

## General Permit for the Discharge of **Dewatering and Remediation Wastewaters**

**Fact Sheet** 

This fact sheet sets forth the significant factual, legal, and policy considerations examined during preparation of this draft master general permit. This action has been prepared in accordance with the Connecticut State Statutes and its implementing regulations, the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. Issuance of a general permit serves to simplify and streamline the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") and state groundwater permitting process by authorizing multiply similar activities under one permit in leu of each facility having to obtain an individual permit. This general permit provides permit conditions and limitations to protect waters of the State from pollution.







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## 1 General Permit History & Authority

In 1965 the Connecticut Clean Water Task Force was commissioned to investigate the condition of rivers and harbors in Connecticut. The Connecticut Clean Water Task Force developed an action program called Clean Water for Connecticut in 1966. On May 1, 1967, Connecticut's Clean Water Bill was signed into law, inaugurating the state's modern water pollution control program. The Connecticut Water Quality Standards were then approved by the federal government in 1970. A year later the Department of Environmental Protection was created, and Congress began drafting the federal legislation for the first national Clean Water Act using Connecticut's Clean Water Act as a guide.

Congress passed the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 ("Clean Water Act" or "CWA") on October 18, 1972, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., with the objective to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." section 101(a), 33 U.S.C. 1251(a). To help achieve this objective, the CWA provides that "the discharge of any pollutant by any person shall be unlawful" except in compliance with other provisions of the statute, CWA section 301(a), 33 U.S.C. 1311(a).

Pursuant to the CWA and Title 22a 430 of the Connecticut General Statutes, any person who initiates or creates a discharge of pollutants to the waters of the state must first obtain a permit authorizing the discharge. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") is a delegated authority to implement the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Program. In accordance with this delegation, DEEP has been provided the authority to promulgate regulations and issue permits in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS") and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA").

DEEP is authorized to administer a Pretreatment Program pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR") Part 403 in accordance with section 22a-430 of Chapter 446k of the CGS and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") adopted thereunder, as amended, and a modified Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) dated June 3, 1981, by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

DEEP issued the first general permit for remedial discharges to POTWs on July 29, 1996, the *General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater to a Sanitary Sewer* ("1996 permit"). The *General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater to a Surface Water* was first issued on February 9, 2005 ("2005 permit"). These general permits were later combined into the *General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater*, issued February 21, 2018 ("2018 permit").

The General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater, issued February 17, 2023, is being reissued as the General Permit for the Discharge of Dewatering and Remediation Wastewaters ("the general permit"). In addition to discharges to Class B waters, discharges to Class AA, Class A and Class SA waters, are authorized if the discharges meet the criteria in the regulations and if there are no alternative discharge options other than a discharge to surface water.

#### 2 Authorization Under This General Permit

Activities eligible for authorized under this general permit are restricted to the discharge of dewatering and remediation wastewaters to surface waters and publicly owned treatment works ("POTWs") that meet the requirements and conditions contained in the permit. Dewatering discharges include wastewaters generated from activities such as, pumping accumulated stormwater or groundwater from an excavation, pumping water from a cofferdam, wastewater generated by removing/replacing an underground storage tank, or pumping surface water that has been diverted onto a construction site. Remediation discharges include

wastewaters generated during remediation activities in connection with the investigation of pollution or the result of remediating polluted groundwater, sediment, or soil.

The general permit also contains two subcategories for discharges lasting no more than thirty (30) days. These subcategories are referred to as "short-term" discharges in the general permit and are applicable to (1) wastewaters from the replacement of petroleum underground storage tanks ("UST"); and (2) emergency discharges.

Emergency discharges include wastewater resulting from an emergency response, unexpected release, or underground storage tank release, that occurs to avoid imminent endangerment to human health, public safety, property, or the environment. If the emergency discharge is expected to or exceed 30 days, the permittee must obtain the applicable permit coverage. After 30 days the discharge is no longer considered an emergency.

## 3 Tiered Disposal Options

The Department encourages those that initiate and maintain a discharge of dewatering or remediation wastewaters to make best efforts to connect to a POTW and limit discharges to surface waters where adverse environmental impacts may occur. For any discharge located at a site served by POTW sanitary sewer, the discharge shall be directed to a sanitary sewer, unless a qualified professional has determined it to be impracticable.

