

Dated: September 2, 2003.

James A. Hanlon,

Director, Office of Wastewater Management.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7555-7]

Proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water General Permits for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in New Mexico, Indian Country Lands in New Mexico and Indian Country Lands in Oklahoma and Preliminary Designation Decisions for Small MS4s Outside Urbanized Areas in New Mexico; Notice

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6.

ACTION: Notice of availability for comment.

SUMMARY: The Director of the EPA Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division is proposing to issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permits for storm water discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) located in the State of New Mexico, Indian Country Lands in New Mexico, and Indian Country Lands in Oklahoma. The proposed general permits would authorize the discharge of storm water and certain non-storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewers. NPDES permit coverage for these discharges is required in accordance with section 402(p) of the 1987 Amendments to the Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. 1342(p)) and EPA regulations. To obtain discharge authorization, operators of MS4s would be required to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered by the proposed general permit. The NOI would need to include storm water management program information describing the best management practices (BMPs) which the permittee will implement to control pollutants in the discharges in accordance with the requirements of the CWA and measurable goals for their implementation. In accordance with 40 CFR 122.34(a), the operator would have up to five years to develop and fully implement the storm water management program. The initial storm water management program submittal would likely consist of a combination of ongoing activities and schedules for developing and implementing additional activities to comply with the permit. Annual reporting would also be

required to provide information on the status of the implementation of the storm water management program. This Notice announces the availability of the proposed general permits and fact sheet for public comment. Note that while the proposed general permits are structured as a single permit, and may be collectively referred to in the singular as the permit, they are actually three legally distinct permits each covering a different geographical area.

Each of the legally separate and distinctly numbered proposed permits covers one of the areas listed in the table below. Parts 1-7 of the proposed general permit and the Appendices are common to all of the permits, while Part 8 of the permit contains the State, Indian Country Land or other area-specific conditions that make each of the permits unique. The proposed general permits will cover areas within Region 6 where a State or Tribal permitting program has not been authorized under section 402(b) of the CWA. Indian Country includes all lands within Indian reservations, all dependent Indian communities, and Indian allotments. In Oklahoma it also includes lands held in trust for the benefit of Tribes. At this time, no regulated MS4s under EPA jurisdiction are located in Arkansas, Louisiana, or Texas, so permits for these areas are not being proposed by Region 6. Most MS4s in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas are regulated by NPDES-authorized State programs.

PERMIT AREAS

Permit No.	Areas of coverage
OKS04000I	Indian Country Lands within the State of Oklahoma.
NMS04000I	Indian Country lands within the State of New Mexico, except Navajo Reservation lands and Ute Mountain Ute Reservation lands (permitted by EPA Regions 9 and 8, respectively).
NMS040000	The State of New Mexico, except Indian Country Lands.

This notice also announces the availability for public comment of the preliminary results of the Region's review of those New Mexico small MS4s with a population of between 10,000 and 50,000 and a population density of 1,000 or more per square mile that are located outside a Urbanized Area for possible designation as a regulated small MS4 (see 40 CFR 123.35(b)). Although EPA is not required to do so,

EPA is inviting and will consider comments it receives regarding the small MS4 designation review.

DATES: The public comment period for the proposed general permits is 45 days starting from the date of today's notice. Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed general permits to EPA Region 6 at the address below, no later than October 24, 2003. Any comments received by EPA Region 6 and EPA's response to these comments will become part of the administrative record for these general permits. The general permits will be effective on the date specified in the final general permit notice that will be published in the **Federal Register** and will expire five years from the effective date of the final permit.

Comments on the small MS4 designation review process or preliminary decisions must be submitted by October 24, 2003, to the same address.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed general permits should be sent to Docket No. 6WQ-03-SW01, Attn: Ms. Diane Smith, EPA Region 6, Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-CA), 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. Comments may also be submitted in electronic format (Wordperfect 9, MS Word 2000, or ASCII Text formats only, avoiding use of special characters) to the above address or via e-mail to smith.diane@epa.gov. No facsimiles (faxes) will be accepted. Comments on the designation review process or preliminary decisions must reference "MS4 Designation Review."

