Who is subject to Phase I of the NPDES Storm Water Program and needs a permit?

The term "Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity," defined in federal regulations 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)-(xii), determines which industrial facilities are potentially subject to Phase I of the storm water program. If you are subject to the program you need to apply for a permit. The definition uses either SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) codes or narrative descriptions to characterize the activities. You are responsible for identifying your facility's SIC code. The definition's 11 categories (i)-(xii) are listed below. You should review these 11 categories and decide if your type of activity is described by any of them (either by SIC code or by narrative descriptions). Please note that categories ii, vii, and x have special conditions, or exceptions (described below) which may make a facility NOT subject to the program, and therefore not required to apply, even though the facility's activity matches one of the SIC codes.

Category (i) Facilities subject to storm water effluent limitations guideline, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards under 40 CFR subchapter N (except facilities with toxic pollutant effluent standards which are exempted under category (ii)). These types of facilities include the following:

- 40 CFR Subchapter N
- 405 Dairy products processing
- 406 Grain mills
- 407 Canned & preserved fruits & veg. processing
- 408 Canned & preserved seafood processing
- 409 Beet, crystalline & liquid cane sugar refining
- 410 Textile mills
- 411 Cement manufacturing
- 412 Feedlots
- 414 Organic Chemicals plastics and synthetic fibers
- 415 Inorganic chemical manufacturing
- 417 Soap and detergent manufacturing
- 418 Fertilizer manufacturing
- 419 Petroleum refining
- 420 Iron and steel manufacturing
- 421 Nonferrous metal manufacturing
- 422 Phosphate manufacturing
- 423 Steam electric power
- 424 Ferroalloy manufacturing
- 425 Leather tanning and finishing
- 426 Glass manufacturing
- 427 Asbestos manufacturing
- 428 Rubber manufacturing
- 429 Timber products processing
- 430 Pulp, paper, and paperboard
- 431 Builder's paper and board mills
- 432 Meat products
- 433 Metal finishing
- 434 Coal Mining
- 436 Mineral mining & processing
- 437 Pharmaceutical manufacturing
- 440 Ore mining & dressing *
- 443 Paving and roofing materials
- 446 Paint formulating
- 447 Ink formulating
- 455 Pesticide Chemicals
- 458 Carbon Black manufacturing
- 461 Battery manufacturing
- 463 Plastics molding and forming
- 464 Metal molding and casting
- 465 Coal coating
- 466 Porcelain enameling
- 467 Aluminum forming
- 468 Copper forming *
- 469 Electrical & electronic component
- 471 Nonferrous metal forming & powders some facilities in group do not have limits or standards, see 40 CFR subchapter N to verify.

Category (ii) Facilities classified by the following SIC codes:

SIC Code
- 24 Lumber and wood products (except 2434 wood kitchen cabinets, see category (xiii))
- 26 Paper & allied products (except 2625 paperboard containers, 267 converted paper, see category (xii))
- 28 Chemicals & allied products (except 283 drugs, see (xii))
- 29 Petroleum & coal products
- 311 Leather tanning & finishing
- 312 Stone, clay & glass production (except 323 products of purchased glass, see category (xii))
- 33 Primary metal industry
- 3441 Fabricated structural metal
- 373 Ship and boat building and repair

Category (iii) Mineral Industry Facilities classified as SIC codes 10-14 including active or inactive mining operations (except for areas of coal mining operations no longer meeting the definition of a reclamation area under 40 CFR 434.11 (1) because the performance bond issued to the facility by the appropriate SMACRA authority has been released, or areas of non-coal mining operations which have been released from applicable State or Federal reclamation requirements after December 17, 1990), and oil and gas exploration, production, processing, or treatment operations, or transmission facilities that discharge storm water contaminated by contact with or that has come into contact with l any overburden, raw material, intermediate products, finished products, byproducts or waste products located on the site of such operations (inactive mining operations are mining sites that are not being actively mined, but which have an identifiable owner/operator; inactive mining sites do not include sites where mining claims are being maintained prior to disturbances associated with the extraction, beneficiation, or processing of mined materials, nor sites where minimal activities are undertaken for the sole purpose of maintaining a mining claim).

SIC Code
- 10 Metal mining (metallic mineral/ores)
- 12 Coal mining
- 13 Oil and gas extraction
- 14 Non-metallic minerals, except fuels

Oil and gas operations that discharge contaminated storm water at any time between November 16, 1987 and October 1, 1992, and that are currently not authorized by an NPDES permit, must apply for a permit. Operators of oil and gas exploration, production, processing, or treatment operations or transmission facilities, that are not required to submit a permit application as of October 1, 1992 in accordance with 40 CFR 122.26(c)(1)(iii), but that after October 1, 1992 have a discharge of a reportable quantity of oil or a hazardous substance (a "storm water discharge") for which notification is required pursuant to either 40 CFR 110.6, 117.21, or 302.6, must apply for a permit.

Category (iv) Hazardous Waste Hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities including those that are operating under interim status or a permit under Subtitle C of RCRA.

Category (v) Landfills Landfills, land application sites, and open dumps that receive or have received any industrial waste (waste that is received from any of the facilities described under categories (i)-(xii)) including those that are subject to regulations under Subtitle D of RCRA.

Category (vi) Construction Activities. The "operator" is the party or parties that either individually or taken together meet either of the following two criteria: 1) they have operational control over the site specification; 2) they have the day-to-day operational control of those activities at the site necessary to ensure compliance. For a typical commercial construction site, the owner and general contractor must both apply. For a typical residential development, the developer and all builders must apply. Each builder must apply even if they individually disturb less than 5 acres if the overall development is 5 or more acres. Only one Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is required per site even though there may be multiple parties.

Category (vii) Construction Construction activity including clearing, grading and excavation activities except: operations that result in the disturbance of less than 5 acres of total land area which are not part of a larger common plan of development or sale.

[The construction "operator" must apply for permit coverage under the General Storm Water Permit for Construction Activities. The "operator" is the party or parties that either individually or taken together meet either of the following two criteria: 1) they have operational control over the site specification; 2) they have the day-to-day operational control of those activities at the site necessary to ensure compliance. For a typical commercial construction site, the owner and general contractor must both apply. For a typical residential development, the developer and all builders must apply. Each builder must apply even if they individually disturb less than 5 acres if the overall development is 5 or more acres. Only one Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is required per site even though there may be multiple parties.]

Category (viii) Steam Electric Plants Steam electric power generating facilities, including coal handling sites.

SIC Code
- 40 Railroa transportation