

Appendix A Definitions, Abbreviations, and Acronyms

Terms not specifically defined in this Appendix or in Clean Water Act regulations are meant to be interpreted as in common usage.

Definitions

Best Management Practices (“BMPs”) – schedules of activities, practices (and prohibitions of practices), structures, vegetation, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage. See also the definition of Stormwater Control Measures, below.

Commercial, Industrial, or Institutional (CII) Site – any site that meets the eligibility requirements of this CII GP as outlined in Part 1.4 of the Permit.

Combined Sewer System – a wastewater collection system owned by a State or municipality (as defined by Section 502(4) of the CWA) which conveys sanitary wastewaters (domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewaters) and storm water through a single-pipe system to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) Treatment Plant.

Contiguous Properties or Parcels – parcels or properties of land that are adjacent and owned by the same entity. For purposes of this permit, “adjacent” properties or parcels may include those that are separated by an area such as: an alley, roadway, sidewalk, path, driveway, garden(s), or other structure that interrupts the continuous flow or use of the land and/or an easement, if the land on either side of such an area(s) is owned by the same entity.

Director – a Regional Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency or an authorized representative.

Discharge – when used without qualification, means the "discharge of a pollutant."

Discharge of a Pollutant – any addition of any “pollutant” or combination of pollutants to “waters of the United States” from any “point source,” or any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the “contiguous zone” or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. This includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; or

discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works.

Drainage Area – For the purposes of this permit, the impervious land area draining to a single outfall or interconnection. The extent of an outfall’s catchment or drainage area is determined not only by localized topography and impervious cover but also by the location of drainage structures and the connectivity of stormwater drainage pipes. Also known as “Catchment.”

Drainback Water – standing water in a catch basin sump removed during cleaning via vacuum truck or other means.

Existing Site – any CII site that has 1 acre of more of impervious cover at the time of permit effective date.

Existing Impervious Cover – any impervious cover present on the site at the time of the effective date of the permit.

Fertilizer – is any commercially produced fertilizer used as soil and plant amendments, containing a guaranteed analysis of primary nutrients; this does not include a product blended from organic compost or natural organic fertilizer. (See 330 CMR 31.02)

Improper Non-Stormwater Discharge – any discharge to a separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of stormwater except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer) and discharges resulting from firefighting activities. Known as “Illicit Discharges” under the MS4 permit.

Impaired Water – A water is impaired if it does not meet one or more of its designated use(s). For purposes of this permit, “impaired” refers to categories 4 and 5 of the five-part categorization approach used for classifying the water quality standards attainment status for water segments under the TMDL program. Impaired waters compilations are also sometimes referred to as “303(d) lists.” Category 5 waters are impaired because at least one designated use is not being supported or is threatened and a TMDL is needed. Category 4 waters indicate that at least one designated use is not being supported but a TMDL is not needed (4a indicates that a TMDL has been approved or established by EPA; 4b indicates other required control measures are expected in result in the attainment of water quality standards in a reasonable period of time; and 4c indicates that the non-attainment of the water quality standard is the result of pollution (e.g. habitat) and is not caused by a pollutant). See *USEPA’s 2006 Integrated Report Guidance, July 29, 2005* for more detail on the five part categorization of waters [under EPA National TMDL Guidance <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/policy.html>]).

Impervious Surface – Any surface that prevents or significantly impedes the infiltration of water into the underlying soil. This can include but is not limited to: roads, driveways, parking areas, other areas created using nonporous material, buildings, rooftops, structures, artificial turf and compacted gravel or soil.

Increased Impervious Cover Discharges – the increased discharge from impervious cover added after the Effective Date of the permit.

Industrial Activity – the ten categories of industrial activities included in the definition of “stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity,” as defined in 40 CFR § 122.26(b)(14)(i)-(ix) and (xi).

Industrial Stormwater – stormwater runoff associated with the definition of “stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity.”

Major Storm and Flood Events – Instances resulting from major storms such as hurricanes, extreme/heavy precipitation events, and pluvial, fluvial, and flash flood events such as high-water events, storm surge, and high-tide flooding, including flooding caused by sea level change. “Extreme/heavy precipitation” refers to instances during which the amount of rain or snow experienced in a location substantially exceeds what is normal according to location and season.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer – a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):

- (i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States;
- (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
- (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and
- (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR § 122.2.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) – all separate storm sewers that are defined as “large” or “medium” or “small” municipal storm sewer systems pursuant to paragraphs 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(4) and (b)(7), or designated under paragraph 40 126.26(a) (1)(v). For the purposes of this permit “MS4” may also refer to the permittee with jurisdiction over the sewer system.

Newly Developed Site – Any newly developed site that was undeveloped prior to the permit Effective Date that, after development, will meet eligibility requirements of this CII GP.

No exposure – all industrial materials or activities are protected by a storm-resistant shelter to prevent exposure to rain, snow, snowmelt, and/or runoff.

Offsite mitigation – pollutant removal practices that are implemented at another location that is not the permitted site.

Permittee – For the purposes of this permit, the owner of a site of one or more contiguous sites, with one (1) acre or more of total impervious cover is considered to be the Permittee. If there is a written agreement that provides another single entity with authority to make decisions with respect to operational control of one or more sites, the entity with such authority (the “operator”) will be considered the Permittee. When a site is leased to multiple lessees, the owner shall be the Permittee.

Phosphorus Containing Fertilizer – Fertilizer labeled for use on lawn or non-agricultural turf in which the available phosphate content is greater than 0.67% by weight, excluding organic compost and natural organic fertilizer (see 330 CMR 31.02).

Point source – any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel, or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural stormwater runoff.

Pollutant – dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water.

Pollutant of concern – A pollutant which causes or contributes to a violation of a water quality standard, including a pollutant which is identified as causing an impairment in a State's 303(d) list.

Private separate storm sewer – also known as non-municipal separate storm sewers. 40 CFR 122.26(a)(6), including all other privately-owned separate storm sewer system(s) that collect and discharge stormwater either directly to a receiving water or through an interconnection with an MS4.

Qualifying Pervious Areas – natural or landscaped vegetated areas fully stabilized, with runoff that mimics hydrologic characteristics of the NRCS Hydrologic Soil Groups A-D.

Redevelopment – For sites that meet the impervious cover threshold for eligibility under this permit that add impervious cover after the effective date, no additional phosphorus load may be added from runoff generated by this new impervious cover addition. Also known as Increased Discharges.

Site – the land or water area where any “facility or activity” is physically located or conducted, including adjacent land used in connection with the facility or activity (40 CFR § 122.2). For purposes of this permit, “site” shall include “contiguous” properties or parcels when such properties or parcels are owned by the same entity.

Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System – all separate storm sewer systems that are (i) owned or operated by the United States, a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district, or drainage district, or similar entity or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States, and (ii) not defined as “large” or “medium” municipal separate storm sewer system pursuant to paragraphs 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(4) and (b)(7), or designated under paragraph 40 126.26(a) (1)(v). This term includes systems like separate storm sewer systems in municipalities, such as systems at military bases, large hospital or prison complexes, and highways and other thoroughfares. This term does not include separate storm sewers in very discrete areas, such as individual buildings.

Small MS4 – means a small municipal separate storm sewer system.

Stormwater – means storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

Stormwater Control Measures – For the purposes of this permit, stormwater control measures (“SCM”) are a subcategory of Best Management Practices (BMPs; see above definition). SCMs include all creditable stormwater control measures available for use in Appendix F and include other treatment technologies to reduce stormwater pollution and control site runoff.

Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity – (see 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)). In general, the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying stormwater and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing, or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. The term does not include discharges from facilities or activities excluded from the NPDES program under 40 CFR Part 122. For the categories of industries identified in this section, the term includes, but is not limited to, stormwater discharges from industrial plant yards; immediate access roads and rail lines

used or traveled by carriers of raw materials, manufactured products, waste material, or by-products used or created by the facility; material handling sites; refuse sites; sites used for the application or disposal of process waste waters (as defined at part 401 of this chapter); sites used for the storage and maintenance of material handling equipment; sites used for residual treatment, storage, or disposal; shipping and receiving areas; manufacturing buildings; storage areas (including tank farms) for raw materials, and intermediate and final products; and areas where industrial activity has taken place in the past and significant materials remain and are exposed to stormwater. For the purposes of this paragraph, material handling activities include storage, loading and unloading, transportation, or conveyance of any raw material, intermediate product, final product, by-product, or waste product. The term excludes areas located on plant lands separate from the plant's industrial activities, such as office buildings and accompanying parking lots as long as the drainage from the excluded areas is not mixed with stormwater drained from the above-described areas. The term also includes those facilities designated under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v).

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) – a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL includes wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point source discharges, load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and/or natural background, and must include a margin of safety (MOS) and account for seasonal variations. (See section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 130.2 and 130.7).

Water Quality Limited Water – for the purposes of this permit, a water quality limited water is any waterbody that does not meet applicable water quality standards, including but not limited to waters listed in categories 5 or 4b on the Massachusetts Integrated Report of waters listed pursuant to Clean Water Act section 303(d) and 305(b).

Water Quality Standard – defines the water quality goals of a water body, or portion thereof, by designating the use or uses to be made of the water and by setting criteria necessary to protect the uses. States and EPA adopt WQS to protect public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of the Clean Water Act (See CWA sections 101(a)2 and 303(c)).

Waters of the United States – is used as that term is defined in 40 CFR § 120.2(a).

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BMP – Best Management Practice

BPJ – Best Professional Judgment

CWA – Clean Water Act

EPA – U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

ESA – Endangered Species Act

USFWS – U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

IC – Impervious Cover
IA – Impervious Area
LA – Load Allocations
MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NHPA – National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS – U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service
NOI – Notice of Intent
NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP – National Register of Historic Places
PLER – Pollutant Load Export Rate
OCAMP – Onsite Chemical Application Management Plan
SHPO – State Historic Preservation Officer
SCM – Stormwater Control Measure
SIC – Standard Industrial Classification
SPCC – Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure
SPCP – Stormwater Pollution Control Plan
TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
WLA – Wasteload Allocation
WQS – Water Quality Standard