

**Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments
For**

Non-contact Cooling Water

APDES Permit No. AKG250000

Public Noticed June 4, 2025 – July 7, 2025

July 23, 2025



**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501**

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

General Permit AKG250000, is the reissuance of Non-contact Cooling Water, which was previously reissued July 8, 2020. The general permit covers the discharge of water used to reduce temperature that does not come into direct contact with any raw material, intermediate product, waste product (other than heat), or finished product. Operations may include discharges of non-contact cooling water, defrost water, heat pump transfer water, and cooling tower blowdown. Non-contact cooling water maintains effective operating temperatures for buildings as well as equipment.

1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation

The Department of Environmental Conservation proposed to reissue an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) wastewater general permit Non-contact Cooling Water. To ensure public, agency, and tribal notification and opportunities for participation the Department:

- identified the permit on the annual Permit Issuance Plan posted online at:
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm>
- notified local governments and potentially affected tribes that the Department would be working on this permit via letter, fax and/or email on April 9, 2025
- posted a preliminary draft of the permit on-line for a 10-day applicant review May 9, 2025, and notified tribes and other agencies.
- posted the draft of the permit online for a 30-day public comment period on June 4, 2025.
- posted the proposed final permit on-line for a five-day applicant review on July 10, 2025
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the preliminary draft, draft, and proposed final permits were available for review

The Department received comments from one interested party. This document summarizes the comments and the justification for any action taken or not taken by DEC in response to the comments.

1.3 Final Permit

The final permit was adopted by the Department on July 23, 2025. There were no significant changes made to the publicly noticed permit or fact sheet.

2 Comment Summary

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Water Resources Section requested that the DEC include an additional standard condition within the DEC general permit to reference the DNR Water Use Regulation 11 AAC 93.035 which would require a facility to apply for use of a significant volume of water with DNR while applying for DEC permit coverage for non-contact cooling water.

Response:

The Department does not include regulations or regulatory requirements of other agencies or entities in Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) permits. It is the responsibility of the facility or applicant to comply with all other state and federal regulations as applicable.

No changes were made to the permit or fact sheet based on this comment.
