M. Storm Water Discharges Associated With Industrial Activity From Automobile Salvage Yards.

1. Coverage of This Section.
   a. Discharges Covered Under This Section. The requirements listed under this section shall apply to storm water discharges from facilities engaged in dismantling or wrecking used motor vehicles for parts recycling or resale and for scrap (Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code 5015).
   b. Co-Located Industrial Activities. When an industrial facility, described by the above coverage provisions of this section, has industrial activities being conducted onsite that meet the description(s) of industrial activities in another section(s), that industrial facility shall comply with any and all applicable monitoring and pollution prevention plan requirements of the other section(s) in addition to all applicable requirements in this section. The monitoring and pollution prevention plan terms and conditions of this multi-sector permit are additive for industrial activities being conducted at the same industrial facility. The operator of the facility shall determine which other monitoring and pollution prevention plan section(s) of this permit (if any) are applicable to the facility.

2. Prohibition of Non-storm Water Discharges. There are no additional requirements beyond those in Part II.A.2 of this permit.

3. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Requirements.
   a. Contents of Plan. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following items:
      1) Pollution Prevention Team. Each plan shall identify a specific individual or individuals within the facility organization as members of a storm water Pollution Prevention Team that are responsible for developing the storm water pollution prevention plan and assisting the facility or plant manager in its implementation, maintenance, and revision. The plan shall clearly identify the responsibilities of each team member. The activities and responsibilities of the team shall address all aspects of the facility's storm water pollution prevention plan.
      2) Description of Potential Pollutant Sources. Each plan shall provide a description of potential sources that may reasonably be expected to add significant amounts of pollutants to storm water discharges or that may result in the discharge of pollutants during dry weather from separate storm sewers draining the facility. Each plan shall identify all activities and significant materials that may potentially be significant pollutant sources. Each plan shall include, at a minimum:
         a) Drainage. A site map indicating the pattern of storm water drainage, existing structural control measures to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff, surface water bodies (including wetlands), locations where significant materials are exposed to precipitation, and locations where major spills or leaks identified under paragraph 3.a.2)(c) (Spills and Leaks) of this section have occurred since 3 years prior to the date of the submission of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered under this permit. The map must include an estimation (in acres) of the total area used for industrial activity including, but not limited to, dismantling, storage, and maintenance of used motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts. The map must also indicate the location of the following activities where such activities are exposed to precipitation or storm water: vehicle storage areas; dismantling areas; parts
storage areas, including engine blocks, tires, hub caps, batteries, hoods, and mufflers; fueling stations; vehicle and equipment maintenance areas; cleaning areas (parts, vehicles, and/or equipment); loading and unloading areas; locations used for the treatment, storage, and disposal of wastes; and liquid storage tanks and drums for fuel and other fluids. Flows with a significant potential for causing erosion shall also be identified. The site map must also identify monitoring locations(s) and outfall locations and the types of discharges contained in the drainage areas of the outfalls.

b) **Inventory of Exposed Materials.** An inventory of the types of materials handled at the site that potentially may be exposed to precipitation for each storm water outfall covered under this permit (see paragraph 3.). Such inventory shall include a narrative description of significant materials that have been handled, treated, stored, or disposed in a manner to allow exposure to storm water between the time of 3 years prior to the date of the submission of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered under this permit and the present; method and location of onsite storage or disposal; materials management practices employed to minimize contact of materials with storm water runoff between the time of 3 years prior to the date of the submission of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered under this permit and the present; the locations and a description of existing structural and nonstructural control measures to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff; and a description of any treatment the storm water receives.

c) **Spills and Leaks.** A list of significant spills and significant leaks of toxic or hazardous pollutants that occurred at areas exposed to precipitation or that otherwise drain to a storm water conveyance at the facility after the date of 3 years prior to the date of submission of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered under this permit. Significant spills include, but are not limited to, releases of oil or hazardous substances in excess of quantities that are reportable under Section 311 of CWA (see 40 CFR 110.10 and 40 CFR 117.21) or Section 102 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) (see 40 CFR 302.4). Significant spills may also include releases of oil or hazardous substances that are not in excess of reporting requirements and releases of materials that are not classified as oil or a hazardous substance. Such list shall be updated as appropriate during the term of the permit.

d) **Sampling Data.** A summary of existing discharge sampling data describing pollutants in storm water discharges from the facility, including a summary of any sampling data collected during the term of this permit.

