



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Virtual Public Hearing About Proposed 100-J Water Quality General Permit Renewal

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT

Permit name: 100-J non-contact cooling water

Permit type: Water Quality General Permit

Hearing details: Thursday, June 22 at 11 a.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpc-rpjoIG9Oq5lOxryjpBm6KbuGtw8av>

Send written comments to:

By mail: Beth Moore, Oregon DEQ
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, OR
97232-4100

By email: npdesgeneralpermit@deq.state.or.us

Comments due by: Monday, June 26 at 5 p.m.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites the public to provide written comments and attend a public hearing to provide verbal comments on the conditions of the 100-J proposed water quality general permit, known officially as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

Summary

Subject to public review and comment, DEQ intends to renew the proposed 100-J water quality permit. DEQ develops and issues water quality general permits for certain categories of minor discharges or minor activities. DEQ last renewed this permit in 1996.

About the permit

This permit is for non-contact cooling water discharges to waters of the state. Non-contact cooling water is not in direct contact with any raw material or material used in production. A discharge may occur as once through non-contact cooling water, recycled non-contact cooling water, defrost water, heat pump transfer water and cooling tower blowdown. This permit covers industrial and commercial facilities that discharge no more than 0.5 million gallons per day. This permit also covers cooling water and sump wastewater discharges from a hydroelectric facilities.

The permit is not for all waters of the state. Permit coverage is not provided for a discharge to outstanding resource waters, the ocean or bays.

A Total Maximum Daily Load is a cleanup plan for water. There are some TMDLs that do not provide for a new discharge. This permit does not allow a new discharge to water consistent with these TMDLs.

Permit coverage is not provided for all industrial and hydroelectric facilities. This permit does not provide permit coverage for steam electric power generating facilities that are required to meet effluent limit guidelines at 40 CFR Part 423 or hydroelectric facilities that adjoin two states.

Translation or other formats

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

Cooling water intake structure technology requirements for industrial facilities and hydroelectric facilities are implemented through NPDES permits. Any facility that uses surface water for cooling is required to provide CWIS documentation for permit coverage.

What types of pollutants does the permit regulate?

This permit sets conditions for how industrial and hydroelectric facilities deal with the following pollutants: temperature, total residual chlorine, pH, oil and grease. For industrial sources, a discharge of toxic pollutants from biocides or water treatment chemicals containing chromium, copper, zinc, chlorinated phenols or other toxic pollutants is prohibited.

A land application plan is an option for a facility that proposes to land apply wastewater at times when discharge limits cannot be met.

Would the draft permit change the amount of pollution the facility is allowed to release?

Yes. Propose changes to permit are summarized below:

Parameter	Change
0.5 million gallon per day discharge	No change for industrial facilities
Regulatory mixing zone	Updated
Temperature, pH	Updated
Total residual chlorine	Updated
Toxics	No change for industrial facilities
Oil and Grease	New
Land Application	Updated

How did DEQ determine permit requirements?

DEQ evaluates types and amounts of pollutants and the water quality of the surface water or groundwater where the pollutants are proposed to be discharged and determines permit requirements to ensure the proposed discharges will meet applicable statutes, rules, regulations and effluent guidelines of Oregon and the federal Clean Water Act.

For this proposed general permit action, DEQ applied the 2003 and subsequent water quality criteria for temperature and thermal plumes, temperature total maximum daily loads approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, cooling water intake structure requirements, water quality-based effluent limits for total residual chlorine and land application requirements.

In addition to the basis for permit requirements noted above, DEQ has exercised discretion in establishing monitoring/reporting requirements and identifying applicable data for analyses.

Discretion exists when DEQ has the power to make a choice about whether to act or not act, to approve or not approve, or to approve with conditions. The role of the decision-maker is to make a judgment that takes all relevant information into account.

The fact sheet for this permit contains more information.

How does DEQ monitor compliance with the permit requirements?

This permit will require each facility to monitor pollutants discharged using approved monitoring practices and standards. DEQ reviews discharge monitoring reports to check for compliance with permit limits.

What happens next?

Submit comments by sending an email or using mail service addressed to the permit coordinator listed in the “how to provide public comment” box above.

DEQ will consider and respond to all comments received and may modify the proposed permit based on comments. DEQ gives equal weight to written and verbal comments.

For more information

Find more information by reviewing draft permit documents at this DEQ web page: 100-J General NPDES Permit <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/wqpermits/Pages/100jinformation.aspx> or contact Beth Moore at 503-229-6402 or beth.moore@deq.oregon.gov with questions or to view documents in person at a DEQ office.

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex in administration of its programs or activities. Visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).