



ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

GENERAL PERMIT FOR EXCAVATION DEWATERING

Permit Number: AKG002000 – Proposed Final

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq., as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, P.L. 100-4, this permit is issued under provisions of Alaska Statutes (AS) 46.03; the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) as amended; and other applicable State laws and regulations.

Applicants with discharges associated with excavation dewatering are authorized to discharge to waters of the U.S., waters of the State or land, only in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth herein.

**A COPY OF THIS GENERAL PERMIT
MUST BE KEPT AT THE SITE WHERE DISCHARGES OCCUR.**

This permit is effective [\(Insert Date\)](#).

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight on [\(Insert Date\)](#).

[\(Draft\)](#)

Signature

[\(Draft\)](#)

Date

[\(Draft\)](#)

Printed Name

Program Manager

Title

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SCHEDULE OF SUBMISSIONS

The Table 1: Schedule of Submissions summarizes some of the required submissions and activities in addition to Table 2: NOI Submittal Application Requirements, which the permittee must complete and submit to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or Department) during the term of this permit through the Environmental Data Management System (EDMS). Alternative submittal methods may be considered temporarily based on extenuating circumstances pending DEC approval. The permittee is responsible for all submissions and activities even if they are not summarized below.

Table 1: Schedule of Submissions

Permit Part	Submittal or Completion	Frequency	Due Date
3.1.6	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Water and Division of Spill Prevention and Response	Upon observation of Product or Oil Sheen	Contact the Division of Water – Permitting Program (907-269-6285) and Division of Spill Prevention and Response at 1-800-478-9300 immediately upon the observation of an oil sheen or product either within the soil or groundwater to be discharged.
6.2 and 6.3	Annual Monitoring Report	At completion of Project, or annually	Submitted at end of project or annually no later than the 28 th day of the month past the annual authorization issuance date for discharges to waters of the U.S. or waters of the State.
7.0	Notice of Termination (NOT)	At completion of Project	Within 30 days upon completion of all excavation dewatering activities.
Appendix A, 3.4	Oral notification of noncompliance	As Necessary	Within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances of noncompliance
	Written documentation of noncompliance	As Necessary	Within 5 days after the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances

NOTICE OF INTENT SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

The Notice of Intent (NOI) submittal requirements found in Part 2.2 are summarized below since formal application requirements for permit coverage may vary dependent on the discharge location.

Table 2: NOI Submittal Application Requirements

Permit Part	Description of Discharge Activity	Submittal Requirement	Due Date
2.1.3	Excavation dewatering discharges to land greater than 1,500 feet away from a “DEC-identified contaminated site or groundwater plume”	No NOI submittal is required as discharge is authorized in accordance with Parts 4.0, 5.1, and 5.2.15 of the general permit.	N/A
2.2.1.1	Excavation dewatering discharges to land, waters of the state, or to waters of the U.S. within 1,500 feet of an “DEC-identified contaminated site or groundwater plume”	Submit NOI and a Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan in accordance with Parts 2.2.1, 2.2.8, and 2.2.9	30 days prior to anticipated discharge
2.2.1.2	Excavation dewatering discharges to waters of the U.S. or to waters of the state, greater than 1,500 feet away from a “DEC-identified contaminated site or groundwater plume” and not eligible for coverage under the Construction General Permit AKR100000.	Submit NOI and a BMP Plan in accordance with Parts 2.2.1 and 2.2.9	30 days prior to anticipated discharge

1.0 PERMIT COVERAGE

- 1.1 Permit Area** Excavation dewatering in all regions of Alaska with exception to the Denali National Park and Preserve and the Indian Reservation of Metlakatla are eligible for coverage under this permit. Dewatering associated with oil and gas exploration facilities located in the North Slope Borough or for hydrocarbon transport pipeline projects are eligible for alternative general permits listed in Parts 1.4.1.2 and 1.4.1.3.
- 1.2 Eligibility** Subject to the restrictions and conditions of this general permit, entities with excavation dewatering discharges may be authorized to discharge to waters of the U.S., or waters of the State or land after receiving written authorization from DEC (Part 2.1).
- 1.3 Authorized Discharges**
- 1.3.1 The following discharges associated with excavation dewatering are authorized under this permit:
- 1.3.1.1 Excavation dewatering associated with construction activity where pumps, sumps, etc. are used within or near the excavation areas to remove accumulated groundwater, surface water, and storm water; or
- 1.3.1.2 Groundwater dewatering through the installation of temporary dewatering wells, vacuum well points, eductors, etc. to cause the localized lowering of the surface water table to facilitate construction activity.

1.4 Exclusions

- 1.4.1 The following discharges are not authorized under this permit:
- 1.4.1.1 A wastewater discharge that is mixed with any other discharges that are not associated with construction dewatering discharges listed in Permit Part 1.3;
- 1.4.1.2 Dewatering discharges associated with oil and gas exploration facilities located in the North Slope Borough which meet the eligibility criteria of permit North Slope General Permit AKG332000;
- 1.4.1.3 Dewatering discharges associated with pipeline maintenance activities eligible for coverage under the Statewide Oil and Gas Pipelines General Permit AKG320000;
- 1.4.1.4 A discharge permitted under the Construction General Permit, AKR100000 with exception to those dewatering activities within 1,500 feet of an “DEC-identified contaminated site or groundwater plume¹”;
- 1.4.1.5 A wastewater discharge authorized under an existing Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) permit;
- 1.4.1.6 Stream diversion discharges that are contained within a temporary lined channel, pipe, or similar best management practices that would minimize the sediment discharge from the diverted flow discharged back into the natural stream channel;
- 1.4.1.7 A discharge of solid or liquid waste material or water discharges incidental to water well drilling and geophysical drilling that does not directly discharge into a surface water;
- 1.4.1.8 A discharge associated with a petroleum related corrective action under the management of the Department’s Spill Prevention and Response Division;

¹ A contaminated site or groundwater plume with an “Active” or “Cleanup Complete-Institutional Controls” status identified by DEC Contaminated Sites Program. For assistance in locating mapped contaminated sites and listing of groundwater plumes see <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/>.

- 1.4.1.9 A discharge to land from remediation related activities all conducted under a Department-approved remedial work plan; and
- 1.4.1.10 A discharge to a combined or sanitary sewer system.

1.5 Requiring an Individual Permit

- 1.5.1 In accordance with 18 AAC 83.215, the Department may require or allow an applicant authorized under this general permit to apply for and obtain an individual APDES permit.
- 1.5.2 The Department will require an applicant to obtain an individual permit when the wastewater discharge does not meet the eligibility criteria of this general permit or an applicable alternative general permit, contributes to pollution, has the potential to cause or causes an adverse impact on public health or water quality, or a change occurs in the availability of technology for the control of pollutants in the discharge.
- 1.5.3 The Department will notify the applicant in writing by certified mail that an individual APDES permit application is required. If the applicant fails to submit an application by the date required in the notification, coverage under this general permit is automatically terminated at the end of the day specified for application submittal.

2.0 AUTHORIZATION

2.1 Obtaining Authorization

- 2.1.1 Authorization to discharge under this general permit requires the applicant seeking authorization to submit a completed NOI to DEC in accordance with the requirements listed herein (Part 2.2). With exception of activities meeting the conditions in Part 2.1.3, the applicant must receive written notification of authorization from DEC that coverage has been granted and that a specific authorization number has been assigned prior to discharging. Applicant may request a mixing zone authorization from DEC by completing the mixing zone section of the NOI per Part 2.2.7.
- 2.1.2 A permittee is authorized to discharge excavation dewatering under the terms and conditions of the permit upon the date specified in the issuance of the DEC authorization letter. A copy of the authorization is accessible via DEC's website <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/edms>.
- 2.1.3 **Automatic Authorization.** The following discharges, consistent with the permit eligibility provisions in Part 1.2, are automatically authorized by this permit. An applicant proposing to discharge excavation dewatering is not required to submit an NOI to receive discharge authorization consistent with the following:
 - 2.1.3.1 Discharge is only to land in accordance with Parts 4.0, 5.1, and 5.2.15 of the permit, and
 - 2.1.3.2 Excavation dewatering activity does not meet the NOI submittal criteria in Part 2.2.1.

