

Phase I & Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit Modifications

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes to issue modifications for the Phase I and the Phase II Eastern and Western Washington Municipal Stormwater General Permits issued on January 17, 2007.

These modifications address the outcomes of appeals from settlement agreements and the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) orders as they apply to each permit.

You may comment on the draft permit modifications from March 18, 2009, until 5 p.m., May 1, 2009.

You may submit your comments by e-mail to SWPermitComments@ecy.wa.gov. If you submit comments on these modifications, we ask that you reference the specific permit(s) and specific permit section whenever possible.

To view or download an electronic copy of the proposed permit modifications or the fact sheet, please visit: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/permitMOD.html

Workshops and public hearings

During the public comment period, Ecology will host five workshops and two public hearings.

The workshops provide an informal venue in which Ecology will discuss the proposed permit modifications and answer questions about them. The public hearing is a formal hearing process where the public may provide testimony for the official record. Ecology may not respond to questions or comments during the formal hearing.

Ecology will issue an official *Response to Comments* that addresses written comments and oral testimony some time after the close of the public comment period. If public comments cause substantial changes, Ecology may begin another public notice of draft modifications and comment period.

PUBLIC HEARINGS WITH PRE-HEARING WORKSHOP

Moses Lake

April 22, 2009

2:30 p.m.

Moses Lake Fire Station

701 East Third Street

Moses Lake, WA 98837

Tacoma

April 23, 2009

2:00 p.m.

Pierce County Library PAC Bldg.

3005 112th Street East

Tacoma, WA 98446

WORKSHOPS ONLY

Vancouver

March 26, 2009

2:00 p.m.

Vancouver City Council Chambers

210 East 13th Street

Vancouver, WA 98660

Mount Vernon

April 6, 2009

2:00 p.m.

PUD District #1 of Skagit County

1415 Freeway Drive

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Bellevue

April 8, 2009

2:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Ave. NE

Bellevue, WA 98004

Proposed Permit Modifications

You can find a link to Ecology's webpage with copies of the appeals and settlement documents and PCHB rulings at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal>

Ecology modified all three permits for conditions related to compliance with standards; compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load Requirements (water quality cleanup plans); and related changes in general conditions, reporting, definitions, and annual report forms. Ecology also made miscellaneous minor clarifications and corrections to the three permits.

Ecology modified the Phase I Permit conditions for construction and post-construction runoff controls related to manual approval and low-impact development. Ecology added Appendix 10 to the permit to list the Phase I permittee documents approved by Ecology. And, to comply with PCHB orders and settlement agreements, Ecology changed requirements for structural stormwater controls; clarified water cleanup plan requirements in Snohomish County; exempted mitigation sites at the Ports of Tacoma and Seattle from certain requirements; and changed monitoring requirements.

Ecology modified the Western Washington Phase II permit to add reporting requirements on advancing the use of low-impact development. In the Eastern Washington Phase II permit, Ecology added requirements for the Selah Ditch Total Maximum Daily Load that apply to the City of Selah.

Ecology is also looking for input on options for extending interim deadlines in the permit as well as innovative and cost-saving ideas to achieve compliance with the permit at a lower cost. Ecology does not intend to reduce the permit standards, or extend the timelines beyond this permit cycle, which ends February 16, 2012. We are looking for ways to improve performance and reduce costs in light of the economic situation.



Submit Comments by mail to:

Municipal Permit Comments
WA Department of Ecology
Water Quality Program
PO Box 47696
Olympia, WA 98504-7696

Questions?

Phase I Permit
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Phase II Permits
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Special accommodations:

To ask about the availability of this document in a version for the visually impaired, call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6000. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.