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# Storm Water Permit Requirements for the Chemical Manufacturing Industry

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Water Protection Program fact sheet

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Establishments engaged in chemical manufacturing and storage may need to apply to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for a Missouri State Operating Permit to discharge storm water. Missouri regulations (10 CSR-6.200) should be consulted for specific requirements.

## **General Permit**

A permit containing general provisions has been issued for this industry, but it is the responsibility of the individual owner or operator of a facility covered by this general permit to apply. It does not authorize any other discharges to waters of the state such as cooling water or domestic sewage.

The general permit does not apply to storm water discharges within 1,000 feet of waters that have been identified as a losing stream or is listed in the Missouri Water Quality Standards (10 CSR 20-7.031) as an outstanding national or state resource water, or a lake or reservoir used for public drinking water supplies, or critical habitat for endangered species, or bio-criteria reference streams. Facilities with discharges located in these areas must apply for a site-specific permit.

## **Site Specific Permits**

If requested by the owner or operator, a facility may be covered by a site-specific permit. A site-specific permit takes into account the individual characteristics of the site and the storm water runoff. In addition, the department can determine that the quality of waters of the state may be better protected by requiring the owner or operator of the site to apply for a site-specific permit.

## **Who Needs a Permit?**

Storm water regulations use the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to determine if an industry is regulated under the law. This classification system was devised by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to cover all economic activities. Businesses having the SIC major group code of 28xx, except 282x, 283x, 285x, and 287x, are required to apply for a storm water discharge permit.

Firms with SIC codes of 283x and 285x may be required to apply for a storm water permit if certain activities take place or materials are exposed to storm water. This general permit does not cover SIC code 287x or 282x; those activities are covered under a different general permit.

Plastic, rubber, adhesive, and fiberglass producers should apply for the general permit for plastics, rubber, adhesive and fiberglass producers.

## **Background**

Since the 1972 Clean Water Act, discharges of wastewater have been regulated through the National Pollutant discharge Elimination System (NPDES). A permit is required for any discharges of potential pollutants to waters of the state unless there is a specific exemption. Since 1974, Missouri has been delegated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue NPDES permits. The permits issued by the department are state as well as federal operating permits.

Since October, 1992, Missouri has regulated storm water runoff by requiring a permit. The new regulations address pollution in rainwater runoff that is discharged from certain industrial sites, construction sites disturbing an area of five acres or more, and urban storm sewers. The regulations have come about because of amendments to the federal Clean Water Act.

## **Additional Water Pollution Control Requirements**

Additional permits from the department's Water Pollution Control Branch may be required (Missouri Clean Water Law, Section 644, RSMo.). As stated above, anyone that discharges water in a location where it may cause pollution to waters of the state must apply for a permit to do so. This would include discharges of wastewater such as cooling tower blow-down or domestic sewage. Instead of applying for a separate permit, storm water discharges may be covered under these permits.

## **Exemptions**

Firms that only warehouse chemicals and none are stored outside are exempt from Missouri's storm water permit requirements. Facilities that discharge storm water runoff directly to a combined sewer system are exempt from storm water permit requirements.

## **Permit Requirements**

1. The general permit for these facilities requires yearly sampling of storm water runoff from all outfalls. The parameters to be tested for are:
  - Oil and grease,
  - Chemical oxygen demand,
  - Chemicals stored outside in the last three years,
  - pH,
  - settleable solids
  - color

Of the above parameters the following have effluent limits: oil and grease, chemical oxygen demand and settleable solids. The remaining parameters require monitoring only.
2. All paint solvents, petroleum products and petroleum waste products (except fuels), and storage containers (such as drums, cans or cartons) must be stored so that these materials are not exposed to storm water. Spill prevention, control, or management must be provided sufficient to prevent any spills of these pollutants from entering a water of the state.
3. Collection facilities must be provided on-site, and arrangement made for proper disposal of waste products, including but not limited to, petroleum waste products and solvents.
4. Good housekeeping practices must be maintained on the site to keep solid waste from entry into waters of the state.
5. All involved personnel must be trained in material handling and storage, and housekeeping of maintenance areas. Upon request, proof of training must be submitted to the department.

Requirements for site specific permits may vary because the permit is written for one facility and the permit is tailored to that facility. Sampling of wastewater (such as storm, process, wash, or dewatering) may or may not be required.

### **Fee and Application Forms**

To apply under a general permit, complete application Form E and submit a fee of \$150. The fee is paid only on application. The general permit will expire in 1996, at which time the application will need to be made to renew the facility permit.

To apply for a site-specific permit, Forms A and 2F are required. The fee is \$1,500, payable upon application and then again each year at the anniversary date of the permit issuance.

Applications and fees for storm water only should be mailed to the Permits Unit Chief at the address below.

To include storm water discharges under a current NPDES permit, contact the appropriate regional office.

### **Termination of Permit**

The permit may be terminated when activities covered by the permit have ceased and no significant materials are stored in such a way as to come into contact with storm water. It must be terminated if a transfer of ownership of the facility and its activities have been made. If such a termination of the general permit is sought, the permittee should submit Form H, Termination of a General Permit. If termination of a site-specific permit is sought the permittee should request such by letter.

### **For more information**

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