

FACT SHEET

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE DISCHARGE OF STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY REISSUANCE WITHOUT MODIFICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2023

1. Permit Overview

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (“DEEP”) is reissuing and administering the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Commercial Activity (“Commercial Stormwater General Permit”) under the authority of Section 22a-430b of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended by Public Act 91-263. DEEP’s stormwater general permit program was developed pursuant to EPA’s Stormwater Rule, and Connecticut’s stormwater permits are issued under the authority of the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program and Connecticut General Statutes Section 22a-430 and 22a-430b. DEEP first issued the Commercial Stormwater General Permit on August 1, 1995. The Commercial Stormwater General Permit has been reissued since then, most recently on September 10, 2020. The purpose of the Commercial Stormwater General Permit is to protect waters of the state from stormwater runoff associated with commercial activities.

The reissued Commercial Stormwater General Permit authorizes new and continued discharges of stormwater runoff to waters of the state from certain commercial activities with Standard Industrial Classification (“SIC”) codes primarily in Divisions G and I (SIC codes beginning with 5 or 7) of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual (Office of Management and Budget, 1987) that have more than five (5) acres of impervious surfaces on-site. As of this date, there are 220 commercial sites across the state currently authorized by the Commercial Stormwater General Permit.

The requirements of the Commercial Stormwater General Permit include registration to obtain permit coverage and development and implementation of a Stormwater Management Plan (“SMP”).

2. Stormwater Management Plan

The SMP contains requirements for commercial activities to describe and manage their operations and contains stormwater management measures to reduce or eliminate the potential for the discharge of stormwater runoff pollutants from a commercial activity. There are ten (10) required stormwater management measures in the Commercial Stormwater General Permit including: designation of a pollution prevention team; implementation of a site sweeping plan; requirements for proper outside storage; restrictions on wash water discharges; development of a spill control plan; implementation of a maintenance and inspection program; development of an employee training program; conducting a Comprehensive Annual Stormwater Evaluation and Inspection; record keeping protocol; and measures to address future construction.

Permittees are required to update their SMP annually and also whenever: there is a change at the site that may affect stormwater discharges; there is a change in the pollution prevention team; the actions

of the SMP fail to adequately protect against pollution; or the Commissioner requests modification of the SMP.

3. Reissuance of the General Permit Without Modifications

The current general permit expired on May 14, 2022. In order to provide permit coverage for the regulated community, **the Commercial Stormwater General Permit is reissued without modifications for a 2 (two) year period from the date of issuance by the Commissioner.** DEEP is not requiring existing permittees to submit registration forms as part of this reissuance. Permittees are required to comply with all elements of the Commercial Stormwater General Permit to ensure their discharge(s) will not cause pollution. The Commissioner intends to issue the Commercial Stormwater General Permit with modifications prior to or upon expiration of the reissued Commercial Stormwater General Permit.

4. Fees

The Commercial Stormwater General Permit requires a prorated registration fee of \$300.00 for all new registrations.

5. Other Requirements

The Commercial Stormwater General Permit contains narrative discharge quality requirements compliant with the Connecticut Water Quality Standards (Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section 22a-426 et. al.).