



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600 • Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000
TTY 711 or 800-833-6388 (for the speech or hearing impaired)

February 21, 2007

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
PO Box 150
Nespelem, WA 99155

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
MAR 02 2007
WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

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Copy to Gary
Passmore
Lana Use Shorelines
Administrator
2/26/07*

Dear Natural Resource Director:

The Industrial Stormwater NPDES and State Waste Discharge General Permit, issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) on September 20, 2002, will expire on September 20, 2007. Ecology has revised the permit for public comment. The proposed draft Industrial Stormwater General Permit and fact sheet are available for review and public comment from February 21, 2007 to April 6, 2007. Ecology anticipates reissuing the permit on August 20, 2007.

Purpose of the Industrial Stormwater General Permit

Under federal and state water quality law (Federal Clean Water Act and State Water Pollution Control Act), the discharge of wastewater, including stormwater, requires a permit. The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40, Part 122.1(b) (40 CFR 122.1(b)) requires permits for the discharge of pollutants from any point source into waters of the United States. 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) (i) - (xi) identifies the industries required to apply for coverage under the Industrial Stormwater General Permit. A general permit applies to a group of dischargers as a whole and implements both the Federal Clean Water Act and State Water Pollution Control Act. The draft general permit addresses legal requirements and controls the discharge of pollutants to protect surface water and ground water quality in Washington State under the authority of Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.48.260. Facilities in the industrial sectors listed in the draft permit and on the Industrial Stormwater General Permit website will require permit coverage. Currently, 1,153 industrial facilities are covered under the permit. The draft permit can be accessed at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/industrial/index.html>.

A draft fact sheet for the permit is also available. The fact sheet provides information on the industries covered under the permit, including their discharge characteristics and compliance with the previous permit. The fact sheet also provides the legal and technical basis for the permit conditions.

Public Workshops/Hearings

Ecology will conduct public workshops and hearings on the draft general permit in five locations during the public notice period. At the workshops Ecology will explain the general permit, identify changes from the previous permit, answer questions, and facilitate testimony during the hearing. The hearings provide an opportunity for people to give formal oral testimony and comments on the proposed permit. All workshops begin at 1:30 pm. Public hearings begin immediately after the workshops and conclude as soon as public testimony is completed. Workshops and hearings will be conducted at:

**March 26, 2007 - Moses Lake, Fire Department, Conference Room, 701 E. Third Avenue
(509) 765-2204.**

March 28, 2007 - Olympia, Department of Ecology Headquarters, 300 Desmond Dr, (360) 407-6000.

March 29, 2007 - Longview, Cowlitz County PUD, 961 12th Avenue, (360) 423-2210.



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April 3, 2007 – Mt. Vernon, Skagit Transit Conference Room, 105 E. Kincaid Street,
Suite 101, (360) 428-8547.

April 5, 2007 – Seattle, University Heights Center, 5031 University Way NE, (206) 527-4278.

Submitting Written and Oral Comments

Ecology will accept written and oral comments on the draft Industrial Stormwater General Permit and Fact Sheet. Comments should reference specific text when possible and address the following:

- technical issues,
- accuracy and completeness of information,
- the scope of facilities proposed for coverage,
- adequacy of environmental protection and permit conditions, or
- any other concern that would result from issuance of the revised permit.

Ecology prefers written comments be submitted by email to industrialstormwatercomments@ecy.wa.gov. Written comments must be postmarked or received via email no later than midnight, April 20, 2007. Oral comments can be made by attending and testifying at the public hearings.

Submit written comments to:

Jim La Spina
Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Requesting Copies of the Permit

Beginning February 21, 2007, you can download copies of the draft permit and fact sheet from the website:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/industrial/index.html>

Or you can request copies from:

Julie Robertson
Telephone: (360) 407-6575 E-Mail: jrob461@ecy.wa.gov

Issuing the Final Industrial Stormwater General Permit

Ecology will issue the final permit after receiving and considering all public comments. If public comments result in a substantial departure from the scope or conditions in the original draft permit, another public notice of draft and public comment period may ensue.

Ecology expects to issue the general permit on August 20, 2007, which will be effective 30 days later. When issued, Ecology will send you a copy of the permit and Ecology's responses to the comments.

Sincerely,



David C. Peeler, Manager
Water Quality Program