



# General NPDES Permits Guidance for Industrial Stormwater Discharges

Water Division  
Industrial/Municipal Branch  
Industrial General Permit Section

## *Foreword*

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### Introduction

Activities that take place at industrial facilities, such as material handling and storage, are often exposed to the weather. As runoff from rain comes into contact with these activities, it can pick up pollutants and transport them to a nearby storm sewer system or directly to a river, lake, or coastal water. To minimize the impact of stormwater discharges from industrial facilities, the Alabama NPDES program includes an industrial stormwater permitting component. The Department developed general permits covering 19 categories of industrial activity that require authorization under an NPDES industrial general permit for stormwater, or non-stormwater in the case of discharges such as noncontact cooling water or hydrostatic testing. General Permits primarily address industrial storm water discharges.

General permits are "one-size-fits-all" types of permits that significantly restrict the manner in which a specific type of regulated activity may be carried out. The term, "general," is commonly used in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. General permits are best suited for the regulation of numerous, very similar, and generally smaller facilities and sources that have low levels of emissions and discharges. General Permits are written for a type of industry, such as the salvage industry or the transportation industry. Under the Federal regulations, facilities with certain Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Codes must have their stormwater covered under an NPDES Permit or they must achieve, maintain, and certify to "no industrial exposure."

The possible environmental impacts associated with one salvage yard can reasonably be expected to be about the same as the environmental impact associated with all other salvage yards of similar size. So long as the applicant agrees to conduct its proposed activities under the pre-set limits established by the effective general permit, it will be able to operate under any general permit for which it is eligible. In this example of salvage yards, the facility is issued a permit which is renewable every five years. (The rules governing these permits are found in chapter 335-6-6-.23 of the ADEM Code.)

Thus, general permits have been created for these "cookie-cutter" types of activities. Because there are so many sources or facilities involved statewide in the types of activities allowable under a general permit, ADEM is able to save a great deal of staff time and state resources by using them. Instead of considering individual or "custom" permit requests for common and widespread activities, ADEM's general permits ensure that the environment is protected from the effect of salvage yards or other "like" activities.

Facilities and sources whose discharges could have a significant environmental impact are not covered under a general permit. Individual permits are written specifically for such facilities. Furthermore, facilities or sources operating under a general permit, for which the Department determines that stricter permit conditions are needed in order to meet state water quality standards, will be required to operate under an individual permit. (In addition, any wastewater discharge into a receiving stream classified as an outstanding state resource or exceptional use water is not eligible to obtain or operate under a general permit.)

The nineteen source categories of industrial general permits established by the Department are found in the table on page 2.

## General NPDES Permit Guidance

General Permits expire according to the dates below.

	<b>Expiration</b>	<b>NOI Form Number</b>
<b>ALG020000 ASPHALT PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	387
<b>ALG030000 BOAT/SHIP PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	393
<b>ALG060000 LUMBER &amp; WOOD PERMIT</b>	6/30/2012	396
<b>ALG110000 CONCRETE PERMIT</b>	8/31/2012	380
<b>ALG120000 METALS PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	381
<b>ALG140000 TRANSPORTATION PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	382
<b>ALG150000 FOOD PERMIT</b>	5/31/2017	383
<b>ALG160000 LANDFILL PERMIT</b>	1/31/2017	384
<b>ALG170000 PAINT PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	385
<b>ALG180000 SALVAGE/RECYCLING PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	386
<b>ALG200000 PLASTIC &amp; RUBBER PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	388
<b>ALG230000 STONE/GLASS/CLAY PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	389
<b>ALG240000 TEXTILE PERMIT</b>	9/30/2012	390
<b>ALG250000 NCCW PERMIT</b>	3/31/2017	391
<b>ALG280000 OFFSHORE PERMIT</b>	3/31/2015	392
<b>ALG340000 PETROLEUM PERMIT</b>	1/31/2017	394
<b>ALG360000 HYDROELECTRIC PERMIT</b>	1/31/2016	395
<b>ALG640000 WATER TREATMENT PERMIT</b>	6/30/2013	522
<b>ALG670000 HYDROSTATIC TEST PERMIT</b>	6/30/2012	397
<b>NO EXPOSURE CERTIFICATION (FOR EXCLUSION FROM NPDES PERMITTING)</b>	None	EPA 3510-11

In order to be in compliance with ADEM Admin. Code r. 335-6-6-.23(15), you must apply for an initial permit 30 days prior to discharge and a permit renewal at least 90 days in advance of permit expiration.

