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Environmental

NJDEP Stormwater General Permits Approaching Deadline

In response to the USEPA Phase II Rules, NJDEP developed the Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program (MSRP) to help reduce the amount of non-point source pollutants entering our State's waterways from municipal separate storm sewer systems, or MS4s.

The NJDEP issued Stormwater General Permits to municipalities, public complexes and highway agencies in April 2004, to address stormwater quality issues related to new development, redevelopment and existing developed areas by requiring the implementation of the Statewide Basic Requirements and associated Best Management Practices.

According to NJPDES regulations, each Tier A and Tier B municipality, as well as every permitted Highway Agency and Public Complex, must submit an Annual Report and Certification to the NJDEP which details the implementation of the permit's requirements.

Tier A and Tier B municipalities must submit their Annual Report and Certification Forms to the NJDEP by May 2 of each year. Highway Agency and Public

Complex permittees are required to submit their Annual Report and Certification Forms by July 2 of each year. Permittees will be certifying both their compliance and areas of non-compliance for the last permit year, which extends from April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008. In addition, permittees are required to attach copies of certain records such as street sweeping volumes, road erosion inspections and repairs, outfall scouring inspections, storm drain retrofits and employee training completed during that time period.

Annual training requirements detailed in the Tier A Municipal Stormwater General Permit can be satisfied by viewing the training video developed by the Environmental Joint Insurance Fund (EJIF) in coordination with the NJDEP. This training video can be accessed via the New Jersey Municipal Excess Liability (MEL)

website at www.njmel.org. Municipalities should keep a log of the employees that have viewed the video, along with dates and times of viewing, in order to satisfy the record keeping requirements of the permit.

Annual Report and Certification Forms may be downloaded at www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/msrp_home.htm by following the link for the correct permit (Tier A, Tier B, Highway Agency or Public Complex). Instructions for electronic submission can be found on the first page of the downloadable form. Please note that forms must be submitted to the appropriate permit manager from the municipal representative that is certifying the report. If the name appearing in the signature section of the report does not match the name of the person submitting the document, the NJDEP will not accept the submission.

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In addition to annual requirements for report submissions, the permits also detail other deadlines that are fast approaching. Requirements due to be completed by the end of the first permit cycle, April 2004 through April 2009, include outfall mapping, illicit connection inspections, storm drain inlet labeling and the management of vehicle wash waters.

Municipalities were required to meet an interim deadline of 50% complete by April 1, 2007 for their outfall mapping and storm drain inlet labeling. These two requirements must be 100% complete by April 1, 2009. In addition, municipalities are required to complete all illicit connection inspections of municipally-owned outfall pipes by the end of the first permit cycle.

Stormwater General Permits allow for the discharge of wash waters from the rinsing of de-icing and beach maintenance vehicles with clean water. With the exception of firefighting vehicles, the discharging of vehicle washwater from other municipal vehicles is not listed as a permitted discharge to stormwater under the MSRP, however the rule currently permits the discharge of wash waters until February 28, 2009. Compliance with the requirements may be achieved by installing a vehicle wash water recycling system, connecting to a sanitary sewer with permission from the receiving authority, ceasing the activity or by applying for a separate NJPDES permit.

The Tier A, Tier B, Highway Agency and Public Complex Stormwater General Permits will expire on April 1, 2009. The NJDEP Municipal Stormwater Advisory Committee is currently

meeting to draft permit renewals, which will be available for comment prior to finalized permits being issued in 2009.

For further information, please contact Chris Gulics or Kristi Sorrentino at 800-879-6681.

