

AA. Storm Water Discharges Associated With Industrial Activity From Fabricated Metal Products Industry.

1. Coverage of This Section.

- a. Discharges Covered Under This Section. The requirements listed under this section apply to storm water discharges associated with industrial activity from the fabricated metals industry listed below, (except for electrical related industries): fabricated metal products, (except machinery and transportation equipment): SIC 34, and jewelry, silverware, and plated ware (SIC Code 391).
- b. Co-Located Industrial Activity. 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.

- 1) This permit does not authorize the discharge of process wastewater. Certain non-storm discharges identified in *Part II.A.2.* are authorized under 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 which may reasonably be expected to add significant amounts of pollutants to storm water discharges or which may result in the discharge of pollutants during dry weather from separate storm sewers draining the facility. Each plan shall identify all industrial activities and significant materials which may potentially be significant pollutant sources. Each plan shall specifically identify the physical features of the facility that may contribute to storm water runoff. Each plan shall include, at a minimum:

a) Drainage.

- (1) A site map indicating the outfall locations and types of discharges contained in the drainage areas of the outfalls, an outline of the portions of the drainage area of each storm water outfall that are within the facility boundaries, each existing structural control measure to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff, surface water bodies, locations where significant materials are exposed to precipitation, locations where major spills or leaks identified under paragraph 3.a.c) (Spills and Leaks) of this section have occurred, and the locations of the following activities where such activities are exposed to precipitation: raw metal storage areas, finished metal storage areas, scrap disposal collection sites, equipment storage areas, retention and detention basins, temporary diversion dikes or berms, permanent diversion dikes or berms, right-of-way or perimeter diversion devices, any sediment traps or barriers, vehicle and equipment maintenance and/or cleaning areas, loading/unloading areas, locations used for the treatment, storage or disposal of wastes, liquid storage tanks, processing areas including outside painting areas, wood preparation, recycling and raw material storage.
- (2) For each area of the facilities that generates storm water discharges associated with industrial activity with a reasonable potential for containing significant amounts of pollutants, a prediction of the direction of flow, and an identification of the types of pollutants which are likely to be present in storm water discharges associated with industrial activity. Factors to consider include the toxicity of chemical; quantity of chemicals used, produced or discharged; the likelihood of contact with storm water; and history of significant leaks or spills of toxic or hazardous pollutants. In addition, flows with a significant potential for causing erosion shall be identified such as heavy equipment use areas, drainage from roofs, parking lots, etc.

- b) Inventory of Exposed Materials. An inventory of the types of materials handled at the site that potentially may be exposed to precipitation. 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 location 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 that are 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 the submission of a *Notice of Intent (NOI)* to be covered under this permit. Significant spills that should be considered for the fabricated metals industry include, but are not limited to, chromium, toluene, pickle liquor, sulfuric acid, zinc and other water priority chemicals and hazardous chemicals and wastes. 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 sampling data collected during the term of this permit.
- e) Risk Identification and Summary of Potential Pollutant Sources. A narrative description of the potential pollutant sources from the following activities: loading and unloading operations for paints, chemicals and raw materials; outdoor storage activities for raw materials, paints, empty containers, corn cob, chemicals, scrap metals; outdoor manufacturing or processing activities such as grinding, cutting, degreasing, buffing, and brazing; significant dust or particulate generating processes; and onsite waste disposal practices for spent solvents, sludge, pickling baths, shavings, ingots pieces, refuse and waste piles. The description shall specifically list any significant potential source of pollutants at the site and for each potential source, any pollutant or pollutant parameter (e.g., biochemical or chemical oxygen demand, chromium, total suspended solids, oil and grease, etc.) of concern shall be identified.
- 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 which may contribute pollutants to storm water discharges be maintained in a clean, orderly manner. Permittees should address the following areas in the manner described:
- (1) Raw Steel Handling Storage. Include measures for controlling or recovering scrap metals, fines, and iron dust, as well as containing materials within storage handling areas.
 - (2) Paints and Painting Equipment. Consider control measures to prevent or minimize exposure of paint and painting equipment from exposure to storm water.
- b) Preventive Maintenance. Preventive maintenance measures shall include 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 discharges of pollutants to surface waters, and ensuring appropriate maintenance of such equipment and systems.