## General NPDES Permit Guidance

### **New Application/Renewal Process:**

Determine which category applies to your particular business and note the Notice of Intent (NOI) application form number (see table on opposite page or the forms table found on page 5) . Go online at <http://www.adem.state.al.us/DeptForms/default.cnt> to download the form.

1. Complete the General Permit Notice of Intent (NOI) in its entirety. The application is available:
  - a. on the internet at the website listed above;
  - b. by calling (334) 271-7799 (Water Division, Industrial General Permit Section); or,
  - c. by writing to the address below.The responsible official must sign the NOI.
2. Enclose a check for \$770.00 (permit fee) made payable to ADEM (Alabama Department of Environmental Management). Please, reference your permit number on the check.
3. Mail to:  
Alabama Department of Environmental Management  
Water Division  
Industrial General Permit Section  
P.O. Box 301463  
Montgomery, AL 36130-1463
4. If there have been operational changes and/or if your present permit does not accurately reflect the current industrial activities at your facility, you should contact the Department at the number listed above for instruction.

At the end of this document, you will find an easy reference fact sheet and forms table to print and keep for future reference.

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## General NPDES Permit Guidance

### BRIEF FACTS

<b>Description:</b>	Covers stormwater from Industrial/Small Municipal activities [ADEM Admin. Code chapter 335-6-6]		
<b>Issuing Division:</b> Water	<b>Branch:</b> Industrial/Municipal		
<b>When is a permit required?</b>	see below		
<b>Permit is required</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> before construction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> before operation	<input type="checkbox"/> before discharge
<b>Approximate # Days from complete application to permit coverage:</b>	30-60 days (average)		
<b>Notes on approval timeline:</b>	Application required at least 30 days prior to starting the industrial activity associated with the storm water discharge, or for non-storm water (i.e., non-contact cooling water, hydrostatic test, etc.) prior to discharge. To reapply, at least 90 days prior to expiration.		
<b>Local approval required?</b>	No		
<b>Application Procedure:</b>	Submit NOI application form with appropriate fee.		
<b>Base permit fee:</b>	\$770		
<b>Additive fees:</b>	NA		
<b>Term of permit:</b>	5 or fewer years depending on when a request for coverage is submitted.		
<b>Public notice required?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Length of notice:</b> NA
<b>Public hearing required?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Departmental discretion/based on comments
<b>ADEM Contact Person:</b>	Lee Warren	<b>Phone:</b> (334) 271-7845	
	Marla Smith (MS4s)	<b>Phone:</b> (334) 270-5616	
<b>Additional Information:</b>	Monitoring plan may be required if the MS4 has the potential to impact 303(d) or TMDL-listed waters.		

## General NPDES Permit Guidance

### FORMS

Form #	Form Name	Applicability/Notes
380	General Permit Application Package – NOI 11	Concrete Batch Plants
381	General Permit Application Package – NOI 12	Metals
382	General Permit Application Package – NOI 14	Transportation and Warehousing
383	General Permit Application Package – NOI 15	Food
384	General Permit Application Package – NOI 16	Landfills
385	General Permit Application Package – NOI 17	Paint
386	General Permit Application Package – NOI 18	Salvage and Recycling
387	General Permit Application Package – NOI 2	Asphalt
388	General Permit Application Package – NOI 20	Plastic and Rubber
389	General Permit Application Package – NOI 23	Stone, Glass, and Clay
390	General Permit Application Package – NOI 24	Textiles
391	General Permit Application Package – NOI 25	Noncontact Cooling Water and Boiler Blowdown
392	General Permit Application Package – NOI 28	Offshore Oil and Gas
393	General Permit Application Package – NOI 3	Boat and Shipbuilding and Repair
394	General Permit Application Package – NOI 34	Petroleum Products
395	General Permit Application Package – NOI 36	Hydroelectric
396	General Permit Application Package – NOI 6	Lumber, Wood, and Paper Board
397	General Permit Application Package – NOI 67	Hydrostatic Test Water
450	Representative Stormwater Outfall certification	
466	Transfer Agreement Form	
510	Cooling Water Supplemental Information	Applies to cooling water intake structures for surface water withdrawals.
520	General Phase II MS4 Stormwater Permit Issuance/Renewal Notice of Intent	Applies to Phase II MS4s
522	General Permit Application Package—NOI 64	Water Treatment Plants