2.2 Notice of Intent (NOI) Submittal Requirements, Review, and Authorization Process

- 2.2.1 A minimum of 30 days prior to the date the discharge is to commence, the applicant conducting excavation dewatering must submit an NOI and certified BMP Plan (Part 2.2.9) to DEC for the following dewatering locations:
 - 2.2.1.1 Within 1,500 feet of an "DEC-identified contaminated site or groundwater plume" with discharges to waters of the U.S. or to waters of the State or to land, or
 - 2.2.1.2 To waters of the U.S. or to waters of the State greater than 1,500 feet from a "DEC-identified contaminated site or groundwater plume" and not eligible for coverage under the Construction General Permit AKR100000 or most recent version.
- 2.2.2 An applicant with discharges meeting conditions of Parts 2.2.1.1, see Part 2.2.8 for additional submittal requirements.

- 2.2.3 The NOI is to be submitted electronically via the online permit application portal – Environmental Data Management System (EDMS) accessible at: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/edms>; unless DEC approves of an alternative submission method.
- 2.2.4 The NOI must be signed by the applicant in accordance with Signatory Requirements in Appendix A, Part 1.12. A copy of the completed NOI shall be retained on site in accordance with Appendix A, Part 1.11 (Monitoring and Records).
- 2.2.5 The NOI must be accompanied by the appropriate fee as found in 18 AAC 72.956.
- 2.2.6 The NOI must contain a general location map [e.g., United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle map, a portion of a city or borough map, or other map] with sufficient detail to identify the location of the discharge and waters of the U.S. and/or waters of the State within one mile of the site.
- 2.2.7 The Department will, based on the mixing zone request submitted with the NOI, make a determination as to whether a 500-foot mixing zone for turbidity and residues is appropriate at the proposed discharge location.
- 2.2.8 **Contaminated Site.** If an excavation dewatering discharge activity meeting the condition of Part 2.2.1.1, the applicant shall in addition to the NOI, provide the following information:
- 2.2.8.1 Identify potential pollutants of concern that may be present or become present in the excavation dewatering discharge based on the excavation dewatering activity. The applicant shall review available data about the contaminated site(s) including the type and concentration of contaminants, whether the contaminant(s) are in soil and/or groundwater, and the size and location of any contaminated plumes²;
- 2.2.8.2 Identify a proposed treatment methodology to be incorporated into the BMP plan if contaminants can become entrained in the excavation dewatering and the contaminant discharge concentrations;
- 2.2.8.3 The Department may additionally request a hydrogeologic report be prepared by an “environmental professional” as defined in 18 AAC 75.990³ or 18 AAC 75.333(b) or “qualified groundwater scientist” as defined in 18 AAC 60.990⁴. This report must specifically address the impact of the proposed dewatering activity on the location of any adjacent contaminated site(s) within the area of influence of the dewatering activity and contain at a minimum the following:
- 2.2.8.3.1 A description of the aquifer conditions (e.g. confined, semi-confined, unconfined), thickness, static water level, and lateral transmissivity;
- 2.2.8.3.2 Using proposed or existing monitoring wells that are capable of providing information on groundwater elevations, determine whether contaminants are being smeared below the natural minimum groundwater elevation, whether the contaminant plume is being diverted, and whether contaminant migration rates are increasing; and
- 2.2.8.3.3 When the dewatering activity may adversely affect a contaminated site by moving or smearing contaminants, the applicant must describe how construction practices such as cofferdams, or other methods will be used to prevent adverse effects upon groundwater quality.

² The permittee should refer to DEC’s website (<https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/>) for additional information for access to DEC’s Contaminated Sites database, summaries, map, and listing of contaminated sites as an aid in assessing pollutants of concern that may potentially be present in the dewatering discharge.

³ See 18 AAC 75.990 (187)

⁴ See 18 AAC 60.990 (111)

2.2.8.4 The information described in Part 2.2.8.3 is not required if the applicant can demonstrate that the contaminated site(s) within 1,500 feet of the dewatering activity does not affect the groundwater within the dewatering area of influence. The following activities may be used to demonstrate this:

- 2.2.8.4.1 Using existing groundwater monitoring wells to generate a groundwater flow map that includes the static water level of all wells, groundwater flow direction, and groundwater elevation contours to demonstrate dewatering activities will not impact the plume; or
- 2.2.8.4.2 A simulated aquifer pump test conducted with groundwater modeling software or a similar study at the projected maximum dewatering rate to determine radii of influence, drawdown, and rate of recharge, which verifies pumping will not affect the contaminated plume.

2.2.9 Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan An applicant with excavation dewatering discharges either to waters of the U.S. or waters of the State or land that is required to submit an NOI under Part 2.2.1 shall submit the following to the Department with the NOI in addition to items in Part 2.2 to receive discharge authorization:

- 2.2.9.1 A BMP plan that describes how the wastewater will be managed with a description of each BMP to be implemented on-site;
- 2.2.9.2 A description of the land disposal site conditions such as soils, topography, drainage patterns, depth to groundwater, and existing vegetation;
- 2.2.9.3 A detailed site map to scale that shows the discharge points, infiltration areas, drainage boundaries, flow direction of discharged water, location of all waters of the U.S. and/or waters of the State on site and those located within 2,500 feet of the site boundary, and location of BMPs to be implemented; and
- 2.2.9.4 A BMP Plan signed and certified by the applicant in accordance to the requirements of Appendix A, Part 1.12;

2.2.10 **Emergency Repairs or Reconstruction of a Facility.** Discharges from excavation dewatering activities conducted in response to a disaster (as defined in AS 26.23.900) are conditionally authorized, provided that a NOI for coverage under this permit is filed with the Department within thirty (30) calendar days following the commencement of excavation dewatering activities. For discharges occurring during the initial thirty (30) day period, the permittee must demonstrate compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit to the extent practicable depending on the disaster.

2.2.11 **e-Reporting Waiver:** For any potential discharges to WOTUS, the Department will apply a waiver to the Electronic Reporting (e-Reporting) Rule per 40 CFR 127.15(b)(2). Existing administratively extended authorizations receiving renewals will have a waiver unless the permittee provides a written justification that a waiver should not be granted automatically. Once EDMS is upgraded to transfer data directly to EPA, all waivers will become null and void.

2.3 Continuation of Expiring General Permit

If this permit is not reissued prior to the expiration date, it will be administratively continued in accordance with 18 AAC 83.155(c) and remain in force and effect so long as prior to the expiration date, the permittee complies with the requirements of 18 AAC 83.155(c)(1). A permittee granted permit coverage prior to the expiration date will automatically be covered under the administratively continued permit until the earliest of:

- 2.3.1 Reissuance or replacement of this permit, at which time the permittee must comply with the conditions of the new permit, as it applies to ongoing projects, to maintain authorization to discharge;
- 2.3.2 Submittal of a Notice of Termination (NOT);
- 2.3.3 Issuance of an individual permit for the project's discharges; or
- 2.3.4 A formal permit decision by DEC to not reissue this general permit, at which time the permittee must seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit.

2.4 NOI Submission Deadlines⁵

- 2.4.1 **New Projects.** The operator must submit a complete and accurate NOI prior to commencement of dewatering activities consistent with Part 2.2 to obtain authorization under this permit.
- 2.4.2 **Permitted Ongoing Projects.**
 - 2.4.2.1 Update the existing BMP plan (Part 2.2.9) to comply with the conditions of the new permit before submitting a renewal NOI, as described in Part 2.4.2.2; and
 - 2.4.2.2 Submit a complete, accurate, renewal NOI within 90 calendar days of the effective date of this permit according to Part 2.2.
 - 2.4.2.3 If the permittee is eligible to submit a NOT (e.g., dewatering activities are completed) before the 90th day, a renewal NOI is not required to be submitted provided a NOT is submitted within 90 calendar days after the effective date of this permit.

2.5 Submittal of a Modification to Original NOI

- 2.5.1 Modification. A permittee must file an NOI modification form to DEC (see Part 2.2) to update or correct the following information on the original NOI within 30 calendar days of the change:
 - 2.5.1.1 Owner/Operator address and contact information;
 - 2.5.1.2 Site information; or
 - 2.5.1.3 Estimated start or end dates;
- 2.5.2 No general permit authorization fee is required when submitting an NOI modification.

3.0 COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS AND LIMITS

3.1 Requirements for all Projects

- 3.1.1 The discharge to waters of the U.S. or waters of the state shall not cause a violation of the Alaska Water Quality Standards (WQS) (18 AAC 70).
- 3.1.2 A permittee must select, install, implement and maintain control measures (described in Part 4.0) at the dewatering project site that minimize pollutants in the discharge. A permittee must comply with all permit conditions with respect to installation and maintenance of control measures, inspections, monitoring (if necessary), corrective actions, reporting, and recordkeeping.
- 3.1.3 DEC may determine that the permittee's excavation dewatering discharges will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any applicable WQS. If such a determination is made, DEC may require the permittee to:

⁵ If you miss the deadline to submit your NOI, any and all discharges from your project subject to this permit will continue to be unauthorized until they are covered by this or a different permit. DEC may take enforcement action for any unpermitted discharges that occur between the commencement of project activities and discharge authorization.

- 3.1.3.1 Take corrective actions and modify the controls measures to adequately address the identified water quality concerns;
- 3.1.3.2 Submit valid and verifiable data and information that are representative of ambient conditions and indicate that the receiving water is attaining WQS; or
- 3.1.3.3 DEC may modify or impose additional permit stipulations on a site-specific basis, or require the permittee to obtain coverage under an individual permit, if information in a permittee's NOI, required reports, or from other sources indicates that the discharges are not controlled as necessary to meet applicable WQS.
- 3.1.4 The discharge shall be free of (a) any additives such as antifreeze solutions, methanol solvents, and corrosion inhibitors; (b) solid wastes and garbage; (c) toxic substances; (d) grease or oils that exceed the effluent limitations in Part 5.2.5 or produce a sheen; (e) foam in other than trace amounts; and (f) other contaminants.
- 3.1.5 Chemicals may not be added to the discharge unless the Department grants specific permission, which will be stated in the discharge authorization letter. In granting the use of chemicals, special conditions and monitoring requirements may be addressed in the authorization to discharge.
- 3.1.6 The permittee shall contact the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Divisions of Water - Permitting Program at 269-6285 and Division of Spill Prevention and Response at 1-800-478-9300 upon the observation of any oil sheen or product either in the soil or within the groundwater to be discharged. The dewatering activities shall not resume until DEC approval is granted from a member of the Division of Water staff at the above number.
- 3.1.7 This permit or written authorization does not constitute a grant of water rights. Groundwater elevations may not be affected in a manner that reduces the quantity or quality of the water drawn from wells owned by others in the area, unless prior arrangements are made to either provide suitable water to those owners, or those wells are modified (with the owners' permission) in a manner so that the quantity and quality will not be affected. Well owners may have additional legal rights and the applicant is encouraged to discuss the matter with the affected property owners prior to submission of the NOI to the Department.

3.2 Discharge to Impaired Waterbody

The CWA §303(d) impaired waterbodies are those cited in the most current EPA approved version of the *Final DEC Integrated Report*⁶. If the permittee discharges into a waterbody with an EPA-established or approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the permittee must implement measures to ensure that the discharge of pollutants from the site is consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the EPA-established or approved TMDL, including ensuring that the discharge does not exceed specific wasteload or load allocation that has been established that would apply to the discharge. The permittee must also evaluate the recommendations in the Implementation Section of the TMDL and incorporate applicable measures into the operations.

⁶ DEC, *Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report – Alaska's List of Impaired or 303(d) listed waterbodies*. Most recent report can be found at DEC's website at: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/integrated-report/>.

4.0 CONTROL MEASURES A permittee must select, design, install, and implement control measures (including BMPs) that minimize pollutants in the discharge as necessary at the point of discharge.

4.1 Erosion and Sediment Control Measures A permittee must minimize erosion and sedimentation and the resultant discharge of pollutants from the excavation dewatering discharge using structural and/or non-structural control measures.

4.1.2 A permittee must place flow velocity dissipation devices at discharge locations and within outfall channels where necessary to reduce erosion and/or settle out pollutants.

4.1.3 A permittee must use BMPs such as temporary lined settling basins, filter bags, or other similar filtering and retention mechanisms where necessary to minimize off-site sediment deposition to either waters of the U.S., waters of the State, or land.

5.0 LIMITATIONS, INSPECTIONS, AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Land Disposal Discharges of Excavation Dewatering

5.1.1 The discharge shall be to an area with soils capable of infiltration at the maximum expected discharge rate and of adequate size to allow complete infiltration with no off-site discharge;

5.1.2 Necessary erosion and sediment controls in Part 4.0 shall be implemented at the discharge point to prevent erosion and any sedimentation beyond the disposal area;

5.1.3 A written visual inspection record for erosion, sheen, and a daily flow rate estimate must be kept by the permittee in accordance with Part 5.2.15;

5.1.4 If a visual sheen is observed in the discharge, all discharging shall cease until DEC approval is granted in accordance to Part 3.1.6 and necessary corrective actions taken to prevent a sheen discharge, which may include but not be limited to: additional monitoring requirements and flowing the discharge through a temporary lined impoundment where skimmers, booms, absorbent pads, etc. could be used to remove any visual sheen; and

5.1.5 A land disposal discharge authorized under this permit must be monitored as listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Effluent Monitoring Requirements for Land Disposal Discharges

Effluent Characteristic	Monitoring Location	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type
Erosion	Point of Discharge	Daily	Visual
Sheen*	Effluent	Daily	Visual
Flow Rate	Effluent	Daily	24-hour Estimate or Measured

* Discharge shall be free of any visible sheen.

5.2 Surface Water Discharges of Excavation Dewatering The permittee is authorized to discharge wastewater authorized in Part 1.3 to waters of the U.S. or waters of the State in accordance with the following effluent limitations:

5.2.1 The discharge must not cause re-suspension of sediments upon discharge to receiving waters, as well as physical erosion or downstream flooding;

5.2.2 The discharge must not cause adverse effects to aquatic or plant life, their reproduction or habitats;

5.2.3 The discharge must not exceed any WQS developed for any known contaminant of concern which may be present within the contaminant plume of the “DEC-identified contaminated site of concern or groundwater plume” located within 1,500 feet of the dewatering activities;

- 5.2.4 If a visual sheen is observed in the discharge all discharging shall cease until DEC approval is granted in accordance to Part 3.1.6 and necessary corrective actions taken to prevent a sheen discharge, which may include but not be limited to: additional monitoring requirements and flowing through a temporary lined impoundment where skimmers, booms, absorbent pads, etc. could be used to remove any visual sheen; and
- 5.2.5 The discharge shall meet the effluent limits and monitoring requirements as listed in Table 4: Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements for Surface Water Discharges.
- 5.2.6 All samples for monitoring purposes must be representative of the discharge activity, as outlined in Appendix A, Part 3.1.
- 5.2.7 If the permittee monitors any pollutants or background water quality parameters identified in this permit more frequently than required, the results of such monitoring shall be reported to the Department in the Annual Monitoring Report required under Part 6.2.
- 5.2.8 Test procedures used for sample analysis shall conform to methods cited in 40 CFR Part 136 and 18 AAC 70.020(c). The permittee may substitute alternative methods of monitoring or analysis upon receipt of prior written approval from the Department.
- 5.2.9 Unless otherwise noted, the permittee must use EPA-approved analytical methods that can achieve a method detection limit less than the effluent limit.
- 5.2.10 The permittee shall use equipment calibrated with the manufacturer's recommendations when taking field measurements (i.e., pH and turbidity). The permittee shall use sample bottles provided by a certified laboratory when conducting wastewater analysis in accordance to 18 AAC 70.020(c), 40 CFR Part 136 and/or the most current version of Standard Methods of Water and Wastewater Analysis.
- 5.2.11 For discharges to Impaired Waters, see Part 3.2 for additional monitoring requirements.
- 5.2.12 For purposes of reporting for a single sample, if a value is less than the method detection limit (MDL), the permittee must report "less than (<) {numeric value of MDL}" and if a value is less than a reporting limit (RL) (also called a minimum reporting limit (MRL) or a practical quantification limit (PQL)), the permittee must report "less than (<) {numeric value of RL}."
- 5.2.13 DEC may modify or require additional effluent or ambient receiving waterbody monitoring for site specific purposes related to, but not limited to: application requirements, the protection of state WQS, gathering data to support TMDL development, evaluation of receiving waterbody impairments, or evaluation of effects on threatened or endangered species. Likewise, monitoring frequency may be adjusted for site-specific purposes. The permittee will be notified of any additional or site-specific monitoring when issued written authorization to discharge under this general permit.

