

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PROPOSED RENEWAL WITH AMENDMENT OF GENERAL PERMIT TXR050000 AUTHORIZING THE DISCHARGE OF STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or commission) proposes to renew and amend Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit TXR050000. This general permit authorizes the discharge of stormwater and certain non-stormwater discharges from industrial activities into surface water in the state. This proposed general permit's applicability covers the entire state of Texas. General permits are authorized by Texas Water Code, §26.040.

PROPOSED GENERAL PERMIT. The executive director has prepared a proposed general permit renewal with amendments to the existing general permit that authorizes the discharge of stormwater and certain non-stormwater discharges from industrial activities that are categorized into 30 similar sectors based on Standard Industrial Classification Codes and Industrial Activity Codes. The proposed changes to the general permit are included in this proposed general permit and described in the fact sheet.

The general permit specifies which facilities must obtain permit coverage, which are eligible for a conditional exclusion based on a certification of no-exposure of the industrial activity to stormwater, which are designated as eligible for coverage without submitting a notice of intent, and which must obtain individual permit coverage. Non-stormwater discharges that are not specifically listed in the general permit are not authorized by the general permit. No significant degradation of high-quality waters is expected and existing water uses will be maintained and protected.

The executive director has reviewed this action for consistency with the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) according to General Land Office regulations and has determined that the action is consistent with applicable CMP goals and policies.

On the date that this notice is published, a copy of the proposed general permit and fact sheet will be available for a minimum of 30 days for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk located at the TCEQ Austin office, at 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F. These documents will also be available at the TCEQ's 16 regional offices and on the TCEQ website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/stormwater/industrial/index>. Alternatively, you may request a copy of the proposed general permit and fact sheet by contacting the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk by telephone at (512) 239-3300 or by mail at TCEQ OCC, Notice Team MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments about this proposed general permit in writing or orally at the public meeting held by the TCEQ. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the proposed general permit. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

The virtual public meeting is to be held **Monday, January 11, 2021, at 1:30 pm.** Members of the public who would like to ask questions or provide comments during the meeting may access the meeting via webcast by following this link: <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar/join-webinar> and entering Webinar ID 335-653-147. It is recommended that you join the webinar and register for the public meeting at least 15 minutes before the meeting begins. You will be given the option to use your computer audio or to use your telephone for participating in the webinar.

Those without internet access may call (512) 239-1201 at least one day prior to the meeting for assistance in accessing the meeting and participating telephonically. Members of the public who wish to only listen to the meeting may call, toll free, (562) 247-8422 and enter access code 237-743-545.

Additional information will be available on the agency calendar of events at the following link: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/decisions/hearings/calendar.html>.

Written public comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on January 11, 2021. Written comments may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, PO Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>.

APPROVAL PROCESS. After the comment period, the executive director will consider the public comments and prepare a written response. The response will be filed with the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at least 10 days before the scheduled commission meeting when the commission will consider approval of the general permit. The commission will consider public comments in making its decision and will either adopt the executive director's response or prepare its own response. The commission will issue its written response on the general permit at the same time the commission issues or denies the general permit. A copy of any issued general permit and response to comments will be made available to the public for inspection at the agency's Austin office. A notice of the commissioners' action on the proposed general permit and a copy of its response to comments will be mailed to each person who made a comment. Also, a notice of the commission's action on the proposed general permit and the text of its response to comments will be published in the *Texas Register*.

MAILING LISTS. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: 1) the mailing list for this specific general permit; 2) the permanent mailing list for a specific county; or 3) both. Clearly specify the mailing lists to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address previously mentioned. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific general permit.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this general permit or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, toll free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our website at: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov>.

Further information may also be obtained by calling the TCEQ's Water Quality Division, Stormwater Team at (512) 239-4671.

Si desea información en Español, puede llamar 1-800-687-4040.

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