STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

GENERAL PERMIT

TO DISCHARGE STORMWATER UNDER THE

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provision of North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1, other lawful standards and regulations promulgated and adopted by North Carolina Environmental Management Commission and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended,

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All owners or operators of stormwater point source discharges associated with construction activities including clearing, grading and excavation activities resulting in the disturbance of land are hereby authorized to discharge stormwater to the surface waters of North Carolina or to a separate storm sewer system conveying stormwater to the surface waters.

The General Permit shall become effective on July 7, 2009.

The General Permit shall expire at midnight on December 31, 2009.

Signed this day July 7, 2009.

Original Signed by Chuck Wakild
for Coleen H. Sullins, Director
Division of Water Quality
By the Authority of the Environmental Management Commission

PERMITTED ACTIVITIES

Until this permit expires or is modified or revoked, the permittee is authorized to discharge stormwater which has been adequately treated and managed in accordance with an approved Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan by the North Carolina Division of Land Resources, Land Quality Section, or a delegated local program under the provisions and requirements of North Carolina General Statute 113A - 54.1 to the surface waters of North Carolina or to a separate storm sewer system. All discharges shall be in accordance with the attached schedules as follows:

Part I: Monitoring, Controls, and Limitations for Permitted Discharges
Part II: Standard Conditions

Any other point source discharge to surface waters of the state is prohibited unless covered by another permit, authorization or approval. The discharges allowed by this General Permit shall not cause or contribute to violations of Water Quality Standards. Discharges allowed by this permit must meet applicable wetland standards as outlined in 15A NCAC 2B .0230 and .0231 and water quality certification requirements as outlined in 15A NCAC 2H .0500.

This permit does not relieve the permittee from responsibility for compliance with any other applicable federal, state, or local law, rule, standard, ordinance, order, judgment, or decree.

General Permit Coverage

This General Permit is applicable to point source discharges from construction activities disturbing five acres of land prior to March 10, 2003. As of March 10, 2003, this permit will be applicable to point source discharges of stormwater from construction activities disturbing one or more acres of land. The submission of a proposed Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan to the Division of Land Resources or delegated local program shall be considered to take the place of a Notice of Intent for coverage under this General Permit for those projects requiring this Permit coverage. Coverage under this General Permit shall become effective upon issuance of an approval for the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan by the Land Quality Section of the Division of Land Resources or delegated local program. Prior to the commencement of construction and land disturbing activities approval of the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan shall be obtained.

Any owner or operator not wishing to be covered or limited by this General Permit may make application for an individual NPDES permit in accordance with NPDES procedures in 15A NCAC 2H .0100, stating the reasons supporting the request. Any application for an individual permit should be made <u>at least 180 days prior to the time the permit is needed</u> .

This General Permit does not cover activities or discharges covered by an individual NPDES permit until the individual permit has expired or has been rescinded. Any person conducting an activity covered by an individual permit but which could be covered by this General Permit may request that the individual permit be rescinded and coverage under this General Permit be provided.

PART I

MONITORING, CONTROLS, AND LIMITATIONS FOR PERMITTED DISCHARGES

SECTION A: FINAL LIMITATIONS AND CONTROLS FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES

During the period beginning on the effective date of the permit and lasting until expiration, the Permittee is authorized to discharge stormwater associated with construction activity. Such discharges shall be controlled, limited and monitored as specified below.

1. Prior to the commencement of construction, the permittee shall submit for approval a Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan (plan) to the Department of Environment, and Natural Resources, Division of Land Resources, Land Quality Section, (or an approved local program) pursuant to the requirements of NC G.S. 113A-54.1 and in conformity with rules adopted by the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission.

2. The Permittee shall implement the plan, which has been approved by the approval authority. The approved plan is considered a requirement or condition of this general permit. Deviation from the approved plan, or approved amendment to the plan, shall constitute a violation of the terms and conditions of this general permit except that deviation from the approved plan will be allowed (1) to correct an emergency situation where sediments are being discharged off the site or (2) when minor modifications have been made for the purpose of improving the performance of the erosion and sedimentation control measures and notification of the minor modification has been made to the Division of Land Resources (or approved local program). Such a deviation from the approved plan shall be noted on the approved plan maintained at the job site. During active construction, a copy of the approved plan shall be maintained on the site.