(Table 4: Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements for Surface Water Discharges
is located on the following page)

Table 4: Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements for Surface Water Discharges (waters of the U.S. or waters of the state).

Effluent Characteristic	Maximum Value	Monitoring Location	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Method
pH	6.5 – 8.5 SU ^a	Effluent	Before discharge and once per week	Grab	Field
		Upstream			
Settleable Solids	0.2 ml/L above natural conditions	Effluent	Before discharge and once per week	Grab	Field (see note 11 to 18 AAC 70.020(b))
		Upstream			
Sheen	No presence	Effluent	Daily	Grab	Visual
Total Aqueous Hydrocarbons (TAqH) ^{b, c}	15 µg/l	Effluent	Once a month	Grab	Lab (See note 7 to 18 AAC 70.020(b))
Total Aromatic Hydrocarbons (TAH) ^{b, c}	10 µg/l	Effluent	Once a month	Grab	Lab Method 602 (plus Xylenes) or EPA Method 624 (see 18 AAC 70.020(b))
Total Flow	No Limit (gpd)	Effluent	Daily	24-Hour Estimate or Measured	Field
Turbidity (freshwater) No Mixing Zone	5 NTUs above natural conditions ^d	Effluent	Before discharge and once per week	Grab	Field
		Upstream			
Turbidity (marine) No Mixing Zone	25 NTUs	Effluent	Before discharge and once per week	Grab	Field
Turbidity (freshwater) Mixing Zone ^e	5 NTUs above natural conditions	Effluent	Before discharge and once per week	Grab	Field
		Downstream			
Turbidity (marine) Mixing Zone ^e	Report	Effluent and Upstream	Before discharge and once per week	Grab	Field
	Visual monitoring ^f	Downstream			

Notes:

- The effluent limit for pH shall be between 6.5 and 8.5 pH units or within 0.2 units (marine water), or 0.5 units (fresh water) of the receiving water pH at all times.
- TAqH and TAH shall only be monitored if a visual sheen is detected in the daily visual monitoring. Upon detection of a sheen the permittee shall notify DEC in accordance with Part 3.1.6, a sample for TAqH and TAH shall be collected at the frequency in Table 4 for the duration of the discharge, and corrective actions or treatment devices implemented to prevent an oily sheen discharge.
- Samples to determine concentrations TAqH and TAH must be collected in marine and fresh waters below the surface and away from any observable sheen; concentrations of TAqH must be determined and summed using a combination of: (A) EPA Method 602 (plus xylenes) or EPA Method 624 to quantify monoaromatic hydrocarbons and to measure TAH; and (B) EPA Method 610 or EPA Method 625 to quantify polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons listed in EPA Method 610; use of an alternative method requires department approval; the EPA methods referred to in this note may be found in Appendix A of 40 C.F.R. §136, Appendix A, as revised as of July 1, 2003 and adopted by reference.
- If a mixing zone is not authorized, effluent turbidity shall not have more than a 10% increase in turbidity when the natural condition is more than 50 NTU, not to exceed a maximum increase of 15 NTU. Turbidity shall not exceed 5 NTU over natural conditions for all lake waters.
- If a mixing zone is authorized: For freshwater, turbidity may not exceed 5 NTU above natural conditions 500 feet downstream of the discharge when the natural turbidity is 50 NTU or less. When the natural condition is greater than 50 NTU, turbidity shall not to exceed more than a 10% increase up to a maximum increase of 15 NTU above ambient conditions 500 feet downstream of the discharge. For lake waters, turbidity may not exceed 5 NTUs above natural turbidity 500 feet from the discharge point. Report effluent turbidity for information only. Turbidity concentration naturally present in the receiving water is determined at a location upstream of the mixing zone boundary and unaffected by the discharge of any dewatering activity.
- See Permit Part 5.2.14.6 and 5.2.14.11 for visual monitoring requirements.

5.2.14 Mixing Zone

- 5.2.14.1 Per 18 AAC 70.240, as amended through June 23, 2003, a regulatory mixing zone may be authorized for turbidity and residues.
- 5.2.14.2 The Department will review the NOI information and may authorize a standard size 500 foot long mixing zone beginning from the point of discharge.
 - 5.2.14.2.1 The Department will authorize a regulatory mixing zone if the proposed discharges listed in the NOI are consistent with conditions in this Permit.
 - 5.2.14.2.2 Within an authorized regulatory mixing zone, the Department will authorize exceedances of the water quality for turbidity and residues.
- 5.2.14.3 The written authorization from the Department will specify authorized discharges and the parameters for which water quality criteria may be exceeded within an authorized regulatory mixing zone.
- 5.2.14.4 If the Department determines that a regulatory mixing zone is not appropriate to protect and maintain existing uses of the waterbody outside of an authorized mixing zone, a permittee may submit additional information to supplement the NOI or may submit an individual permit application Form 1, Form 2C, and Form 2M.
- 5.2.14.5 If the Department authorizes a mixing zone per Part 2.2.7, a permittee is authorized a 500-foot radius mixing zone where turbidity may exceed Alaska Water Quality Standards criteria. The mixing zone is centered on the outfall and constitutes the entire water column within the mixing zone radius. If the operation includes multiple outfalls, the mixing zone is centered on the geometric center of the outfalls, unless the Department designates a different location within the authorization.
- 5.2.14.6 The discharge may not create a visual increase in turbidity (cloudiness or muddiness) outside the mixing zone during operation.
- 5.2.14.7 If the discharge results in a visual increase in turbidity outside the mixing zone, then operation must decrease or cease until the turbidity plume from the discharge is confined to the mixing zone.
- 5.2.14.8 The permittee must ensure that the discharged turbidity plume does not overlap with the plume of another active dewatering operation.
- 5.2.14.9 Unless a variance is granted under Part 5.2.14.10, the permittee must ensure that the visible turbidity from a discharge plume does not occur within 500 feet from the mouth of any anadromous stream or river as identified in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Anadromous Waters Catalog⁷.
- 5.2.14.10 The permittee may request a variance to the separations requirements under Part 5.2.14.9. The Department may include a variance within the permit authorization provided a zone of passage for fish is maintained, ADF&G has been consulted on the variance, and the permittee agrees to any additional monitoring required under any site-specific requirements per Part 3.1.3.
- 5.2.14.11 **Visual Monitoring Requirements**
 - 5.2.14.11.1 The permittee must visually monitor for turbidity and for any film or sheen a minimum of once daily during operation.
 - 5.2.14.11.2 The visual turbidity observation must be conducted during the dewatering activity has reached equilibrium (e.g., when the effluent discharge is constant and the plume has reached its full extent).

⁷ Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Anadromous Waters Catalog. <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/SARR/AWC/>

- 5.2.14.11.3 A permittee who conducts the visual turbidity observation must observe the turbidity plume from the dewatering discharge point and record the distance and direction the plume extends from the center of the mixing zone.
- 5.2.14.11.4 The permittee must maintain daily monitoring records that include the following:
 - 5.2.14.11.4.1 Results of turbidity monitoring;
 - 5.2.14.11.4.2 Coordinates (i.e., latitude and longitude) for each discharge location where turbidity monitoring occurs;
 - 5.2.14.11.4.3 The results of any site-specific monitoring required under the authorization; and
 - 5.2.14.11.4.4 The results of any additional monitoring by the permittee, as described in Appendix A, Part 3.3.

5.2.15 Quality Assurance Project Plan

- 5.2.15.1 The permittee must develop and implement a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for all monitoring required by this permit for discharges to waters of the U.S.
- 5.2.15.2 The QAPP must be designed to assist in planning for the collection and analysis of effluent and receiving water samples in support of the permit and to help explain data anomalies whenever they occur.
- 5.2.15.3 The permittee may use either the generic DEC QAPP template or develop a project-specific QAPP. Some project specific information is still required in order to complete the QAPP when using the generic DEC QAPP. A generic DEC QAPP template is located at <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/quality-assurance/>.
- 5.2.15.4 Throughout all sample collection and analysis activities, the permittee must use DEC-approved Quality Assurance/Quality Control and chain-of-custody procedures, as described in the *Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans* (EPA/QA/R-5, March 2001) at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/r5-final_0.pdf and *Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans* (EPA/QA/G-5, December 2002) at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-06/documents/g5-final.pdf>. The QAPP must be prepared in the format specified in these documents.
- 5.2.15.5 At a minimum, the project-specific QAPP must include the following:
 - 5.2.15.5.1 Details on number of samples, type of sample containers, preservation of samples, holding times, analytical methods, analytical detection and quantification limits for each target compound, type and number of quality assurance field samples, precision and accuracy requirements, sample preparation requirements, sample shipping methods, and laboratory data delivery requirements;
 - 5.2.15.5.2 Maps indicating the location of each sampling point;
 - 5.2.15.5.3 Qualification and training of personnel; and
 - 5.2.15.5.4 Name, address, and telephone number of all laboratories used by or proposed to be used by the permittee.
- 5.2.15.6 The permittee must amend the project-specific QAPP whenever sample collection, sample analysis, or other procedure addressed by the QAPP is modified.
- 5.2.15.7 A copy of the QAPP must be kept onsite and made available to DEC upon request.

6.0 REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING

6.1 Daily Inspection Monitoring and Record Keeping

- 6.1.1 The permittee must maintain daily records of all information resulting from any inspections and daily monitoring as required in Appendix A, Part 3.0.

6.2 Reporting of Monitoring Requirements

- 6.2.1 Annual Monitoring Reports. Required effluent monitoring data for all discharges to waters of the U.S. or waters of the State (Table 4) shall be summarized on a DEC report form and submitted to DEC with the Notice of Termination (NOT, see Permit Part 7.0) at project completion; or if the project duration is greater than one year, submit to DEC no later than the 28th day of the month past the annual authorization issuance date⁸.
- 6.2.2 Submitting Annual Reports is to be submitted to DEC via EDMS or unless DEC approves another method of submittal.

6.3 Standard Conditions Applicable to Recording and Reporting

- 6.3.1 The permittee must comply with the following recording and reporting requirements, as described in Appendix A, Standard Conditions unless specified in the body of the permit:
- 6.3.1.1 Retention of Records, Part 1.11.2;
 - 6.3.1.2 Records Contents, Part 1.11.3;
 - 6.3.1.3 Special Reporting Obligations, Part 2.0; and
 - 6.3.1.4 Monitoring, Recording, and Reporting Requirements, Part 3.0.

7.0 TERMINATION OF COVERAGE

7.1 When to Submit a Notice of Termination

- 7.1.1 Within thirty (30) days upon completion of the excavation dewatering, the permittee must submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) to terminate coverage under this permit when having submitted an NOI in accordance with Part 2.2.
- 7.1.2 All required reports (including monitoring reports if applicable, see Part 6.2.1) and certifications have been submitted to DEC.
- 7.1.3 Termination is effective upon receiving written notification of termination from the Department.

7.2 Submitting a Notice of Termination

- 7.2.1 The complete and accurate NOT is to be submitted to DEC via EDMS or unless DEC approves another method of submittal.

⁸ See Permit Part 6.3.

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Appendix A of the permit contains standard regulatory language that must be included in all APDES permits. These requirements are based on the regulations and cannot be challenged in the context of an individual APDES permit action. The standard regulatory language covers requirements such as monitoring, recording, reporting requirements, compliance responsibilities, and other general requirements. Appendix A, Standard Conditions is an integral and enforceable part of the permit. Failure to comply with a Standard Condition in this Appendix constitutes a violation of the permit and is subject to enforcement.

1.0 Standard Conditions Applicable to All Permits

1.1 Contact Information and Addresses

1.1.1 Permitting Program

Documents, reports, and plans required under the permit and Appendix A are to be sent to the following address:

State of Alaska
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Water
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Telephone (907) 269-6285
Fax (907) 269-3487
Email: DEC.Water.WQPermit@alaska.gov

1.1.2 Compliance and Enforcement Program

Documents and reports required under the permit and Appendix A relating to compliance are to be sent to the following address:

State of Alaska
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Water
Compliance and Enforcement Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Telephone Nationwide (877) 569-4114
Anchorage Area / International (907) 269-4114
Fax (907) 269-4604
Email: dec-wqreporting@alaska.gov

1.2 Duty to Comply

A permittee shall comply with all conditions of the permittee's APDES permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of 33 U.S.C. 1251-1387 (Clean Water Act) and state law and is grounds for enforcement action including termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification of a permit, or denial of a permit renewal application. A permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under 33 U.S.C. 1317(a) for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish those effluent standards or prohibitions even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

1.3 Duty to Reapply

If a permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after its expiration date, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. In accordance with 18 AAC 83.105(b), a permittee with a currently effective permit shall reapply by submitting a new application at least 180 days before the existing permit expires, unless the Department has granted the permittee permission to submit an application on a later date. However, the Department will not grant permission for an application to be submitted after the expiration date of the existing permit.

1.4 Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

In an enforcement action, a permittee may not assert as a defense that compliance with the conditions of the permit would have made it necessary for the permittee to halt or reduce the permitted activity.

1.5 Duty to Mitigate

A permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

1.6 Proper Operation and Maintenance

1.6.1 A permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control and related appurtenances that the permittee installs or uses to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit. The permittee's duty to operate and maintain properly includes using adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. However, a permittee is not required to operate back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that a permittee installs unless operation of those facilities is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

1.6.2 Operation and maintenance records shall be retained and made available at the site.

1.7 Permit Actions

A permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause as provided in 18 AAC 83.130. If a permittee files a request to modify, revoke and reissue, or terminate a permit, or gives notice of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, the filing or notice does not stay any permit condition.

1.8 Property Rights

A permit does not convey any property rights or exclusive privilege.

1.9 Duty to Provide Information

A permittee shall, within a reasonable time, provide to the Department any information that the Department requests to determine whether a permittee is in compliance with the permit, or whether cause exists to modify, revoke and reissue, or terminate the permit. A permittee shall also provide to the Department, upon request, copies of any records the permittee is required to keep under the permit.

1.10 Inspection and Entry

A permittee shall allow the Department, or an authorized representative, including a contractor acting as a representative of the Department, at reasonable times and on presentation of credentials establishing authority and any other documents required by law, to:

- 1.10.1 Enter the premises where a permittee's regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where permit conditions require records to be kept;
- 1.10.2 Have access to and copy any records that permit conditions require the permittee to keep;
- 1.10.3 Inspect any facilities, equipment, including monitoring and control equipment, practices, or operations regulated or required under a permit; and
- 1.10.4 Sample or monitor any substances or parameters at any location for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by 33 U.S.C. 1251-1387 (Clean Water Act).

