

State Water Resources Control Board

November 21, 2017

TO: INDUSTRIAL STORM WATER DISCHARGERS WITH LEVEL 2 STATUS UNDER THE STATEWIDE INDUSTRIAL GENERAL STORM WATER PERMIT

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will be considering an amendment to the Statewide Industrial General Storm Water Permit¹ (Permit) to allow permit compliance through on-site and off-site capture of industrial storm water. The proposed amendment would incentivize storm water capture to enhance and augment local water supply and quality.

Storm water capture protects water quality by minimizing or preventing pollutants from entering surface water bodies. The proposed amendment would require the sizing of storm water capture BMPs to eliminate all industrial storm water and authorized non-storm water discharges up to, and including, the daily storm volumes from the 85th percentile, 24-hour storm events. This standard requires the capture BMPs to hold the 85th percentile volume from consecutive, daily storm events. If adopted, the proposed amendment would incentivize the use, infiltration, and evapotranspiration of captured industrial storm water, or the diversion of industrial storm water to a public sanitary sewer system.

To support early planning efforts for the installation of capture BMPs at industrial facility sites that can feasibly capture the storm water volumes described above, the State Water Board is allowing dischargers to include either of the following in their Exceedance Response Action (ERA) Action Plans due January 1, 2018:

- (1) On-site capture BMPs, or
- (2) The development of an agreement with a local municipality specifying collaborative participation in an off-site regional project that will capture industrial storm water runoff discharges covered by the Permit.

Level 2 dischargers that anticipate utilizing one of the options listed above shall be in compliance with the Permit's ERA Action Plan requirements in Section XII.D.1 as long as they submit an ERA Action Plan by January 1, 2018 with the following information:

- If infiltration is proposed, preliminary draft rationale demonstrating the infiltrated storm water will comply with applicable groundwater quality requirements;
- Preliminary draft rationale for the determination that storm water capture up to, and including, daily storm 85th percentile, 24-hours storm events is feasible for the subject facility; and

¹ General Permit For Storm Water Discharges Associated With Industrial Activities; State Water Board Order 2014-0057-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000001.

- Description of the implementation of temporary BMPs until the storm water capture BMPs are fully operational.

Dischargers will have the opportunity to fully implement one of the above options if the State Water Board adopts the proposed Permit amendment. A discharger proceeding with the implementation of on-site capture BMPs or participation in off-site regional BMPs must amend and resubmit the ERA Action Plan to conform with the adopted Permit requirements.

For further information regarding the proposed Amendment, please join our State Water Board email list subscription for Water Quality, Storm Water Industrial Permitting Issues at the following website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html

If you have any questions, please contact the storm water help desk at stormwater@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Larsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and the last name "Larsen" clearly legible.

Karen Larsen, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality