



# NOTICE OF REVIEW

## APDES Proposed Final General Permit

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)  
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

### NOTICE OF REVIEW OF AN ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES) PROPOSED FINAL GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Following the close of a 60-day public notice period, DEC has prepared a proposed final (APDES) general permit, AKG283100-Geotechnical Surveys in State Waters of the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea (Geotechnical Permit). Prior to making the final decision to issue the general permit, DEC invites you to view the Proposed Final Geotechnical Permit and associated documents. You can access the proposed final general permit and associated documents at DEC's Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program web page at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm>

#### **Proposed Final Permit Review**

**Start Date:** February 20, 2015

**End Date:** February 27, 2015

**Permit No.:** AKG283100

**Proposed Permit Coverage:** The Geotechnical Permit covers discharges of pollutants from geotechnical facilities that collect seafloor sediment data to support oil and gas development projects. The Area of Coverage includes State waters beginning at Point Hope in the west and then east to the boundary with Canada. Geotechnical surveys are necessary to evaluate placement of structures in offshore areas and includes collecting marine sediment borings to:

- Evaluate the engineering behavior of subsurface materials;
- Determine the relevant physical, mechanical and chemical properties of these materials;
- Assess risks posed by site conditions, including seafloor or shallow depth geologic hazards;
- Locate potential archaeological resources and potential hard bottom habitats for avoidance; and
- Assess specific locations to inform the placement of platforms, pipelines, or other infrastructure.

**Description of Discharge:** Based on discharges applicable to geotechnical activities, the following wastewater discharges may be authorized under the Geotechnical Permit:

<u>DISCHARGE NUMBER</u>	<u>DISCHARGES DISCRIPTION</u>
001	Water-based drilling fluids and drill cutting
002	Deck Drainage
003	Domestic Wastewater
004	Graywater
005	Desalination Unit Wastes
007	Boiler Blowdown
008	Fire Control System Test Water
009	Non-Contact Cooling Water
010	Uncontaminated Ballast Water
011	Bilge Water
012	Excess Cement Slurry

Note: This permit does not authorize drilling to hydrocarbon reservoirs.

**Mixing Zone:** Upon request by the applicant, the General Permit authorizes 100 meter cylindrical mixing zones for discharges and parameters as follows:

- Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings (001): The mixing zone applies to Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Silver, Thallium, and Zinc.
- Domestic Wastewater (003) and Graywater (004): The mixing zone applies to total residual chlorine.

**Zone of Deposit:** The General Permit authorizes 100 meter cylindrical zones of deposit for water-based drilling fluids and drill cuttings.

**Determination:** DEC proposes to Issue the above listed general permit.

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**Administrative Record:** The APDES Proposed Final Geotechnical Permit, Fact Sheet, and Ocean Discharge Criteria Evaluation, and response to comments are available for public review at the DEC offices located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Soldotna, and Wasilla. Please contact the office of your choice to arrange for hard copies of the documents to be available for your review.

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## **Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice**

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this public review, please contact Deborah Pock at (907) 269-0291 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 5 days of publication of this notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.