The permittee is responsible for retaining appropriate documentation for the chosen disposal option utilized at the facility for as long as the activity is authorized under the general permit. Failure to connect to an available POTW may result in the termination of permit coverage under this general permit. Wastewater disposal options resulting in a discharge to a surface water shall be the last and final resort. The Department expects the permittee to evaluate all disposal options under the guidance of a qualified professional and retain documentation of such evaluation.

Should the sanitary sewer become available (meaning the area of service has expanded), the disposal option must be updated, and the discharge of wastewater must be connected to POTW within two (2) years of the sanitary sewer becoming available, unless a qualified professional has determined it to be impracticable. The permittee shall retain records of such connection in accordance with the record keeping requirements of the general permit.

## 4 Registration and Permit Authorization

Facilities with existing permit coverage as of March 1, 2025, under the *General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater*, issued February 17, 2023, are eligible for continued permit coverage under the general permit on an interim basis provided a complete registration is filed with the Commissioner on or before 60 days from the effective date of this general permit. Authorization to discharge under this general permit shall be terminated 61 days after the effective date of the permit if the permittee fails to register their existing discharges in accordance with the requirements of this general permit.

#### 4.1 Short-Term Discharges

Registration is not required for short-term discharges occurring as a result of petroleum UST replacement and emergency discharges lasting no more than 30 consecutive days. Authorization under this general permit is granted the day such discharges are initiated. Emergency discharges lasting more than 30 days must file a registration with the Commissioner.

#### **4.2 Non Short-Term Discharges**

All other activities seeking to discharge under the authority of this general permit shall file a complete registration with the Commissioner. Facilities required to register must obtain an Approval of Registration (or Notice of Coverage) prior to initiating the discharge. The discharge is authorized under this general permit on the date the Commissioner issues the Approval of Registration based on the information provided by the application and administrative record.

## 4.3 Registration Requirements

All applications or registrations shall be filed with DEEP on forms prescribed and provided by the Commissioner. Contents of the registration are contained in Section 3 of the general permit. All fees must be paid before DEEP will process the application.

#### 4.4 Registration Modification

If a permittee with an existing authorization under this general permit seeks to modify the approved activity, a modified registration form must be submitted to DEEP prior to the modification occurring and, if approvable the permittee must obtain a Modified Approval of Registration from DEEP prior to any expansion, alteration, or modification that may result in (1) a change to the nature of the activity generating the discharge (2) the introduction of a new source of dewatering or remediation water; (3) the introduction of a new pollutant that was not present in a discharge at the time of registration; (4) an increase in the maximum daily flow, or (5) a relocation of the discharge to a different receiving water. Contents of a modified application are described in Section 3 of the general permit.

Treatment system modifications do not require DEEP approval, contingent on the permittee's compliance with the general permit. The permittee must notify the Commissioner at least 30 days prior to altering its wastewater collection or treatment system, or its method of operation as described in Section 3 of the general permit.

## 5 General Permit Conditions. Prohibitions, and Limits

#### 5.1 Permit Conditions and Prohibitions

The general permit contains the following conditions and prohibitions:

- 5.1.1 No discharge shall contain, or cause in the receiving stream, a visible oil sheen or floating solids; or cause visible discoloration or foaming.
- 5.1.2 No discharge shall cause acute or chronic toxicity in the receiving water body.
- 5.1.3 The discharge shall not increase the temperature of the receiving stream above 85°F, or, in any case, raise the normal temperature of the receiving stream more than 4°F beyond any zone of influence allocated to that discharge in this general permit.
- 5.1.4 There shall be no discharge of polychlorinated biphenyl ("PCBs") compounds or mercury beyond permit limits.
- 5.1.5 The general permit expressly prohibits:
  - The discharge of any sludge and/or bottom deposits from any storage tank or basin.
  - Wastewater from washout of concrete.
  - Wastewater from washout and/or cleanout of stucco, paint, form release oils, curing

- compounds, and other construction materials.
- Fuels, oils, or other pollutants used in vehicle and equipment operation and maintenance, except as authorized under this general permit.
- Soaps, solvents, or detergents used in vehicle and equipment washing or external building washdown.
- Toxic or hazardous substances from a spill or other release, except as authorized under this general permit.
- Radioactive material as defined by section 22a-148 of the CGS.
- 5.1.6 Dilution is expressly prohibited as a form of treatment.
- 5.1.7 The general permit also references the prohibitions listed in 22a 430-4(t) of the RCSA for discharges to a POTW. No discharge may for any reason cause or threaten, either singly or in combination with other discharges:
  - Interference with or adverse effect upon the operation of the POTW.
  - Interference with or adverse effect upon the POTW's sludge handling, use or disposal, including but not limited to noncompliance with section 405 CWA, the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Marine Protection Act or any local or state laws, regulations or ordinances.
  - The POTW to exceed its influent design loading parameters.
  - The POTW to violate its permit, including but not limited to exceeding its permit limits.
  - A worsening of any condition which is causing the POTW to exceed its influent design loading parameters or violate its permit.
  - Pass through any substance into the receiving waters which then causes or threatens pollution.

## No discharge to a POTW may contain:

- Any substance which causes or threatens a fire or explosion hazard in the POTW.
- Any substance which causes or threatens corrosive structural damage to the POTW. In no case shall a substance with a pH less than 5.0 be discharged unless the POTW is specifically designed to accommodate such a discharge.
- Solid or viscous wastes in amounts which cause or threaten obstruction to flow in the sewers.
- Heat in such amounts that the temperature of the POTW influent exceeds 104°F, unless the POTW is designed to accommodate such heat.

## 5.2 Discharges to Surface Waters - Permit Conditions and Effluent Limits

Discharges to a surface water under the authority of this general permit shall not exceed and shall otherwise conform to the specific terms and conditions listed in Section 4, Table A: Effluent Limits for Surface Water Discharges, and Table B: Site Specific Effluent Limits for Surface Water Discharges, of the general permit.

#### 5.2.1 Table A: Effluent Limits for Surface Water Discharges

Table A contains numeric water quality and technology based effluent limits for discharges to a surface water.

The 2005 General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater to a Surface Water identified pollutants of the concern. The 2018 permit expanded on this list and

added protective limits.

For the renewal of this general permit, DEEP performed a technical analysis of the data from the Discharge Monitoring Reports ("DMRs") submitted since 2018. DEEP's evaluation found 94% of the permittees met a Whole Effluent Toxicity limit of No Observable Effect Limit in undiluted samples of the discharges. Based on this information, DEEP determined that most of the numeric effluent limits continue to be protective of the waters of the state and therefore the most stringent values are carried forward from the previous permits. Below is a summary of parameters included in this general permit and any changes made to permit limits from the previous iterations of the permit.

#### 5.2.1.1 Parameters from the 2005 Permit

Whole effluent toxicity, ammonia, base neutral and acid extractables ("bna"), mercury, chlorinated herbicides, MTBE, organochlorine pesticides, PCBs, pH, phenols, phthalate esters, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons ("PAHs"), total petroleum hydrocarbons and volatile organics ("VOCs").

#### 5.2.1.2 Parameters from the in 2018 Permit

- Chlorinated herbicide limits were lowered in 2018
- Effluent limit for mercury was reduced to non-detect.
- Effluent limit for organochlorine pesticides was reduced to non-detect.
- Effluent limit for total suspended solids was added based on the values in 22a-430-4(s).

#### 5.2.1.3 Parameters modified in this General Permit

- Based on the results of data analysis, the limits for total VOCs were reduced to 10.0 ug/l, regardless of the receiving waterbody classification. The 2005 permit included limits based on the waterbody classification, 10 ug/l for Class A and 50 ug/l for Class B. The data analysis indicated the median value for total VOCs was 3.26 ug/l; and this is likely due to the similar types of wastewater treatment technologies employed for similar activities. Based on this evaluation, DEEP is including a technology based effluent limit, based on best professional judgement and demonstrated performance of 10.0 ug/l for all discharges, regardless of water body classification. Registrants will still be sampling for individual VOCs.
- Effluent limits for chlorinated herbicides were reduced to nondetect.

#### 5.2.1.4 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Limits

This general permit requires all discharges meet a WET limit of No Observable Effect Limit ("NOEL") in an undiluted sample of the discharge. The NOEL requires 90% of the test population survive in a 48-hour test period.