e) **Summary of Potential Pollutant Sources.** A narrative assessment of the risk potential that the industrial activities, materials, and physical features of the site, as identified in 3.a.2.a) (Drainage) pose to storm water quality. The description shall specifically list any significant potential source of pollutants at the site and identify what the pollutant or pollutant parameter (e.g., copper, iron, lead, oil and grease, total suspended solids, etc.) of concern is. The potential for the following activities to contribute pollutants to storm water discharges must be assessed: vehicle storage areas; dismantling areas; parts storage areas, including engine blocks, tires, hub caps, batteries, hoods, and mufflers; fueling stations; vehicle and equipment maintenance areas; cleaning areas (parts and vehicles and/or equipment); loading/unloading areas; locations used for the treatment, storage, and disposal of wastes; and liquid storage tanks and drums for fuel and other
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3) **Measures and Controls.** Each facility covered by this permit shall develop a description of storm water management controls appropriate for the facility, and implement such controls. The appropriateness and priorities of controls in a plan shall reflect identified potential sources of pollutants at the facility. The description of storm water management controls shall address the following minimum components, including a schedule for implementing such controls:

a) **Good Housekeeping.** Good housekeeping requires that areas that may contribute pollutants to storm water discharges are maintained in a clean, orderly manner.

b) **Preventive Maintenance.** The preventive maintenance program shall involve timely inspection and maintenance of storm water management devices (e.g., cleaning oil/water separators, catch basins) as well as inspecting and testing facility equipment and systems to uncover conditions that could cause breakdowns or failures resulting in the discharge of pollutants to surface waters, and ensuring appropriate maintenance of such equipment and systems. The maintenance program shall include periodic removal of debris from discharge diversions, conveyance systems, and impoundments/ponds. These activities should be conducted in the spring, after snow melt, and during the fall season. Maintenance schedules for sedimentation/impoundments must be provided in the storm water pollution prevention plan.

c) **Spill Prevention and Response Procedures.** Areas where potential spills which can contribute pollutants to storm water discharges can occur, and their accompanying drainage points shall be identified clearly in the storm water pollution prevention plan. Areas that must be identified should include loading/unloading stations, outdoor storage areas, and waste management areas exposed to storm water. Where appropriate, consider specifying material handling procedures, storage requirements, and use of equipment such as diversion valves in the plan. Procedures for cleaning up spills shall be identified in the plan and made available to the appropriate personnel. The necessary equipment to implement a clean up should be available to personnel. After clean up from a spill, absorbents must be promptly placed in containers for proper disposal. All vehicles that are intended to be dismantled must be properly drained of all fluids upon arrival at the site, or as soon as feasible thereafter, or other equivalent means must be taken to prevent leaks or spills of such fluids.

d) **Inspections.** In addition to the comprehensive site evaluation required under paragraph 3.a.4) of this section, qualified facility personnel shall be identified to inspect designated equipment and areas of the facility at least every quarter (January through March; April through June; July through September; and October through December). A set of tracking or follow-up procedures shall be used to ensure that appropriate actions are taken in response to the inspections. Records of inspections shall be maintained. Based on the results of the inspection, the description of potential pollutant sources and pollution prevention measures and controls identified in the plan shall be revised as appropriate within 2 weeks of such inspection and shall provide for implementation of any changes to the plan in a timely manner, but in no case more than 12 weeks after the inspection.
(1) Upon arrival at the site, or as soon as feasible thereafter, vehicles must be inspected for leaks. Any equipment containing oily parts, hydraulic fluids, any other types of fluids, or mercury switches shall be inspected at least quarterly (four times per year) for signs of leaks. Any outdoor storage of fluids including, but not limited to, brake fluid, transmission fluid, radiator water, and antifreeze, must be inspected at least quarterly for leaks. All outdoor liquid storage containers (e.g., tanks, drums) must be inspected at least quarterly for leaks.

