

FACT SHEET

OPDES Storm Water General Permit Coverage

The Oklahoma Department Of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) has been assigned responsibly for storm water discharges associated with construction sites throughout the state by EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C. The permitting process will be conducted under Oklahoma Pollution Discharge Elimination System (OPDES) General Permit (GP005).

If you are involved in any construction project with a common plan of development or sale of one or more acres, you *must* apply for an **OPDES General Construction Permit**. The “operator” is any party associated with a construction project that meets either of the following two criteria:

- 1- They have operational control over the site or project specifications (including ability to make modifications to specifications); and
- 2- They have day-to-day operational control of activities at the site / project activities necessary to ensure compliance with permit requirements and conditions.

Since the “OLD EPA” General Permit expired September 9, 1997, DEQ developed a general permit based on existing CFR storm water requirements published September 9, 1992. The new OPDES (storm water) General Permit for construction sites and activities will allow existing permittees to remain covered by submitting a **Notice Of Intent**. The current permit number should be included on the Notice Of Intent (NOI) Form.

It should be noted that the EPA maintains permitting authority over all facilities and activities located on Indian Country Lands [18 U.S.C. 1511(a), (b), (c)] not regulated by ODEQ.

It should also be noted that **there is a one hundred fifty dollar (\$150) application fee per construction site for processing and renewing permits. Applicants will be billed at the time they receive their permits.**

Penalties For Failure To Obtain New Storm Water Permit Coverage:

If you are required to apply for a *new* **OPDES Storm Water General Permit** for your construction site and activities and neglect to do so, then you are in violation of the OPDES Storm Water General Permit. A violation is grounds for enforcement action which may include: permit termination, revocation, reissuance, modification, or denial of permit renewal application. Penalties for violation are outlined in Part VI, Section A “Standard Permit Conditions” of the new “General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities” (GP-005), published by the ODEQ on July 1, 1997.

HOW TO APPLY FOR STORM WATER GENERAL PERMIT

To apply for General Permit, complete the enclosed NOI form and submit to:

Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Division
P.O. Box 1677
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677

For additional information and guidance on how to prepare a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWP3) and copies of the permit language, contact ODEQ at (405)-702-8194.

We appreciate your help in achieving the goals of the Clean Water Act by making all surface waters in Oklahoma “Cleaner, Fishable, and Swimmable.”