#### 5.2.2 Table B: Site Specific Effluent Limits for Surface Water Discharges

The permit includes permit limits and conditions to meet all applicable narrative and numeric water quality standards, criteria and associated policies contained in Section 22a-426 of the RCSA, Connecticut Water Quality Standards. Numeric water quality based effluent limitations (WQBEL) were calculated for all parameters with an instream water quality criteria. Each parameter was evaluated for consistency with the available aquatic life criteria (acute and chronic) and human health (fish consumption only) criteria, considering the instream waste concentrations ("IWC"). These parameters and limits are included in Table

B of the general permit.

WQBEL calculations were performed using the following assumptions: (1) a CV value of 0.6, (2) Fresh water, (3) a Class AA, A, B receiving stream, for acute/chronic aquatic criteria, (4) a Class AA, A receiving stream for human health criteria, and (4) four samples per month.

Since the 2005 permit, WQBEL calculations have been performed assuming an IWC of either one percent (1%) or ten percent (10%). However, a review of the registrations submitted for the general permit since 2018 found that discharges had a flow exceeding ten percent (10%) of the receiving stream's 7Q10. Therefore, given that this is a general permit that authorizes discharges to surface waters of various flows, DEEP was required to develop limits using bracketed and variable IWCs to provide necessary flexibility and protection required to meet instream water quality standards. WQBELs were developed assuming IWCs of 10%, 25% and 100%. The limits in the general permit are instantaneous maximums based on the calculated average monthly WQBELs.

WQBELs were developed for: arsenic, barium, beryllium, boron, cadmium, total residual chlorine, chromium (total and hexavalent), cobalt, copper, cyanide, lead, magnesium, nickel, selenium, silver, thallium, tin, vanadium, and zinc.

WQBELs for barium, boron, cobalt, magnesium, thallium, tin, and vanadium were introduced in this general permit. Based on a review of the parameters in the permit, the limit for amendable cyanide was removed as the parameter is captured and part of the total cyanide parameter.

# 5.3 Discharges to Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) – Permit Limits and Effluent Limits

Discharges to a POTW under the authority of this general permit shall not exceed and shall otherwise conform to the specific terms and conditions listed in Section 4.2.2., Table C: Effluent Limits for POTW Discharges, of the general permit. Limits for discharges to a POTW have not changed significantly since the *General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater to a Sanitary Sewer* issued on July 29, 1996. The 2018 permit refined a number of these permit limits and DEEP determined that most of the numeric effluent limits continue to be protective of the waters of the state and were therefore carried forward from the previous permits. Below is a summary of parameters and any changes made to permit limits.

#### 5.3.1 Parameters from the 1996 Permit

Arsenic, base neutral and acid extractables (BNA), beryllium, boron, cobalt, cyanide, lead, herbicides, magnesium, MTBE, pesticides, PCBs, pH, phenols, phthalate esters, selenium, thallium, total petroleum hydrocarbons, total volatile organics (VOCs), and vanadium

#### 4.3.2 22a-430-(s) of the RCSA

The following parameters were in the 1996 general permit with limits based on 22a-430-(s) of the RCSA: barium, cadmium, chromium, hexavalent chromium, copper, amenable cyanide, nickel, silver, tin, and zinc. Except for barium, the limits are the average monthly limits listed in 22a-430-(s) of the RCSA. For barium, the instantaneous maximum was applied.

#### 5.3.3 Parameters in 2018 Permit

- Effluent limit for chlorinated volatile organics was added in the 2018 permit.
- Effluent limit for mercury was reduced from 0.005 mg/l in 1996 to non-detect in 2018.
- The limit for polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) was increased from 0.5 mg/l in the 1996 permit to 2.0 mg/l in the 2018 permit.
- Though the limit for PCBs has not changed since 1996, the limit that no singular PCB may exceed 0.000017 ug/l was added in 2018.

## 5.3.4 Parameters in the 2025 permit

- A limit for total suspended solids ("TSS") was added to this general permit. The limit was introduced to reduce the amount of solids sent to POTWs. The limit is identical to the TSS limit in Table 5B-1 of the *General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewaters from Significant Industrial Users*, issued October 30, 2020.
- Effluent limits chlorinated herbicides and pesticides were reduced to nondetect.

