

# **Workshop & Public Hearing**

## **NPDES General Permit for Wastewater Discharges from Water Treatment Plants**

May 14, 2014

# Purpose of NPDES and State waste discharge permits

To control, reduce, and eventually eliminate the discharge of pollutants to surface waters of the State.

The permitting method and this permit, in particular, comply with the requirements of the U.S. Clean Water Act and the Washington State Water Pollution Control Law.

## **S-1 Permit Coverage**

- Who must obtain coverage under this permit?
- What does this permit allow them to do?

## **S-2 Limits and Standards**

- Specifies the maximum amount of pollutants allowed in the discharged wastewater.

## S-3 Planning Requirements

- Identifies the plans and procedures that Ecology expects all Permittees must have documented for use as tools to manage some of their basic operations around the production, handling, and disposal of wastes, including accidental spills.
  - Operations and Maintenance Manual
  - Solid Waste Control Plan
  - Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (depending)
  - Other Spill Contingency Plan

## S-4 Operational Requirements

- Requires Permittees to operate and maintain facilities to comply with this permit.
- Identifies certain restricted activities, such as
  - Discharge untreated pollutants
  - Use excessive amount of treatment chemicals
  - Improperly handle or dispose of solid waste
  - Accidentally spill or allow the release of pollutants

# S-5 Monitoring Requirements

- Specifies the required routine monitoring of the effluent, including
  - Schedule
  - Sample collection methods
  - Analytical methods
  - Documentation requirements

# S-6 Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements

- Identifies:
  - All the information and documents that Permittees must provide to Ecology, both periodically and for special circumstances.
  - The duration for which Permittees must retain their records.

## **S-7 Permit Administration**

- Describes the process facilities must follow to apply for and obtain coverage under this permit.

## **G-1 Operation & Maintenance**

- Basic requirements and prohibitions regarding facility activities and waste discharges.

## **G-2 Other Duties & Responsibilities**

- List of generic requirements , such as:
  - Comply with all other laws and regulations.
  - Provide information when Ecology requests it.
  - Notify proper authorities of spills.

## **G-3 Enforcement & Penalties**

- Identifies possible consequences for failure to comply with this permit.

# G-4 Permit Management & Coordination

- Topics include:
  - How to appeal the permit
  - Who must sign documents
  - Dates of permit coverage
  - Fee payment
  - Modifying the permit
  - Revoking the permit
  - Transferring the permit

# Substantive Changes from the Current Permit

1. Old: S1.A.3.                      New: S-1.1 (2)  
Change the threshold for coverage from a maximum production capacity of at least 50,000 gpd to an actual production rate of at least 35,000 gpd on an average monthly basis.
  
2. Old: none                              New: S-7.1.2  
Require permit applications electronically via the SecureAccess Washington portal at <https://secureaccess.wa.gov/ecy/wqwebportal/>.

# Substantive Changes from the Current Permit

3. Old: S3.A                      New: S-2.2  
Decrease the maximum daily discharge limit for total residual chlorine beginning in September 2015 (after a 1-year compliance period).
  
4. Old: S4                      New: S-5.2.1  
Require monthly monitoring of the discharge for total and dissolved arsenic during the third year of the 5-year permit term (September 2016 through August 2017).





# Substantive Changes from the Current Permit

10. Old: S3.A

New: S-1.2.1

Fix apparent typographical error in the covered discharges by deleting the words, “and all other discharges.”

11. Old: S2.C.2.a vs. S2.C.3      New: G-4.3

Fix potential contradiction in the effective coverage date with clarified verbiage.

# Questions?