

# INDUSTRIAL FACILITY STORMWATER RUNOFF PERMIT COVERAGE

CITY OF ABILENE—STORMWATER UTILITY DIVISION

## *Purpose of Permit Coverage*

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has mandated that the City of Abilene (City) monitor stormwater discharges throughout the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). This includes stormwater discharges from industrial facilities. The City has developed a program to track, inspect, and enforce industrial facilities to minimize stormwater discharges to the MS4 to the maximum extent practicable.

The City's industrial inspection program was created as a requirement of the City's Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permit through the TCEQ. For the purpose of compliance with the permit, the City must track and inspect:

- 1) SARA Title III Section 313 industrial facilities,
- 2) hazardous waste treatment, disposal or recovery facilities,
- 3) municipal landfills,
- 4) industries that have been determined to be contributing a substantial pollutant load to the MS4, and
- 5) facilities that meet the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code requirements as stated in the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP).

Each of these facilities must be inspected at least once every five years. These inspections are based upon TCEQ criteria and primarily include a review of the facility's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) and a physical inspection of the facility to identify any potential sources of stormwater pollution.

## *Does my Facility require a Stormwater Permit?*

Operators of industrial facilities with activities included in one of the following eleven (11) categories must obtain coverage through the TPDES MSGP. The list below details the groups of industrial activities subject to the MSGP.

- 1) Facilities with effluent limitations
- 2) Manufacturing
- 3) Mineral, Metal, Oil and Gas
- 4) Hazardous Waste, Treatment, or Disposal Facilities
- 5) Landfills
- 6) Recycling Facilities
- 7) Steam Electric Plants
- 8) Transportation Facilities
- 9) Treatment Works
- 10) Construction Activity
- 11) Light Industrial Activity

An operator of a facility can search via the SIC code to determine whether or not their facility activity is included in one of the above categories. It is recommended that all business owners review the SIC code listing to determine whether they require a TPDES General Permit. A SIC code list of facilities required to be covered and the description of the SIC code can be found at the following Web sites:

[www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/assistance/sblga/swsic.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/assistance/sblga/swsic.pdf)

[www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html](http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html)

## *My Facility requires a Permit, What should I do?*

If you have determined that your facility requires permit coverage under the TCEQ's MSGP, you must prepare an SWP3 and submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the TCEQ and the City of Abilene. The operator should visit the TCEQ website and obtain a copy of the TPDES MSGP TXR050000. The MSGP will outline the steps required to obtain compliance with the permit. A copy of the MSGP, NOI, and guidance documents can be found at the following website:

[www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/permits/sw\\_industrial.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/permits/sw_industrial.html)

## *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3)*

A site specific SWP3 must be prepared prior to submittal of the NOI. The SWP3 shall contain Best Management Practices (BMP) that the operator will implement to effectively lessen the potential for pollutants discharged during stormwater events. The SWP3 must comply with the terms and conditions of the MSGP. The following Website is available to aid the operator in preparing an SWP3.

[www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/sblga/sw.html#tpdes](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/sblga/sw.html#tpdes)



## *No Exposure Certification (NEC)*

A facility subject to the MSGP may be excluded from its requirements if industrial activities and materials are isolated from rain, snow, snowmelt, and runoff by storm-resistant shelters. In this occurrence, the facility may apply for a No Exposure Certification (NEC); however, NEC facilities will still require site inspections to assure the NEC requirements are being met. The NEC requirements can be located within the MSGP.

## *Industrial Facility Stormwater Runoff Inspections.*

The City's Stormwater Utility Division (SWUD) will be conducting site inspections on industrial facilities subject to the MSGP TXR050000. These inspections will be administered in a method much like inspections conducted by the TCEQ and EPA. The following is an outline of a typical inspection:

- Notification to the owner/operator to detail when the inspection will occur.
- Brief opening conference between inspector and owner/operator to discuss the objectives and scope of the ensuing inspection.
- Review of the facility's SWP3, TPDES permit, Hazard Communication Plan, Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure plan, and any other documents applicable to stormwater management.
- Conduct visual inspection of facility to observe SWP3 applications and review the BMPs established in the SWP3.
- Conduct a closing conference to acquire additional or missing information, clarify questions with facility officials, and issue deficiency notices, if applicable.

Industries that do not obtain permits or make reasonable efforts to implement their SWP3 are subject to citations with fines ranging in rates per violation/per day and may be referred to the EPA and or TCEQ for possible state or federal enforcement action.



## **Common Stormwater Problems at Industrial Facilities:**

- No Permit, SWPPP, or Records.
- Failure to install/maintain BMP's at site specified in the SWP3.
- Did not conduct/document inspections.
- SWP3 not updated to reflect BMP changes.
- Failed to monitor and report.
- Improper use of facility equipment.

**For Additional Information and Assistance**

**City of Abilene**

Stormwater Utility Division  
P.O. Box 60  
555 Walnut Street, Ste. 210  
Abilene, Texas 79604-0060  
(325) 676-6281  
[www.abilenetx.com/stormwaterservices](http://www.abilenetx.com/stormwaterservices)



**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**  
**(Region 3 Office - Abilene)**

Stormwater & Pretreatment Team  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
1977 Industrial Boulevard  
Abilene, Texas 79602  
(325) 698-9674

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**  
**(State Office - Austin)**

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