(2) Qualified facility personnel are required to conduct quarterly visual inspections of BMPs. The inspections shall include: 1) an assessment of the integrity of storm water flow diversion and source minimization systems; 2) visual inspections of dismantling areas, vehicle and equipment maintenance areas, vehicle, equipment, and parts cleaning and storage areas, and other potential sources of pollution for evidence of actual or potential pollutant discharges of contaminated storm water.

e) Employee Training. Employee training programs shall inform personnel responsible for implementing activities identified in the storm water pollution prevention plan or otherwise responsible for storm water management at all levels of responsibility of the components and goals of the storm water pollution prevention plan. Training should address topics such as spill response, good housekeeping and material management practices. At a minimum, this training must be provided annually. The pollution prevention plan shall identify frequencies and approximate dates for such training. Employee training must, at a minimum, address the following areas when applicable to a facility: proper handling (collection, storage, and disposal) of oil, used mineral spirits, anti-freeze, mercury switches and solvents; spill prevention and response; fueling procedures; good housekeeping practices; and used battery management.

f) Recordkeeping and Internal Reporting Procedures. A description of incidents such as spills, or other discharges, along with other information describing the quality and quantity of storm water discharges shall be included in the storm water pollution prevention plan. The permittee must describe procedures for developing and retaining records on the status and effectiveness of plan implementation. The plan must address monitoring, and BMP inspection and maintenance activities. Ineffective BMPs must be reported and the date of their corrective action noted in the plan.

g) Non-storm Water Discharges.

(1) Certification. The plan shall include a certification that the discharge has been tested or evaluated for the presence of non-storm water discharges. The certification shall include the identification of potential significant sources of non-storm water at the site, a description of the results of any test and/or evaluation for the presence of non-storm water discharges, the evaluation criteria or testing method used, the date of any testing and/or evaluation, and the onsite drainage points that were directly observed during the test. Certifications shall be signed in accordance with Part VI.G. of this permit. Such certification may not be feasible if the facility operator does not have access to an outfall, manhole, or other point of access to the ultimate conduit which receives the discharge. In such cases,
the source identification section of the storm water pollution prevention plan shall indicate why the certification required by this part was not feasible, along with the identification of potential significant sources of non-storm water at the site. A discharger that is unable to provide the certification required by this paragraph must notify the Director in accordance with paragraph 3.a.3)(g)(4) (Failure to Certify) below.

(2) **Exceptions.** Except for flows from emergency firefighting activities, sources of non-storm water listed in Part II.A.2. (Non-storm Water Discharges) of this permit that are combined with storm water discharges associated with industrial activity must be identified in the plan. The plan shall identify and ensure the implementation of appropriate pollution prevention measures for the non-storm water component(s) of the discharge.

(3) **Copy of Other Permits.** If the facility discharges wastewater, other than storm water via an existing UPDES permit, a copy of the UPDES permit authorizing the discharge must be attached to the plan. Similarly, if the facility submitted an application for a UPDES permit for non-storm water discharges, but has not yet received that permit, a copy of the permit application must be attached. Upon issuance or reissuance of a UPDES permit, the facility must modify its plan to include a copy of that permit.

(4) **Failure to Certify.** Any facility that is unable to provide the certification required (testing for non-storm water discharges), must notify the Director within 180 days after submitting an NOI to be covered by this permit. If the failure to certify is caused by the inability to perform adequate tests or evaluations, such notification shall describe: the procedure of any test conducted for the presence of non-storm water discharges; the results of such test or other relevant observations; potential sources of non-storm water discharges to the storm sewer; and why adequate tests for such storm sewers were not feasible. Non-storm water discharges to waters of the State which are not authorized by a UPDES permit are unlawful, and must be terminated.

h) **Sediment and Erosion Control.** The plan shall identify areas which, due to topography, activities, or other factors, have a high potential for significant soil erosion, and identify structural, vegetative, and/or stabilization measures to be used to limit erosion. Permittees must consider measures to maximize stabilization of industrial areas using vegetative cover, gravel, impervious surfaces or other appropriate measures.

i) **Management of Runoff.** The plan shall contain a narrative consideration of the appropriateness of traditional storm water management practices (practices other than those which control the generation or source(s) of pollutants) used to divert, infiltrate, reuse, or otherwise manage storm water runoff in a manner that reduces pollutants in storm water discharges from the site. The plan shall provide measures that the permittee determines to be reasonable and appropriate and shall be implemented and maintained. The potential of various sources at the facility to contribute pollutants to storm water discharges associated with industrial activity [see paragraph 3.a.2] (Description of Potential Pollutant Sources) of this permit] shall be considered when determining reasonable and
appropriate measures. Appropriate measures or equivalent measures may include: vegetation swales and other vegetative filtration practices, reuse of collected storm water (such as for a process or as an irrigation source), inlet controls (such as oil/water separators), snow management plans, infiltration devices, and wet detention/retention devices. In addition, the permittee must describe the storm water pollutant source area or activity (e.g., dismantling area, storage area, cleaning operations) to be controlled by each storm water management practice.

