***

Non-structural (practices or activities) BMPs include:

* Eliminate exposure of materials and equipment wherever possible by moving materials and equipment to indoor locations.
* Practice good housekeeping on-site. Keep materials handled and stored at the facility in an orderly fashion.
* Exchange hazardous materials for non-hazardous ones wherever possible.
* Establish routine leak and maintenance checks to minimize the chance of spills before they occur.

# What does this permit require me to do? (continued)

When spills occur, clean them up immediately.

* Establish bulk storage tank protocols that minimize the risk of spills during loading and unloading procedures.
* Store used pallets and process waste dumpsters inside or under a roof where water cannot flow on or around them.

***Structural BMPs***

Structural (equipment or devices) BMPs include:

* Build containment dikes around the loading areas of bulk liquid storage containers.
* If practical, change painting operations from liquid systems to powdered systems that do not generate solvent wastes.
* Build roofs and secondary containment around materials stored outside where stormwater cannot contact them.

## Could I be exempted from an NPDES stormwater permit?

Possibly. A facility with any industrial activity subject to the NPDES Stormwater regulations that eliminates all potential stormwater exposure may be eligible for a No Exposure Exclusion from a stormwater permit. A facility that meets this condition may submit a No Exposure Certification application form (see NC DWQ's Stormwater Permitting Unit's website: http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su) to apply for a No Exposure Exclusion. The facility **must recertify** No Exposure every five (5) years.

## What if I sell my business, or the name of my business changes ?

This change is a minor modification and requires the Director's approval. You should complete the Name/Ownership Change Form SWU-239. This form is downloadable from our website, **http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su**.

## Could I monitor at fewer outfalls?

All outfalls associated with vehicle maintenance must be monitored. However, the facility may request approval of "Representative Outfall Status." This status allows analytical monitoring at fewer outfalls. To request representative outfall status, send a letter to the DWQ Regional Office explaining which outfall(s) can be considered representative of other discharges and include all necessary supporting documentation.

## Do I need a certified lab to analyze stormwater samples?

Monitoring under all NPDES permits must be conducted in accordance with test procedures approved under federal regulations in 40 CFR §136. All labs certified by North Carolina perform analysis in accordance with those procedures. While N.C. certification requirements do not apply to stormwater only discharges, any data gathered under an NPDES permit must conform to federal requirements. Using a certified lab is one way to ensure compliance with these requirements. A list of certified labs is available from: http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/lab/cert.htm

Note that pH is a field parameter and **must be measured within 15 minutes.** You must either train on-site staff to measure pH in accordance with approved methods or contract with commercial services. All entities with *field parameter* certification as per 15A NCAC 2H .0800 can analyze pH in accordance with federal procedures (see website for list).

## Where can I find more information?

Additional information is available at our website (see right). Another valuable source is the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance. The DPPEA has specific information about how to minimize pollutants at various industries. Call (919) 571-4100 or visit http://www.p2pays.org/

# Who can help me with questions?

Your questions about stormwater permit requirements can be addressed to the Division of Water Quality Offices:

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| Asheville Office…… | (828) 296-4500 | Washington Office…….. | (252) 946-6481 |
| Fayetteville Office…… | (910) 433-3300 | Wilmington Office…….. | (910) 796-7215 |
| Mooresville Office…… | (704) 663-1699 | Winston-Salem Office…. | (336) 771-5000 |
| Raleigh Office……. | (919) 791-4200 | Central Office…….. | (919) 807-6300 |

For more information about the programs of the Division of Water Quality's Stormwater Permitting Unit, see our home page at:
*http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su*