3. Equipment utilized during the construction activity on a site must be operated and maintained in such a manner as to prevent the potential or actual pollution of the surface or ground waters of the state. Fuels, lubricants, coolants, and hydraulic fluids, or any other petroleum products, shall not be discharged onto the ground or into surface waters. Spent fluids shall be disposed of in a manner so as not to enter the waters, surface or ground, of the state and in accordance with applicable state and federal disposal regulations. Any spilled fluids shall be cleaned up to the extent practicable and disposed of in a manner so as not to allow their entry into the waters, surface or ground, of the state.

4. Herbicide, pesticide, and fertilizer usage during the construction activity shall be consistent with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and shall be in accordance with label restrictions.

5. All wastes composed of building materials shall be disposed of in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 130A, Article 9 - Solid Waste Management, and rules governing the disposal of solid waste (North Carolina Administrative Code Section 15A NCAC 13B).

6. The Permittee shall control the management and disposal of litter and sanitary waste from the site such that no adverse impacts to water quality occur.

SECTION B: MINIMUM MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Minimum monitoring and reporting requirements are as follows unless otherwise approved in writing by the Director of the Division of Water Quality.

1. All erosion and sedimentation control facilities shall be inspected by or under the direction of the permittee at least once every seven calendar days (at least twice every seven days for those facilities discharging to waters of the State listed on the latest EPA approved 303(d) list for construction related indicators of impairment such as turbidity or sedimentation**) and within 24 hours after any storm event of greater that 0.5 inches of rain per 24 hour period. A rain gauge shall be maintained on the site and a record of the rainfall amounts and dates shall be kept by the permittee.

   (** The latest approved list may be obtained from the Division of Water Quality, or from the following website location: *http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/su/construction303d*)

2. Once land disturbance has begun on the site, stormwater runoff discharges shall be inspected by observation for stormwater discharge characteristics as defined below at the frequency in #1 above to evaluate the effectiveness of the pollution control facilities or practices. If any visible sedimentation is leaving the disturbed limits of the site, corrective action shall be taken immediately to control the discharge of sediments outside the disturbed limits.

Stormwater Discharge Characteristics	Monitoring Type[1]	Monitoring Location[2]
Clarity		SDO
Floating Solids		SDO
Suspended Solids		SDO
Oil Sheen		SDO
Other obvious indicators of stormwater pollution		SDO

Footnotes:

[1] Monitoring Type: The monitoring requires a qualitative observation of each stormwater outfall. No analytical testing or sampling is required.

[2] Sample Location: Stormwater Discharge Outfall (SDO)

3. The operator shall keep a record of inspections. Visible sedimentation found outside of the disturbed limits shall be recorded and a brief explanation kept with the records as to the measures taken to control future releases. Any measures taken to clean up the sediment that has left the disturbed limits shall also be recorded. These records shall be made available to DWQ or authorized agent upon request.

SECTION C: SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

1. The permittee shall comply with Final Limitations and Controls specified for stormwater discharges once disturbance has begun on the site and until completion of construction or development and the establishment of a permanent ground cover..

2. During construction and until the completion of a construction or development and the establishment of a permanent ground cover, the permittee shall provide the operation and maintenance necessary to operate the storm water controls at optimum efficiency.

PART II
STANDARD CONDITIONS

SECTION A: DEFINITIONS

1. Act or "the Act" or CWA

   The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 USC 1251, et. seq.

2. Best Management Practices (BMPs)

   Schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operation procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

3. DWQ or Division

   The Division of Water Quality, Department of Environment, and Natural Resources.

4. Director

   The Director of the Division of Water Quality, the permit issuing authority.

5. EMC

The North Carolina Environmental Management Commission.

6. Permittee

   The person who signed as the financially responsible party on the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan.

7. Point Source Discharge

   Any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but specifically not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, or concentrated animal feeding operation from which pollutants are or may be discharged to waters of the state.

8. Administrator

The Adminstrator of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

SECTION B: GENERAL CONDITIONS

l. Duty to Comply.

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this general permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act and is grounds for: enforcement action; certificate of coverage termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a certificate of coverage upon renewal application.