The plan must also consider management practices, such as berms or drainage ditches on the property line that may be used to prevent runoff from neighboring properties. Berms must be considered for uncovered outdoor storage of oily parts, engine blocks, and above ground liquid storage. The installation of detention ponds must also be considered. The permittee shall consider the installation of a filtering device to receive runoff from industrial areas. The installation of oil/water separators must also be considered.

4) Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation. Qualified personnel shall conduct comprehensive site compliance evaluations at appropriate intervals specified in the plan, but in no case less than once a year. When compliance evaluation schedules overlap with inspections under 3.a.3)d) of this section, the compliance evaluation may be conducted in place of one such inspection. The storm water pollution prevention plan must describe the scope and content of comprehensive site evaluations that qualified personnel will conduct to 1) confirm the accuracy of the description of potential pollution sources contained in the plan, 2) determine the effectiveness of the plan, and 3) assess compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit. The individual or individuals who will conduct the evaluations must be identified in the plan and should be members of the pollution prevention team. Such evaluations shall provide:

a) Areas contributing to a storm water discharge associated with industrial activity shall be visually inspected for evidence of, or the potential for, pollutants entering the drainage system. Measures to reduce pollutant loadings shall be evaluated to determine whether they are adequate and properly implemented in accordance with the terms of the permit or whether additional control measures are needed. Structural storm water management measures, sediment and erosion control measures, and other structural pollution prevention measures identified in the plan shall be observed to ensure that they are operating correctly. A visual inspection of equipment needed to implement the plan, such as spill response equipment, shall be made.

b) Based on the results of the evaluation, the description of potential pollutant sources identified in the plan in accordance with paragraph 3.a.2) (Description of Potential Pollutant Sources) of this section and pollution prevention measures and controls identified in the plan in accordance with paragraph 3.a.3) (Measures and Controls) of this section shall be revised as appropriate within 2 weeks of such inspection and shall provide for implementation of any changes to the plan in a timely manner, but in no case more than 12 weeks after the inspection.

c) A report summarizing the scope of the evaluation, personnel making the evaluation, the date(s) of the evaluation, major observations relating to the implementation of the storm water pollution prevention plan, and actions taken
in accordance with paragraph 3.a.4)b) (above) of this section shall be made and retained as part of the storm water pollution prevention plan for at least 3 years after the date of the evaluation. The report shall identify any incidents of noncompliance. Where a report does not identify any incidents of noncompliance, the report shall contain a certification that the facility is in compliance with the storm water pollution prevention plan and this permit. The report shall be signed in accordance with Part VI.G. (Signatory Requirements) of this permit.

4. Numeric Effluent Limitations. There are no additional numeric effluent limitations beyond those described in Part IV.B. of this permit.

5. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements.

a. Analytical Monitoring Requirements. Permittees operating automobile salvage yards (SIC 5015) must monitor their storm water discharges associated with industrial activity at least quarterly (4 times per year) during the first (2022) year of the permit, except as provided in paragraphs 5.a.3) (Sampling Waiver), 5.a.4) (Representative Discharge), and 5.a.5) (Alternative Certification). Automobile salvage yards are required to monitor their storm water discharges for the pollutants of concern listed in Table M-1 below. Facilities must report in accordance with 5.b. (Reporting). In addition to the parameters listed in Table M-1 below, the permittee shall provide the date and duration (in hours) of the storm event(s) sampled; rainfall measurements or estimates (in inches) of the storm event that generated the sampled runoff; the duration between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event; and an estimate of the total volume (in gallons) of the discharge sampled.