1.11 Monitoring and Records

A permittee must comply with the following monitoring and recordkeeping conditions:

- 1.11.1 Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring must be representative of the monitored activity.
- 1.11.2 The permittee shall retain records in Alaska of all monitoring information for at least three years, or longer at the Department's request at any time, from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. Monitoring records required to be kept include:
 - 1.11.2.1 All calibration and maintenance records,
 - 1.11.2.2 All original strip chart recordings or other forms of data approved by the Department for continuous monitoring instrumentation,
 - 1.11.2.3 All reports required by a permit,
 - 1.11.2.4 Records of all data used to complete the application for a permit,
 - 1.11.2.5 Field logbooks or visual monitoring logbooks,
 - 1.11.2.6 Quality assurance chain of custody forms,
 - 1.11.2.7 Copies of discharge monitoring reports, and
 - 1.11.2.8 A copy of this APDES permit.
- 1.11.3 Records of monitoring information must include:
 - 1.11.3.1 The date, exact place, and time of any sampling or measurement;
 - 1.11.3.2 The name(s) of any individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurement(s);
 - 1.11.3.3 The date(s) and time any analysis was performed;
 - 1.11.3.4 The name(s) of any individual(s) who performed any analysis;
 - 1.11.3.5 Any analytical technique or method used; and
 - 1.11.3.6 The results of the analysis.
- 1.11.4 Monitoring Procedures

Analyses of pollutants must be conducted using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, adopted by reference at 18 AAC 83.010, for pollutants with approved test procedures, and using test procedures specified in the permit for pollutants without approved methods.

1.12 Signature Requirement and Penalties

- 1.12.1 Any application, report, or information submitted to the Department in compliance with a permit requirement must be signed and certified in accordance with 18 AAC 83.385. Any person who knowingly makes any false material statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, or other document filed or required to be maintained under a permit, or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be subject to penalties under 33 U.S.C. 1319(c)(4), AS 12.55.035(c)(1)(B), (c)(2) and (c)(3), and AS 46.03.790(g).
- 1.12.2 In accordance with 18 AAC 83.385, an APDES permit application must be signed as follows:
- 1.12.2.1 For a corporation, a responsible corporate officer shall sign the application; in this subsection, a responsible corporate officer means:
- 1.12.2.1.1 A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision-making functions for the corporation; or
- 1.12.2.1.2 The manager of one of more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, if
- 1.12.2.1.2.1 The manager is authorized to make management decisions that govern the operation of the regulated facility, including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations, and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long term environmental compliance with environmental statutes and regulations;
- 1.12.2.1.2.2 The manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and
- 1.12.2.1.2.3 Authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.
- 1.12.2.2 For a partnership or sole proprietorship, by the general partner or the proprietor, respectively, shall sign the application.
- 1.12.2.3 For a municipality, state, federal, or other public agency, either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official shall sign the application; in this subsection, a principal executive officer of an agency means:
- 1.12.2.3.1 The chief executive officer of the agency; or
- 1.12.2.3.2 A senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit or division of the agency.
- 1.12.3 Any report required by an APDES permit, and a submittal with any other information requested by the Department, must be signed by a person described in Appendix A, Part 1.12.2, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
- 1.12.3.1 The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Appendix A, Part 1.12.2;
- 1.12.3.2 The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, including the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, or position of

equivalent responsibility; or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company; and

- 1.12.3.3 The written authorization is submitted to the Department to the Permitting Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.1.
- 1.12.4 If an authorization under Appendix A, Part 1.12.3 is no longer effective because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Appendix A, Part 1.12.3 must be submitted to the Department before or together with any report, information, or application to be signed by an authorized representative.
- 1.12.5 Any person signing a document under Appendix A, Part 1.12.2 or Part 1.12.3 shall certify as follows:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

1.13 Proprietary or Confidential Information

- 1.13.1 A permit applicant or permittee may assert a claim of confidentiality for proprietary or confidential business information by stamping the words "confidential business information" on each page of a submission containing proprietary or confidential business information. The Department will treat the stamped submissions as confidential if the information satisfies the test in 40 CFR §2.208, adopted by reference at 18 AAC 83.010, and is not otherwise required to be made public by state law.
- 1.13.2 A claim of confidentiality under Appendix A, Part 1.13.1 may not be asserted for the name and address of any permit applicant or permittee, a permit application, a permit, effluent data, sewage sludge data, and information required by APDES or NPDES application forms provided by the Department, whether submitted on the forms themselves or in any attachments used to supply information required by the forms.
- 1.13.3 A permittee's claim of confidentiality authorized under Appendix A, Part 1.13.1 is not waived if the Department provides the proprietary or confidential business information to the EPA or to other agencies participating in the permitting process. The Department will supply any information obtained or used in the administration of the state APDES program to the EPA upon request under 40 CFR §123.41, as revised as of July 1, 2005. When providing information submitted to the Department with a claim of confidentiality to the EPA, the Department will notify the EPA of the confidentiality claim. If the Department provides the EPA information that is not claimed to be confidential, the EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice.

1.14 Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any action or relieve a permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject to under state laws addressing oil and hazardous substances.

1.15 Cultural and Paleontological Resources

If cultural or paleontological resources are discovered because of this disposal activity, work that would disturb such resources is to be stopped, and the Office of History and Archaeology, a Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/index.htm>), is to be notified immediately at (907) 269-8721.

1.16 Fee

A permittee must pay the appropriate permit fee described in 18 AAC 72.

1.17 Other Legal Obligations

This permit does not relieve the permittee from the duty to obtain any other necessary permits from the Department or from other local, state, or federal agencies and to comply with the requirements contained in any such permits. All activities conducted and all plan approvals implemented by the permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

2.0 Special Reporting Obligations

2.1 Planned Changes

- 2.1.1 The permittee shall give notice to the Department as soon as possible of any planned physical alteration or addition to the permitted facility if:
 - 2.1.1.1 The alteration or addition may make the facility a “new source” under one or more of the criteria in 18 AAC 83.990(44); or
 - 2.1.1.2 The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged if those pollutants are not subject to effluent limitations in the permit or to notification requirements under 18 AAC 83.610.
- 2.1.2 If the proposed changes are subject to plan review, then the plans must be submitted at least 30 days before implementation of changes (see 18 AAC 15.020 and 18 AAC 72 for plan review requirements). Written approval is not required for an emergency repair or routine maintenance.
- 2.1.3 Written notice must be sent to the Permitting Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.1.

2.2 Anticipated Noncompliance

- 2.2.1 A permittee shall give seven days’ notice to the Department before commencing any planned change in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- 2.2.2 Written notice must be sent to the Compliance and Enforcement Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.2.

2.3 Transfers

- 2.3.1 A permittee may not transfer a permit for a facility or activity to any person except after notice to the Department in accordance with 18 AAC 83.150. The Department may modify or revoke and reissue the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements under 33 U.S.C. 1251-1387 (Clean Water Act) or state law.

- 2.3.2 Written notice must be sent to the Permitting Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.1.

2.4 Compliance Schedules

- 2.4.1 A permittee must submit progress or compliance reports on interim and final requirements in any compliance schedule of a permit no later than 14 days following the scheduled date of each requirement.
- 2.4.2 Written notice must be sent to the Compliance and Enforcement Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.2.

2.5 Corrective Information

- 2.5.1 If a permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit a relevant fact in a permit application or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Department, the permittee shall promptly submit the relevant fact or the correct information.
- 2.5.2 Information must be sent to the Permitting Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.1.

2.6 Bypass of Treatment Facilities

2.6.1 Prohibition of Bypass

Bypass is prohibited. The Department may take enforcement action against a permittee for any bypass, unless:

- 2.6.1.1 The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
- 2.6.1.2 There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, including use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. However, this condition is not satisfied if the permittee, in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment, should have installed adequate back-up equipment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and
- 2.6.1.3 The permittee provides notice to the Department of a bypass event in the manner, as appropriate, under Appendix A, Part 2.6.2.

2.6.2 Notice of bypass

- 2.6.2.1 For an anticipated bypass, the permittee submits notice at least 10 days before the date of the bypass. The Department may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Department determines that it will meet the conditions of Appendix A, Parts 2.6.1.1 and 2.6.1.2.
- 2.6.2.2 For an unanticipated bypass, the permittee submits 24-hour notice, as required in 18 AAC 83.410(f) and Appendix A, Part 3.4, Twenty-four Hour Reporting.
- 2.6.2.3 Written notice must be sent to the Compliance and Enforcement Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.2.