Public Meeting Information

EPA Region 6 will be holding two informal public meetings which will include a presentation on the proposed general permits and a question and answer session. Advance notice of the times and dates for these meetings was provided in the Albuquerque Journal and the Daily Oklahoman newspapers on August 9, 2003, and via EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/hot/index.htm>. Because informal public meetings accommodate group discussion and question and answer sessions, public meetings have been used for many storm water general permits and appear to be more valuable than formalized public hearings in helping the public understand a proposed storm water general permit and in identifying the issues of concern. Written, but not oral, comments for the administrative record will be accepted at the public meetings. Written comments generated from what was learned at a public meeting (or from

discussion with someone who did attend) may also be submitted any time up to the end of the comment period.

Albuquerque, NM—September 11, 2003 @ 1 p.m.

Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute, Workforce Training Center, Conference Rooms 101 & 103, 5600 Eagle Rock Ave, NE., Albuquerque, NM 87113.

Oklahoma City, OK—September 15, 2003 @ 1 p.m.

Metro Tech Conference Center, Auditorium, 1900 Springlake Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.

Requests for a Public Hearing

Interested persons may also request a public hearing pursuant to 40 CFR 124.11 concerning the proposed general permit. Requests for a public hearing must be sent or delivered in writing to the same address for comments prior to the close of the comment period. Requests for a public hearing must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Pursuant to 40 CFR 124.12(a), the Regional Administrator will hold a public hearing if he finds, on the basis of requests, a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit(s). If the Regional Administrator decides to hold a public hearing, a public notice of the date, time and place of the hearing will be made at least 30 days prior to the hearing. Any person may provide written or oral statements and data pertaining to the proposed general permits at the public hearing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Additional information concerning the proposed general permits and preliminary designation decisions may be obtained from Ms. Terry Branch at 214-665-6667 or branch.terry@epa.gov or Ms. Diane Smith at 214-665-2145 or smith.diane@epa.gov. The mail address for both Ms. Branch and Ms. Smith is EPA Region 6, Customer Assistance Branch (6WQ-CA), 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed general permits and fact sheet, which also includes information on preliminary small MS4 designation decisions, may be obtained from the Internet via the EPA-Region 6 Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/ms4/index.htm>. The proposed general permits are accompanied by a fact sheet which sets forth principal facts and the significant factual, legal, and policy questions considered in the development of the proposed general permits. To obtain a hard copy of these documents or any other information in

the administrative record, please contact Ms. Diane Smith or Ms. Terry Branch. Contact information is provided in the **ADDRESSES** section above. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying requests. When the final general permits are issued, notice will be published in the **Federal Register**. The final general permits will be effective on the date specified in the **Federal Register** and will expire five years from that date.

Paperwork Reduction Act: This action does not impose any new information collection burden. These general permits do not impose any information collection requirements beyond those required by EPA regulations (40 CFR 122.26, 122.28, 122.30–.37, 122.41, and 122.48). However, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has previously approved the information collection requirements contained in these regulations under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and has assigned OMB control number 2040–0211, EPA ICR number 1820.03. A copy of each OMB approved Information Collection Request (ICR) may be obtained from the Collection Strategies Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2822T); 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 566–1672. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR chapter 15.

Executive Order 12866: Under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) an agency must determine whether its regulatory action is “significant” and therefore subject to OMB review and the requirements of Executive Order 12866. This Order defines “significant regulatory action” as one that is likely to result in a rule

that may have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or Tribal governments or communities; create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency; materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in the Executive Order. OMB has waived review of NPDES general permits under the terms of Executive Order 12866.

Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA):

Issuance of an NPDES general permit is not subject to rulemaking requirements, including the requirement for a general notice of proposed rulemaking, under 5 U.S.C. 553 (Administrative Procedure Act) or any other law, and is thus not subject to the RFA requirement to prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis. The APA defines two broad, mutually exclusive categories of agency action—“rules” and “orders.” Its definition of “rule” encompasses “an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency * * *” APA section 551(4). Its definition of “order” is residual: “a final disposition * * * of an agency in a matter other than rule making but including licensing.” APA section 551(6). The APA defines “license” to “include * * * an agency permit * * *” APA section 551(8). The APA thus categorizes a permit as an order, which by the APA's definition is not a rule. Section 553 of the APA establishes “rule making” requirements. The APA defines “rule making” as “the agency process for formulating, amending, or repealing a rule.” APA section 551(5). By its terms, then, section 553 applies only to “rules” and not also to “orders,” which include permits.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act: Section 201 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA), Public Law 104–4, generally requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their “regulatory actions” on State, local, and tribal governments and the private sector. UMRA uses the term “regulatory actions” to refer to regulations. (See, e.g., UMRA section 201, “Each agency shall * * * assess the effects of Federal regulatory actions * * * (other than to

