

LA-UR-11-10650

*Approved for public release;
distribution is unlimited.*

Title: **What is a Storm Water Permit? Poster, Individual Permit for Storm Water, NPDES Permit No. NM0030759**

Author(s): Veenis, Steven J.

Intended for: Public

Purpose: This poster was prepared for the May 2011 Individual Permit for Storm Water (IP) public meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to update the public on implementation of the permit as required under Part 1.I (7) of the IP (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. NM0030759). The poster will be available on Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL's) public website.



Los Alamos National Laboratory, an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, is operated by the Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the National Nuclear Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Energy under contract DE-AC52-06NA25396. By acceptance of this article, the publisher recognizes that the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, royalty-free license to publish or reproduce the published form of this contribution, or to allow others to do so, for U.S. Government purposes. Los Alamos National Laboratory requests that the publisher identify this article as work performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy. Los Alamos National Laboratory strongly supports academic freedom and a researcher's right to publish; as an institution, however, the Laboratory does not endorse the viewpoint of a publication or guarantee its technical correctness.

What is a Storm Water Permit?

Storm water permits authorize permittees to discharge storm water from specific activities or facilities as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

What is NPDES?

Permitting program to protect and improve water quality

Part of the federal Clean Water Act

Administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Types of NPDES Storm Water Permits

General & Individual

General Permits: 3 common types

Construction General Permit (CGP)

A Permit is needed for:

- Soil disturbance of 1 acre or more
- Activity part of a "common plan of development" disturbing 1 acre or more

Activities subject to the CGP:

- Site clearing
- Grading
- Excavation
- Soil stockpiling

Examples of CGP Sites:

- Subdivisions (home building)
- Commercial buildings
- Highway projects

Cover multiple facilities or activities within a specific category

Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)

Permit features:

- "Sector specific" industrial activities.
- Based on Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Codes
- Primarily manufacturing type activity

Examples of MSGP facilities:

- Landfills
- Concrete & asphalt plants
- Auto salvage yards
- Machine shops
- Power plants
- Recycling facilities
- Sand & gravel operations
- Sawmills

Applicable to facilities and activities nationwide

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Program (MS4)

An MS4 is:

- A conveyance owned by a city, state, town, or other public body
- A system that collects and conveys storm water
- Not combined with a sewer system and not part of a publically owned treatment works

Applies to:

- Urban areas with populations > 100,000
- Populations < 100,000 within an urbanized area
- Case-by-case outside an urbanized area

Individual Permit

Need determined by EPA

Individual Permit

Permit features:

- Requirements specific to a particular facility or activity
- Applicable only for the individual facility or activity
- Issued for a maximum of five years
- May be patterned after or contain elements of the "general permits"



Facilities and activities subject to NPDES storm water permits are all around you!