



Storm Water Permit Requirements for Water Transportation Industry

Establishments engaged in the water transportation industry may need to apply for a storm water permit from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. A general permit has been issued for this industry, but it is the responsibility of the individual owner or operators of a facility covered by the general permit to apply for a storm water 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 code was devised by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to cover all economic activities. The water transportation industry is covered in major group 44 of the code, and as such is regulated under the law. This group includes firms engaged in passenger, auto, and freight transportation on water and in marina operations.

However, firms engaged in boat manufacturing are covered under different general permits, depending upon materials used. These permits are called Light Metal Fabrication and Plastics and Rubber Manufacturing. If in doubt, boat manufacturers should contact the department for the appropriate general permit for which they should apply.

General Permits

A permit containing general provisions has been issued for water transportation, 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.

Background

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.

Exemptions

Three exemptions from permit requirements are allowed:

1. Businesses whose primary activity is the retail sale of manufactured items,
2. Facilities that discharge storm water runoff directly to a combined sewer system, and
3. Businesses with no facilities for boat or vehicle maintenance (including rehabilitation, mechanical repairs, painting, fueling, and lubrication) or equipment cleaning operations are exempt from permit requirements.

General Permit Requirements

Requirements of the general permit address best management practices to manage activities that would result in increased contamination of Missouri's rivers and streams if the storm water runoff is not controlled. Examples of these practices include:

1. Spill prevention, control, and management of paint, solvent and petroleum products.
2. Good housekeeping practices to prevent solid wastes from entry into waters of the state, and
3. Management practices sufficient to stop wastes from sandblasting and painting of boats and marina facilities from entry into waters of the state.

In addition, storm water runoff from water transportation facilities cannot violate the general criteria of Missouri's Water Quality Standards. Some of these criteria are, but are not limited to, dissolved oxygen levels, toxic substances, color and odor.

The general permit contains no sampling requirements, although sampling may be required at the request of the department.

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.

Fees 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 February 1999, at which time the application will need to be made to renew the facility permit.

To apply for a site-specific permit, complete Forms A and 2F and submit a fee of \$1,500.

Applications and fees should be mailed to the Permits Unit Chief at the address below.

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

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Water Protection Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176
1-800-361-4827 or (573) 751-1300 office
(573) 526-1146 fax
www.dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/index.html