(a) The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions or standards for sewage sludge use or disposal, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

(b) The Clean Water Act provides that any person who violates section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any such sections in a permit issued under section 402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under sections 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $27,000 per day for each violation. The Clean Water Act provides that any person who negligently violates sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act, or any condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the Act, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to criminal penalties of $2,500 to $25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than $50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or both. Any person who knowingly violates such sections, or such conditions or limitations is subject to criminal penalties of $5,000 to $50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than $100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both. Any person who knowingly violates section 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the Act, and who knows at that time that he thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than $250,000 or imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than $500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than $1,000,000 and can be fined up to $2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

(c) Under state law, a daily civil penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000) per violation may be assessed against any person who violates or fails to act in accordance with the terms, conditions, or requirements of a permit. [Ref: NC General Statutes 143-215.6A].

(d) Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Administrator for violating section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of this Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of this Act. Administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed $11,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed $27,500. Penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed $11,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed $137,500.

2. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this general permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

3. Civil and Criminal Liability

Except as provided in Section C. of this permit regarding bypassing of stormwater control facilities, nothing in this general permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties for noncompliance pursuant to NCGS l43-2l5.3, l43-2l5.6A, 143-215.6B, 143-215.6C or Section 309 of the Federal Act, 33 USC 1319. Furthermore, the permittee is responsible for consequential damages, such as fish kills, even though the responsibility for effective compliance may be temporarily suspended.

4. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this general permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject to under NCGS l43-2l5.75 et seq. or Section 311 of the Federal Act, 33 USC 1321. Furthermore, the permittee is responsible for consequential damages, such as fish kills, even though the responsibility for effective compliance may be temporarily suspended.

5. Property Rights

The issuance of this general permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations.

6. Severability

The provisions of this general permit are severable, and if any provision of this general permit, or the application of any provision of this general permit to any circumstances, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this general permit, shall not be affected thereby.

7. Duty to Provide Information

The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within a reasonable time, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating the certificate of coverage issued pursuant to this general permit or to determine compliance with this general permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Director upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this general permit.

8. When an Individual Permit may be Required

The Director may require any owner/operator authorized to discharge under a certificate of coverage issued pursuant to this general permit to apply for and obtain an individual permit or an alternative general permit. Any interested person may petition the Director to require an individual permit pursuant to 15A NCAC 2H .0127. Cases where an individual permit may be required include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. The discharger is a significant contributor of pollutants;

b. Conditions at the permitted site change, altering the constituents and/or characteristics of the discharge such that the discharge no longer qualifies for a General Permit;

c. The discharge violates the terms or conditions of this general permit;

d. A change has occurred in the availability of demonstrated technology or practices for the control or abatement of pollutants applicable to the point source;

e. Effluent limitations are promulgated for the point sources covered by this general permit;

f. A water quality management plan containing requirements applicable to such point sources is approved after the issuance of this general permit.

g. The Director determines at his own discretion that an individual permit is required.

9. When an Individual Permit may be Requested

Any permittee operating under this general permit may request to be excluded from the coverage of this general permit by applying for an individual permit. When an individual permit is issued to an owner/operator the applicability of this general permit is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit.

10. Signatory Requirements

a. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Director shall be signed and certified as follows:

(l) For a corporation: by a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this Section, a responsible corporate officer means: (a) a president, secretary, treasurer or vice president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision making functions for the corporation, or (b) the manager of one or more manufacturing production or operating facilities provided the manager is authorized to make management decisions which govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.

(2) For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively; or

(3) For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency: by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.

b. All reports required by the general permit and other information requested by the Director shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

(l) The authorization is made in writing by a person described above;

(2) The authorization specified either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or well field, superintendent, a position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.); and

(3) The written authorization is submitted to the Director.

c. Any person signing a document under paragraphs a. or b. of this section shall make the following certification:

> "I certify, under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

11. General Permit Modification, Revocation and Reissuance, or Termination

The issuance of this general permit does not prohibit the Director from reopening and modifying the general permit, revoking and reissuing the general permit, or terminating the general permit as allowed by the laws, rules, and regulations contained in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 122 and 123; Title 15A of the North Carolina Administrative Code, Subchapter 2H .0100; and North Carolina General Statute 143-215.1 et. seq.

SECTION C: OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POLLUTION CONTROLS

1. Proper Operation and Maintenance

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this general permit.