2.6.3 Notwithstanding Appendix A, Part 2.6.1, a permittee may allow a bypass that:

- 2.6.3.1 Does not cause an effluent limitation to be exceeded, and
- 2.6.3.2 Is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.

2.7 Upset Conditions

- 2.7.1 In any enforcement action for noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limitations, a permittee may claim upset as an affirmative defense. A permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof to show that the requirements of Appendix A, Part 2.7.2 are met.
- 2.7.2 To establish the affirmative defense of upset, the permittee must demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs or other relevant evidence that:
 - 2.7.2.1 An upset occurred and the permittee can identify the cause or causes of the upset;
 - 2.7.2.2 The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;
 - 2.7.2.3 The permittee submitted 24-hour notice of the upset, as required in 18 AAC 83.410(f) and Appendix A, Part 3.4, Twenty-four Hour Reporting; and
 - 2.7.2.4 The permittee complied with any mitigation measures required under 18 AAC 83.405(e) and Appendix A, Part 1.5, Duty to Mitigate.
- 2.7.3 Any determination made in administrative review of a claim that noncompliance was caused by upset, before an action for noncompliance is commenced, is not final administrative action subject to judicial review.

2.8 Existing Manufacturing, Commercial, Mining, and Silvicultural Discharges

- 2.8.1 In addition to the reporting requirements under 18 AAC 83.410, an existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural discharger shall notify the Department as soon as that discharger knows or has reason to believe that any activity has occurred or will occur that would result in:
 - 2.8.1.1 The discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant that is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following notification levels:
 - 2.8.1.1.1 One hundred micrograms per liter (100 µg/L);
 - 2.8.1.1.2 Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 µg/L) for acrolein and acrylonitrile, 500 micrograms per liter (500 µg/L) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol, and one milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
 - 2.8.1.1.3 Five times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with 18 AAC 83.310(c)-(g); or
 - 2.8.1.1.4 The level established by the Department in accordance with 18 AAC 83.445.
 - 2.8.1.2 Any discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant that is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following notification levels:
 - 2.8.1.2.1 Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 µg/L);
 - 2.8.1.2.2 One milligram per liter (1 mg/L) for antimony;
 - 2.8.1.2.3 Ten times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with 18 AAC 83.310(c)-(g); or
 - 2.8.1.2.4 The level established by the Department in accordance with 18 AAC 83.445.

3.0 Monitoring, Recording, and Reporting Requirements

3.1 Representative Sampling

A permittee must collect effluent samples from the effluent stream after the last treatment unit before discharge into the receiving waters. Samples and measurements must be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored activity or discharge.

3.2 Reporting of Monitoring Results

At intervals specified in the permit, monitoring results must be reported on the EPA discharge monitoring report (DMR) form, as revised as of March 1999, adopted by reference.

- 3.2.1 Monitoring results shall be summarized each month on the DMR or an approved equivalent report. The permittee must submit reports monthly postmarked by the 15th day of the following month.
- 3.2.2 The permittee must sign and certify all DMRs and all other reports in accordance with the requirements of Appendix A, Part 1.12, Signature Requirement and Penalties. All signed and certified legible original DMRs and all other documents and reports must be submitted to the Department at the Compliance and Enforcement Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.2.
- 3.2.3 If, during the period when this permit is effective, the Department makes available electronic reporting, the permittee may, as an alternative to the requirements of Appendix A, Part 3.2.2, submit monthly DMRs electronically by the 15th day of the following month in accordance with guidance provided by the Department. The permittee must certify all DMRs and other reports, in accordance with the requirements of Appendix A, Part 1.12, Signature Requirement and Penalties. The permittee must retain the legible originals of these documents and make them available to the Department upon request.

3.3 Additional Monitoring by Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than the permit requires using test procedures approved in 40 CFR Part 136, adopted by reference at 18 AAC 83.010, or as specified in this permit, the results of that additional monitoring must be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or annual report required by Appendix A, Part 3.2. All limitations that require averaging of measurements must be calculated using an arithmetic means unless the Department specifies another method in the permit. Upon request by the Department, the permittee must submit the results of any other sampling and monitoring regardless of the test method used.

3.4 Twenty-four Hour Reporting

A permittee shall report any noncompliance event that may endanger health or the environment as follows:

- 3.4.1 A report must be made:
 - 3.4.1.1 Orally within 24 hours after the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances, and
 - 3.4.1.2 In writing within five days after the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances.
- 3.4.2 A report must include the following information:
 - 3.4.2.1 A description of the noncompliance and its causes, including the estimated volume or weight and specific details of the noncompliance;

- 3.4.2.2 The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times;
 - 3.4.2.3 If the noncompliance has not been corrected, a statement regarding the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue; and
 - 3.4.2.4 Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
- 3.4.3 An event that must be reported within 24 hours includes:
- 3.4.3.1 An unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (see Appendix A, Part 2.6, Bypass of Treatment Facilities).
 - 3.4.3.2 An upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (see Appendix A, Part 2.7, Upset Conditions).
 - 3.4.3.3 A violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed in the permit as requiring 24-hour reporting.
- 3.4.4 The Department may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under Appendix A, Part 3.4 if the oral report has been received within 24 hours of the permittee becoming aware of the noncompliance event.
- 3.4.5 The permittee may satisfy the written reporting submission requirements of Appendix A, Part 3.4 by submitting the written report via e-mail, if the following conditions are met:
- 3.4.5.1 The Noncompliance Notification Form or equivalent form is used to report the noncompliance;
 - 3.4.5.2 The written report includes all the information required under Appendix A, Part 3.4.2;
 - 3.4.5.3 The written report is properly certified and signed in accordance with Appendix A, Parts 1.12.3 and 1.12.5;
 - 3.4.5.4 The written report is scanned as a PDF (portable document format) document and transmitted to the Department as an attachment to the e-mail; and
 - 3.4.5.5 The permittee retains in the facility file the original signed and certified written report and a printed copy of the conveying email.
- 3.4.6 The e-mail and PDF written report will satisfy the written report submission requirements of this permit provided the e-mail is received by the Department within five days after the time the permittee becomes aware of the noncompliance event and the e-mail and written report satisfy the criteria of Part 3.4.5. The e-mail address to report noncompliance is: dec-wqreporting@alaska.gov.

3.5 Other Noncompliance Reporting

A permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not required to be reported under Appendix A, Parts 2.4 (Compliance Schedules), 3.3 (Additional Monitoring by Permittee), and 3.4 (Twenty-four Hour Reporting) at the time the permittee submits monitoring reports under Appendix A, Part 3.2. (Reporting of Monitoring Results). A report of noncompliance under this part must contain the information listed in Appendix A, Part 3.4.2 and be sent to the Compliance and Enforcement Program address in Appendix A, Part 1.1.2.

4.0 Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions

Alaska laws allow the State to pursue both civil and criminal actions concurrently. The following is a summary of Alaska law. Permittees should read the applicable statutes for further substantive and procedural details.

4.1 Civil Action

Under AS 46.03.760(e), a person who violates or causes or permits to be violated a regulation, a lawful order of the Department, or a permit, approval, or acceptance, or term or condition of a permit, approval or acceptance issued under the program authorized by AS 46.03.020 (12) is liable, in a civil action, to the State for a sum to be assessed by the court of not less than \$500 nor more than \$100,000 for the initial violation, nor more than \$10,000 for each day after that on which the violation continues, and that shall reflect, when applicable:

- 4.1.1 Reasonable compensation in the nature of liquated damages for any adverse environmental effects caused by the violation, that shall be determined by the court according to the toxicity, degradability, and dispersal characteristics of the substance discharged, the sensitivity of the receiving environment, and the degree to which the discharge degrades existing environmental quality;
- 4.1.2 Reasonable costs incurred by the State in detection, investigation, and attempted correction of the violation;
- 4.1.3 The economic savings realized by the person in not complying with the requirements for which a violation is charged; and
- 4.1.4 The need for an enhanced civil penalty to deter future noncompliance.