#### 5.4 Additional Parameters and Effluent Limits

DEEP may develop limits for parameters that do not have a limit in this general permit on a case-bycase basis if the Commissioner determines it necessary in order to protect the waters of the state.

## **5.5 Impaired Waters**

Discharges to a waterbody listed in the most recent Connecticut Integrated Water Quality Report of waters listed pursuant to Clean Water Act section 303(d) and 305(b) must comply with the requirements listed in Section 2.2.8 of this general permit. Discharges to an impaired water must provide documentation demonstrating that the discharge will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard. The Commissioner may require additional control measures for discharges to impaired waterbody segments or other sensitive areas.

For discharges to waters with an established TMDL, the Commissioner will determine if there are sufficient remaining allocations in the TMDL to allow the discharge and the Commissioner may authorize the discharge with additional permit conditions or compliance schedules designed to meet the requirements of the TMDL or load allocation.

#### 6 Monitoring

The general permit requires all discharges be monitored to assure the wastewater treatment system is properly operating and to ensure compliance with effluent limits to protect waters of the state from pollution. UST discharges must be monitored for the parameters listed in Section 4.3.2. of the general permit and emergency discharges must be monitored for the parameters listed in Section 4.3.3. All other discharge must monitor the parameters in accordance with their Approval of Registration (or Notice of Coverage).

## **6.1 Startup Procedures**

Each discharge must be monitored the day it is initiated. Discharges lasting more than a week must be sampled at least once during the second week of discharge. If the discharge ceases for any reason, the startup procedures must be repeated in accordance with the general permit requirements.

#### **6.2 Ongoing Monitoring**

After startup, monitoring to verify compliance with the effluent limitations of this general permit shall be performed according to the following: Quarterly for discharges less than 5,000 gallons per day ("gpd") and monthly for discharges equal to or greater than 5,000 gpd.

#### **6.3 Sample Analyses**

Sample analyses shall be performed in accordance with Section 4.8 of the general permit. All sample analysis required under this general permit shall be conducted by a laboratory certified in accordance with the certification requirements specified in section 19-29a of the General Statutes. All samples shall be analyzed using sufficiently sensitive test methods pursuant to 40 CFR 136 unless an alternative method has been approved in writing by the Commissioner pursuant to 40 CFR 136.4 or as provided in section 22a-430-3(j)(7) of the RCSA. Chemicals which do not have methods of analysis defined in 40 CFR 136 shall be analyzed in accordance with methods specified by the Commissioner.

#### **6.4 Whole Effluent Toxicity**

Discharges lasting longer than 30 consecutive calendar days, that receive an Approval of Registration must monitor quarterly for compliance with whole effluent toxicity ("WET") limits. Quarterly WET testing shall be performed in accordance with Section 4.9 of the general permit. Acute aquatic toxicity monitoring shall be performed using the NOAEL protocol specified in section 22a-430-3(j)(7)(A) of the RCSA and as prescribed in the reference document *Methods for Measuring the Acute Toxicity of Effluents and Receiving Waters to Freshwater and Marine Organisms* (EPA-821-R-02-012), or the most current version, with any exceptions or clarifications noted in Section 4.9 of the general permit.

## 7 Reporting

The results of chemical analyses for discharges lasting longer than 30 days and any aquatic toxicity test required by this permit will be submitted electronically using NetDMR as prescribed in the general permit.

Discharges lasting less than 30 days must submit the results of all chemical analysis and from the startup procedures with their Notice of Termination.

## 8 Water Treatment System Operation and Maintenance

The permittee must maintain any treatment necessary to meet the permit effluent limits and conditions contained in the general permit and their Approval of Registration at all times. The permittee shall treat the discharge for any pollutant identified as present in the untreated wastewater at a concentration exceeding the limits of the general permit or the limitations specified in an Approval of Registration issued pursuant to Section 2 of the general permit.

#### **9 Erosion and Sediment Controls**

Erosion and sediment control measures shall be installed and maintained as required in compliance with the standards set forth in the "2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control" as revised, established pursuant to section 22a-328 of the CGS.

## 10 Duty to Correct and Report Violations

#### **10.1 Corrective Actions**

A Permittee is required upon learning of a violation of any condition of the general permit to immediately take all reasonable actions to determine the cause of the violation, correct the violation, mitigate the impact of the violation, and prevent its recurrence.

