THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF WATER
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program

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December 5, 2017

Subject: Minor Modification of AKG283100 – Geotechnical Surveys in State Waters of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas

On December 31, 2015, the Department of Environmental Conservation (Department or DEC) issued a general permit for AKG283100 – Geotechnical Surveys in State Waters of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. In response to the Phase I implementation of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPAs) Electronic Reporting (eReporting) Rule (40 CFR 127), the Department is issuing a minor modification to the Permit. Phase I of this eReporting rule requires regulated entities to report certain information electronically, instead of filing written paper reports. This minor modification is consistent with Phase I of the eReporting Rule and requires that Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data be reported electronically using the NetDMR portal. Any data (e.g., mixing zone receiving water data) required by your permit to be submitted on a DMR that cannot be reported in a NetDMR field, shall be included as an electronic attachment to your NetDMR submittal.

The following table identifies permit sections that have been modified:

PERMIT SECTION	PERMIT MODIFICATIONS:
New Title Page	NEW: Title page added for the Minor Modification with an effective date of December 5, 2017
Table of Contents	UPDATED TABLE OF CONTENTS: for potential page number changes
Page 21, Section 2.9.1	DELETED FROM SECTION 2.9.1: "to be provided with the permittees authorization or a Department-approved equivalent that provides the same information in a similar format."
Page 21, Section 2.9.2	CHANGED SECTION 2.9.2 TO: "The DMR must be submitted electronically by the 15th day of the following calendar month. The permittee must sign and certify all DMRs, reports, and other submittals in accordance with signatory requirements in Section 1.12 of Appendix A – Standard Conditions."
Page 21, Section 2.9.3	CHANGED SECTION 2.9.3 TO: "Electronic Reporting:"
Page 21, Section 2.9.3.1	ADDED SUBSECTION 2.9.3.1: to update reporting requirements impacted (DMRs) by Phase I of the E-Reporting Rule (40 CFR 127). These updates also describe implementation of the E-Reporting Rule.

Page 21, Section 2.9.3.2	ADDED SUBSECTION 2.9.3.2: to provide information about the implementation of Phase II of the E-Reporting Rule (40 CFR 127).

This letter constitutes the Department's Minor Modification of the above sections and is consistent with regulations at 18 AAC 83.145(a)(6).

The Minor Modification is effective December 5, 2017, and the original expiration date of the permit remains unchanged. The enclosed modified permit pages must be included with onsite copies of the permit for reference.

Other reports required by the permit (e.g., annual reports, etc…) may be to delivered in accordance with Appendix A – Standard Conditions until such time as Phase II of the Electronic Reporting Rule is implemented by the Department and permittee is notified.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Gerry Brown at Gerry.Brown@alaska.gov or (907) 269-4874.

Sincerely,

Wade Strickland

Wade Strickland,
Program Manager

Enclosures: Modified Permit Pages (Title Page, Table of Contents, and pages 5 and 21).

Amber Bennet, DEC – Compliance and Enforcement Program, Fairbanks
Lisa Hart, DEC – Compliance and Enforcement Program, Anchorage

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM FOR GENERAL PERMIT AKG283100 - GEOTECHNICAL SURVEYS IN STATE WATERS OF THE BEAUFORT AND CHUKCHI SEAS

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. The following discharges may be authorized by this permit:

DISCHARGE NUMBER	DISCHARGES DISCRIPTION
001	Water-Based Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings
002	Deck Drainage
003	Domestic Wastewater (as defined in 18 AAC 72.990(23))
004	Graywater (as defined in 18 AAC 72.990(35))
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

Owners and operators of geotechnical facilities engaged in conducting geotechnical surveys, located in the area from the inner boundary of the territorial seas to three nautical miles seaward of the boundary or baseline of coastal waters beginning generally at Point Hope in the west and extending east to the Canadian boundary, are authorized to discharge wastewater to waters of the United States, only in accordance with effluent limits, 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 modification is effective. **December 5, 2017**
This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight on **April 30, 2020**.
The permittee shall reapply for a permit reissuance on or before **January 30, 2020**, 90 days before the expiration of this permit.

Wade Strickland
Signature

December 19, 2017
Date

Wade Strickland
Printed Name

Program Manager
Title

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SCHEDULE OF SUBMISSIONS

The Schedule of Submissions summarizes some of the required submissions and activities the permittee must complete and/or submit to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or the Department) during the term of this permit. The permittee is responsible for all submissions and activities even if they are not summarized below.