4.2 Injunctive Relief

- 4.2.1 Under AS 46.03.820, the Department can order an activity presenting an imminent or present danger to public health or that would be likely to result in irreversible damage to the environment be discontinued. Upon receipt of such an order, the activity must be immediately discontinued.
- 4.2.2 Under AS 46.03.765, the Department can bring an action in Alaska Superior Court seeking to enjoin ongoing or threatened violations for Department-issued permits and Department statutes and regulations.

4.3 Criminal Action

Under AS 46.03.790(h), a person is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor if the person negligently:

- 4.3.1 Violates a regulation adopted by the Department under AS 46.03.020(12);
- 4.3.2 Violates a permit issued under the program authorized by AS 46.03.020(12);
- 4.3.3 Fails to provide information or provides false information required by a regulation adopted under AS 46.03.020(12);
- 4.3.4 Makes a false statement, representation, or certification in an application, notice, record, report, permit, or other document filed, maintained, or used for purposes of compliance with a permit issued under or a regulation adopted under AS 46.03.020(12); or

- 4.3.5 Renders inaccurate a monitoring device or method required to be maintained by a permit issued or under a regulation adopted under AS 46.03.020(12).

4.4 Other Fines

Upon conviction of a violation of a regulation adopted under AS 46.03.020(12), a defendant who is not an organization may be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$10,000 for each separate violation (AS 46.03.790(g)). A defendant that is an organization may be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding the greater of: (1) \$200,00; (2) three times the pecuniary gain realized by the defendant as a result of the offense; or (3) three times the pecuniary damage or loss caused by the defendant to another, or the property of another, as a result of the offense (AS 12.55.035(c)(B), (c)(2), and (c)(3)).

Appendix B Acronyms

The following acronyms are common terms that may be found in an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) permit.

Abbreviations	Nomenclature
18 AAC 15	Alaska Administrative Code. Title 18 Environmental Conservation, Chapter 15: Administrative Procedures
18 AAC 60	Alaska Administrative Code. Title 18 Environmental Conservation, Chapter 60: Solid Waste Management
18 AAC 70	Alaska Administrative Code. Title 18 Environmental Conservation, Chapter 70: Water Quality Standards
18 AAC 72	Alaska Administrative Code. Title 18 Environmental Conservation, Chapter 72: Wastewater Disposal
18 AAC 83	Alaska Administrative Code. Title 18 Environmental Conservation, Chapter 83: Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

All chapters of Alaska Administrative Code, Title 18 are available at the Alaska Administrative Code database <https://dec.alaska.gov/commish/regulations/statutes/>

40 CFR	Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40: Protection of Environment
AAC	Alaska Administrative Code
APDES	Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
AS	Alaska Statutes
AS 46.03	Alaska Statutes Title 46, Chapter 03: Environmental Conservation. Available at https://www.akleg.gov/basis/statutes.asp#46
BMPs	Best Management Practices
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
DEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
DNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
DMR	Discharge Monitoring Report
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
GP	General Permit
mg/L	Milligrams per Liter
ml/L	Milliliters per Liter
MDL	Method Detection Limit
ML	Minimum Level
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOT	Notice of Termination
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
µg/L	Micrograms per Liter
U.S.C.	United States Code
WQS or WQC	Water Quality Standards or Water Quality Criteria

Appendix C Definitions

The following are common definitions of terms associated with APDES permits. Not all the terms listed may appear in a permit. Consult the footnote references for a complete list of terms and definitions.

Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES)^a – The state’s program, approved by EPA under 33 U.S.C. 1342(b), for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements under 33 U.S.C. 1317, 1328, 1342, and 1345.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)^a - Schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States (U.S.). BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practice to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Clean Water Act (CWA)^a – The federal law codified at 33 U.S.C. 1251-1387, also referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

Construction Activity – Includes, but is not limited to, clearing, grading, excavation, and other site preparation work related to construction of residential buildings and non-residential buildings, and heavy construction (e.g., highways, streets, bridges, tunnels, pipelines, transmission lines and industrial non-building structures).

Criterion^b – A set concentration or limit of a water quality parameter that, when not exceeded, will protect an organism, a population of organisms, a community of organisms, or a prescribed water use with a reasonable degree of safety.

DEC-identified Contaminated Site or Groundwater Plume – A contaminated site or groundwater plume with an “Active” or “Cleanup Complete-Institutional Controls” status identified by DEC Contaminated Sites Program. For assistance in locating mapped contaminated sites or listing of groundwater plumes, see <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/>.

Department^a – The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Discharge^a – When used without qualification, means the discharge of a pollutant.

Effluent^b – The segment of a wastewater stream that follows the final step in a treatment process and precedes discharge of the wastewater stream to the receiving environment.

Estimated – A way to estimate the discharge volume. Approvable estimations include, but are not limited to, the number of persons per day at the facility, seepage volume, noncompliance event volume and weight, etc.

Excavation Dewatering – The practice of dewatering excavation areas through the use of pumps placed within the excavation or well pumps in adjacent dewatering wells which lower the water table to provide a relatively dry working area.

Grab Sample – A single instantaneous sample collected at a particular place and time that represents the composition of wastewater only at that time and place.

Maximum Daily Discharge Limitation^a – Means the highest allowable “daily discharge”.

Method Detection Limit (MDL)^c – Means the minimum concentration of a substance (analyte) that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero and is determined from analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the analyte.

Minimum Level (ML) ^d – Means the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and an acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method-specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed. This level is used as the compliance level if the effluent limit is below it.

Mixing Zone ^b – Means an area in a waterbody surrounding, or downstream of, a discharge where the effluent plume is diluted by the receiving water within which specified water quality criteria may be exceeded.

Month – The time period beginning and ending on the first and last day of a calendar month.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – An expression of the optical property that causes light to be scattered and absorbed rather than transmitted in a straight line through the water.

Permittee – A company, organization, association, entity, or person who is issued a wastewater permit and is responsible for ensuring compliance, monitoring, and reporting as required by the permit.

pH – Means a measure of the hydrogen ion concentration of water or wastewater; expressed as the negative log of the hydrogen ion concentration in mg/L. A pH of 7 is neutral. A pH less than 7 is acidic, and a pH greater than 7 is basic.

Receiving Waterbody – Means lakes, bays, sounds, ponds, impounding reservoirs, springs, wells, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, marshes, inlets, straits, passages, canals, the Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean, in the territorial limits of the state, and all other bodies of surface water, natural or artificial, public or private, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, which are wholly or partially in or bordering the state or under the jurisdiction of the state. (See “Waters of the U.S.” at 18 AAC 83.990(77)).

Settleable Solids ^b – Solid material of organic or mineral origin that is transported by and deposited from water, as measured by the volumetric Imhoff cone method and at the method detection limits specified in method 2540(F), *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater*, 18th edition (1992), adopted by reference in 18 AAC 70.020(c)(1).

Sheen ^b – Means an iridescent appearance on the water surface.

Total Aqueous Hydrocarbons (TAqH) ^b – Means those collective dissolved and water-accommodated monoaromatic and polynuclear aromatic petroleum hydrocarbons that are persistent in the water column; "total aqueous hydrocarbons" does not include floating surface oil or grease.

Total Aromatic Hydrocarbons (TAH) ^b – Means the sum of the following volatile monoaromatic hydrocarbon compounds: benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, and the xylene isomers, commonly called BETX.

waters of the State (WOTS) – as defined in AS 46.03.900 (37) – “waters” includes lakes, bays, sounds, ponds, impounding reservoirs, springs, wells, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, marshes, inlets, straits, passages, canals, the Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and Arctic Ocean, in the territorial limits of the state, and all other bodies of surface or underground water, natural or artificial, public or private, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, which are wholly or partially in or bordering the state or under the jurisdiction of the state.

waters of the United States or waters of the U.S. – Has the meaning given in 18 AAC 83.990(77).

Week – The time period of Sunday through Saturday.