



Fact Sheet

Electronic Reporting Waivers for Water Quality Permits

What is an electronic reporting waiver?

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality may grant a waiver that allows a permitted facility to submit physical reports rather than electronic reports to meet requirements of its National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) water quality permit.

DEQ may grant a permittee a temporary waiver from the NPDES electronic reporting requirements if the reporting facility meets the following criteria:

1. Is physically located in a geographic area (such as zip code or census tract) that is identified as underserved for broadband Internet access in the most recent [National Broadband Map from the Federal Communications Commission](#); or
2. Demonstrates that such electronic reporting of the monitoring data and reports would pose an unreasonable burden or expense to the NPDES-permitted facility.

Temporary waivers are valid for five years from the date of approval. A permittee may reapply for a new waiver if the waiver criteria are still met at the time of expiration.

A permittee may be granted a permanent waiver from the NPDES electronic reporting requirements if the facility is owned or operated by a member of a religious community that chooses not to use certain modern technologies (such as computers or electricity).

Approved electronic reporting waivers are not transferrable to another owner or operator. Only permittees with approved electronic reporting waivers can submit certified monitoring data and reports on paper to DEQ for the period that the approved reporting waiver is effective.

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800-452-4011 | TTY: 711 | deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov

How do I apply for a waiver?

To be considered for a waiver, a permittee must first obtain and submit a *Temporary or Permanent Electronic Reporting Waiver Application* to the appropriate DEQ regional office with the annual fee for an electronic reporting waiver (see [Oregon Administrative Rules 340-045-0075 Table 70F](#)).

DEQ will invoice waiver recipients annually during the valid waiver term.

The submission of an application does not guarantee the waiver request will be granted. If you have questions, or to check the status of your application, please contact your DEQ regional office.

A permittee can reapply for a new waiver if the waiver criteria will still be met at the time of waiver expiration. Permittees should reapply no later than 60 days prior to the waiver's expiration.

How do I contact Oregon DEQ Regional Offices?

Call or write to the regional DEQ office assigned to your county (listed below) for the waiver form and more information about applying for the waiver.

DEQ Eastern Region

800 SE Emigrant Ave, Suite 330
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-276-4063

Counties: Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Marrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler

DEQ Northwest Region

700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232-4100
503-229-5696

Counties: Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Tillamook, Washington

DEQ Western Region

165 East 7th Avenue, Suite 100
Eugene, OR 97401
541-686-7838

Counties: Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Yamhill

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