

## **POTPOURRI**

### **Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Services Water Permits Division**

#### **Reissuance of the General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water from Construction Activities Five (5) Acres or Greater (LPDES Permit No. LAR100000, AI No. 83363)**

The General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water from Construction Activities Five (5) Acres or Greater (LPDES Permit No. LAR100000) heretofore referred to as the “general permit,” will expire September 30, 2014. Due to the significance of the proposed changes in the upcoming reissuance, the LDEQ Water Permits Division is providing advanced notification of these changes to the regulated community and the general public. As part of the reissuance process, the department is proposing the following changes to the general permit. (1403Pot1)

The proposed changes under consideration include the following: (1) The owners and/or operators applying for coverage under the general permit shall select the time frame for which permit coverage is needed, a minimum of one year up to five (5) years. Prior to receiving coverage, the applicant(s) must submit payment of the annual general permit fee(s) for the entirety of the selected coverage (LAC 33:IX.1309.F and N). As a result, permitted operators will no longer receive annual invoices and notices of termination will not be required to be submitted by the permittees. Permit coverage will be automatically terminated based on the number of years selected by the applicant. (2) Current permitted owners and/or operators in good financial standing with the department will automatically have their coverage extended under the reissued general permit for one year. Extensions of coverage beyond one year will be allowed for any permittee with written notification and payment of the additional annual permit fee(s). (3) Current permitted owners and/or operators that owe outstanding permit fees to the department will not be extended automatic coverage under the reissued general permit. All past due invoices must be paid by the effective date of the general permit in order to ensure automatic reauthorization.

Annual permit fees are not being increased. The proposed changes affect the timing and method of payment. The proposed changes to the payment method are expected to reduce the paperwork burden on both the permittee(s) and the department, eliminate duplicate billing due to the complications of invoicing permittee(s) based on the state fiscal year, and eliminate the need for permittee(s) to track when a notice of termination is due to be submitted.

A notification to solicit public comment on these proposed changes is anticipated to be published in the official state journals in July of 2014. If you wish to be notified of the public comment period, please subscribe to the statewide public notice list at: [http://louisiana.gov/Services/Email\\_Notifications\\_DEQ\\_PN/](http://louisiana.gov/Services/Email_Notifications_DEQ_PN/) or contact the LDEQ Public Participation Group at (225)219-5337. Additionally, current permitted owners and/or operators

that owe outstanding fees to the department will be notified by the Water Permits Division of their financial status in advance of the general permit reissuance. For further information regarding the General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water from Construction Activities Five (5) Acres or Greater, you may contact Ardrene Logan, Office of Environmental Services, Water Permits Division, at (225)219-3203 or [ardrene.logan@la.gov](mailto:ardrene.logan@la.gov).

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