2. Need to Halt or Reduce not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the condition of this general permit.

3. Bypassing of Stormwater Control Facilities

a. Definitions

(l) "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of stormwater from any portion of a stormwater control facility including the collection system, which is not a designed or established or operating mode for the facility.

(2) "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the control facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.

b. Bypass Not Exceeding Limitations.

The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of Paragraphs c. and d. of this section.

c. Notice

(l) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass; including an evaluation of the anticipated quality and effect of the bypass.

(2) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee shall submit notice within 24 hours of an unanticipated bypass as required in Part II, E. 3.(b)(1) of this general permit. (24-hour notice).

d. Prohibition of Bypass

Bypass is prohibited and the Director may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:

(1) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury or severe property damage;

(2) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary control facilities, retention of stormwater or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime or dry weather. This condition is not satisfied if adequate backup controls should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and

(3) The permittee submitted notices as required under Paragraph c. of this section.

The Director may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Director determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in Paragraph d. of this section.

4. Upsets

a. Definition

"Upset " means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment or control facilities, inadequate treatment or control facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.

b. Effect of an Upset.

An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of paragraph c. of this condition are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

c. Conditions Necessary for a Demonstration of Upset

A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:

(1) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;

2) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated; and

(3) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in Part II, E. 3. (b) (2) of this general permit.

(4) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under Part II, A. 2. of this general permit.

d. Burden of Proof

In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

SECTION D: MONITORING AND RECORDS

1. Representative Sampling

Samples collected and measurements taken, as required herein, shall be characteristic of the volume and nature of the permitted discharge. Samples shall be taken on a day and time that is characteristic of the discharge. All samples shall be taken before the discharge joins or is diluted by any other waste stream, body of water, or substance. .

2. Penalties for Tampering

The Clean Water Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this general permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than $10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than two years per violation, or by both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more that $20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or both.

3. Records Retention

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information and copies of all reports required by this general permit, for a period of at least 5 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Director at any time.

4. Recording Results

For each measurement, sample, inspection or maintenance activity performed or taken pursuant to the requirements of this general permit, the permittee shall record the following information:

a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling, measurements, inspection or maintenance activity;

b. The individual(s) who performed the sampling, measurements, inspection or maintenance activity;

c. The date(s) analyses were performed;

d. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;

e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and

f. The results of such analyses.

5. Inspection and Entry

The permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the Director), or in the case of a facility which discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer system, an authorized representative of a municipal operator or the separate storm sewer system receiving the discharge, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to;

a. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this general permit;

b. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this general permit;

c. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this general permit; and

d. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring general permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

SECTION E: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Planned Changes

The permittee shall give notice to the Director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:

a. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR Part 122.29 (b); or

b. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the general permit, nor to notification requirements under 40 CFR Part 122.42 (a) (l).

2. Anticipated Noncompliance

The permittee shall give advance notice to the Director of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with the general permit requirements.

3. Twenty-four Hour Reporting

a. The permittee shall report to the central office or the appropriate regional office any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee became aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances.

The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance, and its causes; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.

b. The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph:

(1) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the general permit.

(2) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the general permit.

(3) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Director in the general permit to be reported within 24 hours.

c. The Director may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under paragraph b. above of this condition if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

4. Other Information

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in any report to the Director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

5. Availability of Reports

Except for data determined to be confidential under NCGS 143-215.3(a)(2) or Section 308 of the Federal Act, 33 USC 1318, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Division of Water Quality. As required by the Act, discharge data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in NCGS 143-215.6B or in Section 309 of the Federal Act.

6. Penalties for Falsification of Reports

The Clean Water Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this general permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than $l0,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than two years per violation, or by both.

SECTION F: LIMITATIONS REOPENER

This general permit shall be modified or alternatively, revoked and reissued, to comply with any applicable effluent guideline or water quality standard issued or approved under Sections 302(b) (2) (c), and (d), 304(b) (2) and 307(a) of the Clean Water Act, if the effluent guideline or water quality standard so issued or approved:

a. contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the general permit; or

b. controls any pollutant not limited in the general permit.

The general permit as modified or reissued under this paragraph shall also contain any other requirements in the Act then applicable.