Table 1: Schedule of Submissions

Permit Part	Submittal	Frequency	Due Date	Submit Documentation To*
1.1.3.1 and 1.2	Notice of Intent (NOI) to discharge from a new or recommencing geotechnical facility using drilling fluids	Annually	90 days prior to discharge for the first year and 45 days for subsequent years	Permitting
1.1.3.2 and 1.2	NOI to discharge from a new or recommencing geotechnical facility not using drilling fluids	Annually	45 days prior to discharge for the first year and 45 days for subsequent years	Permitting
1.1.3 and 1.2.1.7	Plan Review Submitted or Report supporting Request for Waiver from Minimum Treatment requirements	1/permit cycle	90 days prior to discharge, with submittal of NOI (Attachment 1)	Permitting
1.7	NOI for an existing permittee if the permittee intends to continue operations and discharges beyond the permit term	1/permit cycle	90 days before expiration of the general permit	Permitting
12.1.2	Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan -	Annually	With the NOI for the first year and a BMP certification 45 days prior to discharge for subsequent years	Permitting
1.2.1.1	Drilling Fluids Plan (If Applicable)	Annually	90 days prior to discharge for the first year and 45 days for subsequent years	Permitting
3.1.1	Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)	Annually	45 days prior to discharge or submit with Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP) Study Plan (If Applicable)	Permitting
3.3 and 3.4	EMP Study Plan (If Applicable)	Annually	With, or prior to, the NOI for the first year and 45 days prior to discharge for subsequent years	Permitting
* See Appendix A Part, 1.1 for addresses				

Table 1: Schedule of Submissions

Permit Part	Submittal	Frequency	Due Date	Submit Documentation To*
1.2.2	Report supporting Request for Waiver from Minimum Treatment requirements	As Necessary	90 days prior to discharge for the first year and 45 days for subsequent years	Permitting
2.9.3.2, 3.5, and Appendix A	Annual Report	Annually	By January 15th of the year following geotechnical facility operations and all authorized discharges	Compliance
2.9	Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs)	Monthly	Must be submitted on or before 15th day of following month.	Compliance
Appendix A 3.4.1	Oral notification of noncompliance	As Necessary	Within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances of noncompliance	Compliance
Appendix A 3.4.1	Written documentation of noncompliance	As Necessary	Within 5 days after the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances	Compliance

* See Appendix A Part, 1.1 for addresses

2.8.5 If the permittee monitors any influent, effluent, or surface water characteristic identified in this permit more frequently than required, the results of such monitoring shall be reported to the Department on the discharge monitoring report required under Section 2.9.1.

2.8.6 Daily Records: All flow monitoring results shall be recorded daily. The permittee shall maintain records of all information resulting from any visual inspections, including documentation of visual observation(s) of floating solids, foam, garbage, and oily sheen for the life of the authorization.

2.9 Reporting of Monitoring Requirements

2.9.1 Monitoring required in Section 2.0 – 2.6 and 2.8 (Tables 2 – 6) shall be summarized each month on a DMR per Section 2.9.3.

2.9.2 The DMR must be submitted electronically by the 15th day of the following calendar month. The permittee must sign and certify all DMRs, reports, and other submittals in accordance with signatory requirements in Section 1.12 of Appendix A – Standard Conditions.

2.9.3 Electronic Reporting:

2.9.3.1 E-Reporting Rule for DMRs (Phase I) – The permittee must submit DMR data electronically through NetDMR per Phase I of the E-Reporting Rule (40 CFR 127) upon the effective date of the Permit. Authorized persons may access permit information by logging into NetDMR Portal (http://cdxnodengn.epa.gov/occa-netdmr-web/action/login). DMRs submitted in compliance with the E-Reporting Rule are not required to be submitted as described in Appendix A – Standard Conditions unless requested or approved by the Department. Any DMR data required by the Permit that cannot be reported in a NetDMR field (e.g. mixing zone receiving water data, etc…), shall be included as an attachment to the NetDMR submittal. DEC has established an e-Reporting Information website at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/Compliance/EReportingRule.htm that contains general information about this new reporting format. Training materials and webinars for NetDMR can be found at https://netdmr.zendesk.com/home. Monitoring required in Section 2.0 - 2.6 and 2.8 (Tables 2 – 6) shall be summarized each month on the DEC NetDMR.

2.9.3.2 E-Reporting Rule for Other Reports (Phase II) – Phase II of the E-Reporting rule will integrate electronic reporting for all other reports required by the Permit (e.g., Section 3.4 – Annual Reports) and implementation is expected to begin December 2020. Permittees should monitor DEC's E-Reporting Information website (http://dec.alaska.gov/water/Compliance/EReportingRule.htm) for updates on Phase II of the E-Reporting Rule and will be notified when they must begin submitting all other reports electronically. Until such time, other reports required by the Permit may be submitted in accordance with Appendix A – Standard Conditions.