#### 10.2 Two (2) hour notification

In accordance with 22a-430-3(j)(11)(D) the permittee shall, within two (2) hours of becoming aware of the circumstances, or at the start of the next business day; but no more than 24 hours from when he or she becomes aware of the circumstances outside normal business hours, notify the Commissioner of any actual or anticipated noncompliance with permit terms or conditions if (i) the noncompliance is greater than two times the permitted level except for violations of any limitation for a surface water discharge, in which case all violations shall be reported or (ii) the condition may endanger human health, the environment or the operation of a POTW, including sludge handling and disposal

## **10.3** Five Day Follow Up Report

The Permittee must submit a report within five (5) days of the noncompliance that contains:

- a description of the noncompliance and its cause;
- the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times;
- if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and
- steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.

Notification of actual or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit term or condition. DEEP has developed an online Noncompliance Reporting web-based platform accessible on our website at:

https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water-Regulating-and-Discharges/Stormwater/Stormwater-Management

## **10.4 Additional Notification Requirements**

In accordance with 22a-430-3(j)(11)(E), the permittee shall notify the Director within seventy-two hours and in writing within 30 days when he or she knows or has reason to believe that the concentration in the discharge of any listed substance or any toxic substance has exceeded or will exceed the highest of the following levels:

- One hundred micrograms per liter;
- Two hundred micrograms per liter for acrolein and acrylonitrile, five hundred micrograms per liter for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4, 6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter for antimony;
- An alternative level specified by the Commissioner, provided such level shall not exceed the level which can be achieved by the permittee's treatment system; and
- A level two times the level specified in the permit application.

#### 10.5 For discharges to a POTW

The Permittee shall immediately notify the Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Water Permitting and Enforcement Division and the local WPCA of all discharges that could cause concerns to the POTW, including but not limited to slug loadings of pollutants which may cause a violation of the POTW's NPDES permit, or which may inhibit or disrupt the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal.

#### 11 State Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

The permittee shall comply with sections 22a-430-3 and 22a-430-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies which are hereby incorporated into this general permit, as is fully set forth herein.

#### 12 Federal Standard Conditions

The federal and state standard conditions in 40 CFR 122.41-Conditions applicable to all permits, are hereby incorporated into this genal permit, as is fully set forth herein.

### 13 Antidegradation

Activities permitted by this general permit must be consistent with the Antidegradation Standards of section 22a-426 of the RCSA.

#### 15 Public Participation

DEEP held two (2) stakeholder meetings soliciting public feedback during the technical review and drafting of the general permit as part of the reissuance process.

The first meeting was held on March 28, 2023. At this meeting DEEP sought comments on the existing permit and suggestions to improve the permitting process.

The second meeting was held April 23, 2024. At this meeting DEEP sought comments on the pre-draft general permit, which had been shared with the public prior to the meeting.

#### 16 Public Notice of Intent

The Commissioner shall consider written comments on the general permit from interested persons that are received within 30 days of the public notice of the Commissioner's tentative determination to issue the general permit. Written comments should be directed to Stephen Edwards, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127, or <a href="mailto:steve.edwards@ct.gov">steve.edwards@ct.gov</a>. The Commissioner may hold a public hearing prior to approving or denying an application if, in the Commissioner's discretion, the public interest will be best served thereby, and shall hold a hearing upon receipt of a petition signed by at least twenty-five persons. Notice of any public hearing shall be published at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

Petitions for a hearing should include the application number noted above and identify a contact person to receive notifications. Petitions may also identify a person who is authorized to engage in discussions regarding the application and, if resolution is reached, withdraw the petition. Original signed petitions may be scanned and sent electronically to deep.adjudications@ct.gov or may be mailed or delivered to DEEP Office of Adjudications, 79 Elm Street, 3rd floor, Hartford, 06106-5127. All petitions must be received within the comment period noted above.

If submitted electronically, original signed petitions must also be mailed or delivered to the address above within ten days of electronic submittal. If a hearing is held, timely notice of such hearing will be published in a newspaper of general circulation. For additional information go to <a href="https://www.ct.gov/deep/adjudications">www.ct.gov/deep/adjudications</a>.