Table M-1. Monitoring Requirements for Automobile Salvage Yards (SIC 5015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutants of Concern</th>
<th>Benchmark Monitoring Cut-Off Concentration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Suspended Solids¹</td>
<td>100 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Recoverable Aluminum</td>
<td>1.1 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Recoverable Lead (freshwater)²</td>
<td>Hardness Dependent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Recoverable Lead (saltwater)³</td>
<td>0.210 /L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Sampling for TSS is not required for storm water discharges that are infiltrating to groundwater
2. The freshwater benchmark values of some metals are dependent on water hardness. For these parameters, permittees must determine the hardness of the receiving water (see DWQ’s Guidance Document for UPDES Multi-Sector General Permit Monitoring and Reporting Requirements section on “Calculating Hardness in Receiving Waters for Hardness Dependent Metals,” for methodology), to identify the applicable ‘hardness range’ for determining their benchmark value applicable to their facility. Hardness Dependent Benchmarks follow in the table below. If hardness cannot be determined (groundwater or inaccessible waterbodies), use the most conservative values (0-24.99 mg/L range).
3. Saltwater benchmark values apply to storm water discharges into saline waters where indicated.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freshwater Hardness Range</th>
<th>Lead (mg/L)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-24.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-49.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-74.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-99.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-124.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125-149.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150-174.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175-199.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-224.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225-249.99 mg/L</td>
<td>0.246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250+ mg/L</td>
<td>0.262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) **Monitoring Periods.** Automobile salvage yards shall monitor samples collected during the sampling periods of: January through March, April through June, July through September, and October through December for the year specified in paragraph 5.a. (above).

2) **Sample Type.** A minimum of one grab sample shall be taken. All such samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. The required 72-hour storm event interval is waived where the preceding measurable storm event did not result in a measurable discharge from the facility. The required 72-hour storm event interval may also be waived where the permittee documents that less than a 72-hour interval is representative for local storm events during the season when sampling is being conducted. The grab sample shall be taken during the first 30 minutes of the discharge. If the collection of a grab sample during the first 30 minutes is impracticable, a grab sample can be taken during the first hour of the discharge, and the discharger shall submit with the monitoring report a description of why a grab sample during the first 30 minutes was impracticable. If storm water discharges associated with industrial activity commingle with process or nonprocess water, then where practicable permittees must attempt to sample the storm water discharge before it mixes with the non-storm water discharge.

3) **Sampling Waiver.**

   a) **Adverse Conditions.** When a discharger is unable to collect samples within a specified sampling period due to adverse climatic conditions, the discharger shall collect a substitute sample from a separate qualifying event in the next period and submit the data along with data for the routine sample in that period. Adverse weather conditions that may prohibit the collection of samples include weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms, etc.) or otherwise make the collection of a sample impracticable (e.g., drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).

   b) **Inactive and Unstaffed Site.** When a discharger is unable to conduct quarterly chemical storm water sampling at an inactive and unstaffed site, the operator of the facility may exercise a waiver of the monitoring requirements as long as the facility remains inactive and unstaffed. The facility must state on their NOI that it is inactive and unstaffed and submit a change NOI if this status changes.
4) **Representative Discharge.** When a facility has two or more outfalls that, based on a consideration of industrial activity, significant materials, and management practices and activities within the area drained by the outfall, the permittee reasonably believes discharge substantially identical effluents, the permittee may test the effluent of one of such outfalls and report that the quantitative data also applies to the substantially identical outfall(s) provided that the permittee includes in the storm water pollution prevention plan a description of the location of the outfalls and explains in detail why the outfalls are expected to discharge substantially identical effluents. In addition, for each outfall that the permittee believes is representative, an estimate of the size of the drainage area (in square feet) and an estimate of the runoff coefficient of the drainage area [e.g., low (under 40 percent), medium (40 to 65 percent), or high (above 65 percent)] shall be provided in the plan. The permittee shall include the description of the location of the outfalls, explanation of why outfalls are expected to discharge substantially identical effluents, and estimate of the size of the drainage area and runoff coefficient with the *Storm Water Discharge Monitoring Report* (SWDMR).

5) **Alternative Certification.** A discharger is not subject to the monitoring requirements of this section provided the discharger makes a certification for a given outfall or on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis in lieu of monitoring reports required under paragraph b. below, under penalty of law, signed in accordance with Part VI.G. (Signatory Requirements), that material handling equipment or activities, raw materials, intermediate products, final products, waste materials, by-products, industrial machinery or operations, or significant materials from past industrial activity, that are located in areas of the facility within the drainage area of the outfall are not presently exposed to storm water and are not expected to be exposed to storm water for the certification period. Such certification must be retained in the storm water pollution prevention plan, and submitted to DWQ in accordance with Part V.B. of this permit. In the case of certifying that a pollutant is not present, the permittee must submit the certification along with the monitoring reports required under paragraph b. below. If the permittee cannot certify for an entire period, they must submit the date exposure was eliminated and conduct any monitoring required up until that date. This certification option is not applicable to compliance monitoring requirements associated with effluent limitations.

b. **Reporting.** Permittees with automobile salvage yards shall submit monitoring results for each outfall associated with industrial activity [or a certification in accordance with paragraphs 3), 4), or 5) above] obtained during the first year (2022) monitoring period, on *Storm Water Discharge Monitoring Report* (SWDMR) form(s) postmarked no later than the 31st day of March on the following year. For each outfall, one signed SWDMR form must be submitted per storm event sampled. Signed copies of SWDMRs, or said certifications, shall be submitted to the Director at the address listed in Part V.B. of this permit.