- c) Spill Prevention and Response Procedures. Areas where potential spills which could contribute pollutants to storm water discharges may occur, and their accompanying drainage points shall be identified clearly in the storm water pollution prevention plan. 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. The following areas should be addressed:
- (1) Metal Fabricating Areas. Include measures for maintaining clean, dry, orderly conditions in these areas. Use of dry clean-up techniques should be considered in the plan.
 - (2) Storage Areas for Raw Metal. Include measures to keep these areas free of conditions that could cause spills or leakage of materials. Storage areas should be maintained for easy access in case spill clean up is necessary. Stored materials should be able to be identified correctly and quickly.
 - (3) Receiving, Unloading, and Storage Areas. Include measures to prevent spills and leaks; plan for quick remedial clean up and instruct employees on clean-up techniques and procedures.
 - (4) Storage of Equipment. Include measures for preparing equipment for storage and the proper method to store equipment including protecting with covers and storing indoors. The plan should include clean-up measures for equipment that will be stored outdoors to remove potential pollutants.
 - (5) Metal Working Fluid Storage Areas. The plan should include measures that identify controls particularly for storage of metal working fluids.
 - (6) Cleaners and Rinse Water. The plan should include measures to control and cleanup spills of solvents and other liquid cleaners, control sand buildup and disbursement from sand-blasting operations, prevent exposure of recyclable wastes, and substitute environmentally benign cleaners for traditional cleaners when possible.
 - (7) Lubricating Oil and Hydraulic Fluid Operations. Consider using devices or monitoring equipment to detect and control leaks and overflows. Install perimeter controls such as dikes, curbs, grass filter strips, or other equivalent measures where feasible.
 - (8) Chemical Storage Areas. Identify proper storage that prevents storm water contamination and prevents accidental spillage. The plan should include a program to inspect containers and identify proper disposal and spill controls.

- d) Inspections. Qualified facility personnel shall be identified to inspect designated equipment and areas of the facility at appropriate intervals specified in the plan. Metal fabricators shall at a minimum include the following areas for inspection: raw metal storage areas, finished product storage areas, material and chemical storage areas, recycling areas, loading and unloading areas, equipment storage areas, paint areas, fueling and maintenance areas, and waste management areas. 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.
- 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. The pollution prevention plan shall identify periodic dates for such training. At a minimum, this training must be provided annually.
- 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. Inspections and maintenance activities shall be documented and records of such activities shall be incorporated into 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)(3)* (Failure to Certify) below.
 - (2) Exceptions. Except for flows from emergency fire fighting 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) 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 a notice of intent 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. The plan shall identify structural, vegetative, and/or stabilization measures to be used to limit erosion. These shall include but not be limited to grass swales, filter strips, treatment works, or other equivalent measures. Metal fabricators must include in their plan measures to minimize erosion related to the high volume of traffic from heavy equipment for delivery to and from the facility and for equipment operating at the facility on a daily basis such as forklifts, cranes, etc.
- 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 pollutant(s) 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 that measures that the permittee determines to be reasonable and appropriate shall be implemented and maintained. The potential of various sources at the facility to contribute pollutants to storm water discharges associated with industrial activities identified under paragraph 3.a.2) of this section shall be considered when determining reasonable and appropriate measures. Appropriate measures may include: vegetative 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.
- 4) Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation. Qualified personnel shall conduct site compliance evaluations at least once a year. Such evaluations shall include:
- a) Visual inspection of areas contributing to a storm water discharge for evidence of, or the potential for, pollutants entering the drainage system. Inspection shall address areas associated with the storage of raw metals, storage of spent solvents and chemicals, outdoor paint areas, drainage from roof, unloading and loading areas, equipment storage areas, recycling areas, and retention ponds (sludge). Potential pollutants include chromium, zinc, lubricating oil, solvents, aluminum, oil and grease, methyl ethyl ketone, steel, and other related materials. 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, such as detention basins and channels, gutters or drains to direct discharge flow, oil/water separators in storm drains, containment structures, concrete pads, 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 and containment drums, shall be made to determine if the equipment is functioning properly and that drums are not in a corrosive or deteriorating state.

