Under state and federal regulation, the 1200-Z National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System industrial stormwater general permit must be renewed every five years. DEQ has authority under Oregon Administrative Rules to issue general permits by rule and by order. DEQ will issue the next 1200-Z industrial stormwater permit renewal by rule. Due to the large number of permit registrants, broad public interest and technical complexities, DEQ has determined that the rulemaking process is appropriate.

Q. Why is the permit renewal going through the rulemaking process?
A. The rulemaking process includes the public and stakeholders in the process ensuring transparency for all interested.

Q. What is included in the rulemaking process?
A. This rulemaking will include:
   - Five to six meetings of a nine-person advisory committee
   - Fiscal and economic impact evaluation
   - A public hearing
   - Public comment period of draft rule language and permit documents
   - Presentation and recommendation for adoption to the Environmental Quality Commission
   - Filing the permit and associated rule language with the Secretary of State

Q. Can the public attend the advisory committee meetings?
A. All the advisory committee meetings are open to the public in person, by webinar and conference line.

Q. Who is on the advisory committee?
A. The advisory committee is composed of representatives from environmental groups, private consultants, regulators and industry groups. A roster and associated documents as well as meeting locations and times may be found at the rulemaking website.

Q. How can I receive notification?
A. There is a ‘Get Involved’ section at the top of DEQ’s webpage where anyone can find news releases, sign up for email updates, view public notices and calendar of events. In addition, DEQ issues an industrial stormwater newsletters which include: compliance tips, deadline reminders, permit renewal public meeting notices and frequently asked questions. Sign up on the industrial stormwater permits webpage under newsletter subscriptions.

Q. What is the timeline of the permit renewal?
A. DEQ intends to have a proposed draft permit for public comment in fall 2020 with the goal of issuing a revised final permit in March 2021. The current permit expires July 2022.

Q. Where can I find more information?
A. Sign up for GovDelivery for stormwater and rulemaking topics. Follow DEQs’ industrial stormwater and rulemaking websites or contact Krista Ratliff at ratliff.krista@deq.state.or.us or 541-633-2033.

Q. What will be considered during the 1200-Z general permit renewal?
A. Benchmarks are currently the national standard for industrial stormwater regulation. However, DEQ will consider whether industry-specific or waterbody-specific numeric limits
are feasible and appropriate for Oregon. Benchmarks and reference concentrations for impairment pollutants are guideline concentrations, not numeric effluent limits. A benchmark or reference concentration exceedance, therefore, is not a permit violation. Benchmark monitoring assists the permit registrant in determining whether site controls are effectively reducing pollutant concentrations in stormwater discharged from the site.