1) **Additional Notification.** In addition to filing copies of SWDMRs in accordance with paragraph b. (above), automobile salvage yards with at least one storm water discharge associated with industrial activity through a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system (systems serving a population of 100,000 or more) must submit signed copies of discharge monitoring reports to the operator of the municipal separate storm sewer system in accordance with the dates provided in paragraph b. (above).

c. **Benchmark Level Exceedance Actions.** Benchmarks are used to help gauge the overall effectiveness of control measures at a facility. If there is an exceedance of these levels you
must review the selection, design, installation, and implementation of your control measures to determine if modifications are necessary. This review must be completed within a month of receiving sample results. Actions taken as a result of the review must be documented in the pollution prevention plan and completed in a timely manner, but in no case more than 12 weeks after the evaluation. If no action is taken then you must document the rational for this decision (e.g. natural background pollutant levels, further pollutant reduction is not technologically or economically feasible, etc.).

d. **Quarterly Visual Examination of Storm Water Quality**. All automobile salvage yard facilities shall perform and document a visual examination of a storm water discharge associated with industrial activity from each outfall, except discharges exempted below. The examination(s) must be made at least once in each of the following 3-month periods: January through March, April through June, July through September, and October through December. The examination shall be made during daylight hours unless there is insufficient rainfall or snow melt to produce a runoff event.

1) **Sample and Data Collection**. Examinations shall be made of samples collected within the first 30 minutes (or as soon thereafter as practical, but not to exceed 1 hour) of when the runoff or snowmelt begins discharging. The examinations shall document observations of color, odor, clarity, floating solids, settled solids, suspended solids, foam, oil sheen, and other obvious indicators of storm water pollution. The examination must be conducted in a well lit area. No analytical tests are required to be performed on the samples. All such samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. Where practicable, the same individual should carry out the collection and examination of discharges for the entire permit term.

2) **Visual Storm Water Discharge Examination Reports**. Visual examination reports must be maintained onsite in the pollution prevention plan. The report shall include the examination date and time, examination personnel, the nature of the discharge (i.e., runoff or snow melt), visual quality of the storm water discharge (including observations of color, odor, clarity, floating solids, settled solids, suspended solids, foam, oil sheen, and other obvious indicators of storm water pollution), and probable sources of any observed storm water contamination.

3) **Representative Discharge**. When a facility has two or more outfalls that, based on a consideration of industrial activity, significant materials, and management practices and activities within the area drained by the outfall, the permittee reasonably believes discharge substantially identical effluents, the permittee may collect a sample of effluent of one of such outfalls and report that the examination data also applies to the substantially identical outfall(s) provided that the permittee includes in the storm water pollution prevention plan a description of the location of the outfalls and explains in detail why the outfalls are expected to discharge substantially identical effluents. In addition, for each outfall that the permittee believes is representative, an estimate of the size of the drainage area (in square feet) and an estimate of the runoff coefficient of the drainage area [e.g., low (under 40 percent), medium (40 to 65 percent), or high (above 65 percent)] shall be provided in the plan.

4) **Adverse Conditions**. When a discharger is unable to collect samples over the course of the visual examination period as a result of adverse climatic conditions, the discharger must document the reason for not performing the visual examination and retain this
documentation onsite with the records of the visual examinations. Adverse weather conditions which may prohibit the collection of samples include weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms, etc.) or otherwise make the collection of a sample impracticable (e.g., drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).

5) **Inactive and Unstaffed Site.** When a discharger is unable to conduct visual storm water examinations at an inactive and unstaffed site, the operator of the facility may exercise a waiver of the monitoring requirement as long as the facility remains inactive and unstaffed. The facility must maintain a certification with the pollution prevention plan stating that the site is inactive and unstaffed so that performing visual examinations during a qualifying event is not feasible.

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