- 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) of this section (Description of Potential Pollutant Sources) and pollution prevention measures and controls identified in the plan in accordance with paragraph 3.a.3) of this section (Measures and Controls) shall be revised as appropriate within 2 weeks of such evaluation 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 evaluation.
 - 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 from the date of the inspection. 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.
 - d) Where compliance evaluation schedules overlap with inspections required under 3.a.3)d), the compliance evaluation may be conducted in place of one such inspection.
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 with metal fabricating facilities must monitor their storm water discharges associated with industrial activity at least quarterly (4 times per year) during years 1 (2021) and 3 (2023) except as provided in paragraphs 5.a.3) (Sampling Waiver), 5.a.4) (Representative Discharge), and 5.a.5) (Alternative Certification). Metal fabricating facilities are required to monitor their storm water discharges for the pollutants of concern listed in Tables AA-1 and AA-2 below. The monitoring requirements are subdivided into two classifications to determine pollutants of concern: (1) fabricated metal products except coating and (2) fabricated metal coating and engraving. Facilities must report in accordance with 5.b. (Reporting). In addition to the parameters listed in

Tables AA-1 and AA-2 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 AA-1.
Monitoring Requirements for Fabricated Metal Products, Except Coating (SIC 3411-3499; 3911-3915)

Pollutants of Concern	Benchmark Monitoring Cut-Off Concentration
Total Aluminum	0.75 mg/L
Total Iron	1.0 mg/L
Total Zinc (freshwater) ¹ Total Zinc (saltwater) ²	Hardness Dependent 0.09 mg/L
Nitrate plus Nitrite Nitrogen	0.68 mg/L

1. 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 Table AA-2. If hardness cannot be determined (groundwater or inaccessible waterbodies), use the most conservative values (0-24.99 mg/L range).
2. Saltwater benchmark values apply to storm water discharges into saline waters where indicated.

Table AA-2.
Monitoring Requirements for Fabricated Metal Coating and Engraving (SIC 3479)

Pollutants of Concern	Benchmark Monitoring Cut-Off Concentration
Total Zinc (freshwater) ¹ Total Zinc (saltwater) ²	Hardness Dependent 0.09 mg/L
Nitrate plus Nitrite Nitrogen	0.68 mg/L

1. 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).
2. Saltwater benchmark values apply to storm water discharges into saline waters where indicated.

Freshwater Hardness Range	Zinc (mg/L)
0-24.99 mg/L	0.04
25-49.99 mg/L	0.05
50-74.99 mg/L	0.08
75-99.99 mg/L	0.11
100-124.99 mg/L	0.13
125-149.99 mg/L	0.16
150-174.99 mg/L	0.18
175-199.99 mg/L	0.20
200-224.99 mg/L	0.23
225-249.99 mg/L	0.25
250+ mg/L	0.26

- 1) Monitoring Periods. Metal fabricating facilities shall monitor samples collected during the sampling periods of: January through March, April through June, July through September, and October through December for the years 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 (drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).
 - b) Low Concentration Waiver. When the average concentration for a pollutant calculated from all monitoring data collected from an outfall during one of the indicated yearly monitoring periods (including the last yearly monitoring period covered under the previous permit) is less than the corresponding value for that pollutants listed in Tables AA-1 and AA-2 under the column Monitoring Cut-Off Concentration, a facility may waive monitoring and reporting requirements in the next yearly monitoring period (with this waiver every other yearly monitoring period may be skipped if conditions in this paragraph are met). The facility must submit to the *Director*, in lieu of the monitoring data, a certification that there has not been a significant change in industrial activity or the pollution prevention measures in areas of the facility which drain to the outfall for which sampling was waived.
 - c) 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 *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 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 metal fabricating and engraving facilities shall submit monitoring results for each outfall associated with industrial activity [or a certification in accordance with Sections 3), 4), or 5) above] obtained during the first (2021) and third year (2023) monitoring period on *Storm Water Discharge Monitoring* form(s) postmarked no later than the 31st day of March on the following year (2022 and 2024). For each outfall, one signed *SWDMR* form must be submitted to the *Director* 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 discharge monitoring reports in accordance with paragraph *b.* (above), metal fabricating facilities 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 rationale 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. 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 must be made at least once in each of the following three 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 (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 state on their NOI that it is inactive and unstaffed and submit a change NOI if this status changes.

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