What activities are covered by this general permit?

Coverage under this General Permit is applicable to all owners or operators of stormwater point source discharges associated with industrial activity from Air Transportation facilities identified by the SIC Codes in Major Group 45; including air transportation, scheduled, and air courier (SIC 4512 and 4513); air transportation, non scheduled (SIC 4522); airports, flying fields, except those maintained by aviation clubs, and airport terminal services including: air traffic control, except government; aircraft storage at airports; aircraft upholstery repair; airfreight handling at airports; airport hangar rental; airport leasing, if operating airport; airport terminal services; and hangar operations; and airport and aircraft service and maintenance including: aircraft cleaning and janitorial service; aircraft servicing/repairing, except on a factory basis; vehicle maintenance shops (including vehicle and equipment rehabilitation, mechanical repairs, painting, fueling, lubrication); and material handling facilities.

What are the key permit requirements?

- Implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) (Part II, Section A).
- Provide secondary containment for all bulk storage of liquid materials (Part II, Section A, 2.(k)).
- Perform, document, and report qualitative monitoring during a measureable storm event (Part II, Section B).
- Use forms provided by the Division to record qualitative monitoring results (Part II, Section B).
- Report the annual usage of deicing and anti-icing materials to the DEMLR Central Office (Part II, Section C).
- Facilities that conduct aircraft and/or runway (including taxiways and ramps) deicing/anti-icing operations must produce and implement a plan for the minimization of the release of those materials into the stormwater system.
- The SPPP should include Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control discharge of pollutants from a facility’s stormwater outfalls.

What are BMPs and why are they important?

BMPs include a variety of practices that help minimize potential for pollutants to get into the stormwater from a facility. There are different types of BMPs:

**Non-structural (practices or activities) BMPs include:**

* Eliminating exposure of materials and equipment wherever possible by moving them to indoor locations.
* Practicing good housekeeping on-site. Handle and store materials at the facility in an orderly fashion.
* Exchanging hazardous materials for non-hazardous ones wherever possible.
* Establishing routine leak & maintenance checks to minimize chance of spills. Clean up spills immediately.
* Establishing bulk storage tank protocols that minimize the risk of spills during loading and unloading.

**Structural (equipment or devices) BMPs include:**

* Containment dikes around the loading areas of bulk liquid storage containers.
* Roofs and containment around materials stored outside.
* Well-vegetated areas around pavement and operating areas can reduce the pollutants discharged.
Frequently Asked Questions

Could I be exempted from an NPDES stormwater permit?

Possibly. A facility subject to the NPDES stormwater regulations that eliminates all potential stormwater exposure may be eligible for a No Exposure Exclusion from a permit. The facility must self-recertify annually that it still fully meets the qualifications of no exposure. A facility may submit an application for this exclusion from permitting using the forms on our website. (See our website address below.)

What if I sell my business, or the name changes?

You are required to notify DEMLR of those changes, and our specific continuation of permit coverage is subject to the Director's approval. Please submit the Name/Ownership Change Form located on our Program website.

Do I have to monitor the outfalls?

Yes, you must perform and document semi-annual visual monitoring of stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity at each outfall. Monitoring reports must be maintained on site with the SPPP and must include:

- The monitoring date and time.
- Inspection personnel.
- Nature of the discharge (i.e., runoff or snow melt).
- The visual quality of the stormwater discharge recorded on the forms available on the Program’s website.
- Probable sources of any visible stormwater contamination.

Who inspects me, and for what?

DEMLR regional office staff may visit the site to see if you have the permit, an acceptable SPPP, and that you are following your SPPP. These inspections may be routine or they may be the result of public complaints. Please take compliance seriously! Facilities that violate stormwater permit conditions may be subject to fines. Civil penalties of up to $25,000 per day may be assessed for each violation.

What if I conduct aircraft and/or runway deicing operations?

Facilities that conduct aircraft and/or runway deicing operations must:

- Evaluate operating procedures to consider alternative practices that would reduce the overall amount of deicing/anti-icing chemical used and/or lessen the environmental impact of the pollutant source.
- Evaluate whether excessive application of deicing chemicals occurs and adjust as necessary, consistent with considerations of flight safety.
- Produce and implement a plan for the minimization of the release of materials used for deicing.
- Determine the annual usage rate of deicing/anti-icing chemicals at their facility.
- Annual usage rate of deicing/anti-icing chemicals shall be reported annually to the state.

The Division may require facilities that conduct aircraft and/or runway deicing/anti-icing operations to apply for an individual permit.

Who can help me with questions?

Your questions about stormwater permit requirements can be addressed to the Division’s regional and central offices:

- Asheville Office……….. (828) 296-4500 Washington Office……….. (252) 946-6481
- Fayetteville Office…….. (910) 433-3300 Wilmington Office……….. (910) 796-7215
- Mooresville Office…….. (704) 663-1699 Winston-Salem Office……. (336) 771-5000
- Raleigh Office……….. (919) 791-4200 Central Office…………. (919) 707-9220

Other resources

In addition to the DEMLR Stormwater Permitting Program’s website below, the Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service is a valuable resource. The DEACS has specific information about reducing pollutants at various industries. Call (877) 623-6748 or visit: http://ncenvironmentalassistance.org

Helpful Link:
DEMLR Stormwater Permitting Program: http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/lr/stormwater