the extent that such regulations incorporate requirements specifically set forth in law.”) UMRA section 102 defines “regulation” by reference to 2 U.S.C. 658 which in turn defines “regulation” and “rule” by reference to section 601(2) of the RFA. That section of the RFA defines “rule” as “any rule for which the agency publishes a notice of proposed rulemaking pursuant to section 553(b) of [the APA], or any other law * * *.” As discussed in the RFA section of this notice, NPDES general permits are not “rules” under the APA and thus not subject to the APA requirement to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking. NPDES general permits are also not subject to such a requirement under the CWA. While EPA publishes a notice to solicit public comment on proposed general permits, it does so pursuant to the CWA section 402(a) requirement to provide “an opportunity for a hearing.” Thus, NPDES general permits are not “rules.”

Authority: Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*

Dated: September 2, 2003.

Oscar Ramirez, Jr.,

Acting Director, Water Quality Protection Division, Region 6.

[FR Doc. 03-22934 Filed 9-8-03; 8:45 am]

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FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

Farm Credit Administration Board; Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3)), of the regular meeting of the Farm Credit Administration Board (Board).

DATE AND TIME: The regular meeting of the Board will be held at the offices of the Farm Credit Administration in McLean, Virginia, on September 11, 2003, from 9 a.m. until such time as the Board concludes its business.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeanette C. Brinkley, Secretary to the Farm Credit Administration Board, (703) 883-4009, TTY (703) 883-4056.

ADDRESSES: Farm Credit Administration, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-5090.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Parts of this meeting of the Board will be open to the public (limited space available), and parts will be closed to the public. In order to increase the accessibility to Board meetings, persons requiring assistance should make arrangements in advance. The matters to be considered at the meeting are:

Open Session

A. Approval of Minutes

—August 14, 2003 (Open and Closed)

B. Reports

- Trends in Corporate Governance
- Corporate/Non-corporate Approvals Report
- FCS Building Association Quarterly Report
- Financial Institution Rating System (FIRS)—Earnings Discussion
- FCA's Interagency Agreements with SBA and USDA

C. New Business—Other

- Fall 2003 Unified Agenda/FY 2004 Regulatory Performance Plan Approval
- FY 2004/2005 Budget Approvals

Closed Session *

New Business

- OSMO Quarterly Report

Dated: September 5, 2003.

Jeanette C. Brinkley,

Secretary, Farm Credit Administration Board.

[FR Doc. 03-23013 Filed 9-5-03; 11:10 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval

August 26, 2003.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance

the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before October 9, 2003. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Les Smith, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-A804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to Leslie.Smith@fcc.gov or Kim A. Johnson, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Room 10236 NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-3562 or via the Internet at Kim_A.Johnson@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copy of the information collection(s) contact Les Smith at (202) 418-0217 or via the Internet at Leslie.Smith@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-0748.

Title: Section 64.1504, Disclosure Requirements for Information Services Provided Through Toll-Free Numbers.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities.

Number of Respondents: 3,750.

Estimated Time per Response: 2-5 hours.

Frequency of Response: Annual and on occasion reporting requirements; Third party disclosure.

Total Annual Burden: 10,500 hours.

Total Annual Cost: None.

Needs and Uses: 47 CFR Section 64.1504 incorporates in the Commission's Rules, the requirements of Sections 228(c)(7)-(10) that restrict the manner in which toll-free numbers may be used to charge telephone subscribers for information services. Common carriers must prohibit the use of toll-free numbers in a manner that would result in the calling party being charged for information conveyed during the call, unless the calling party (1) has executed a written agreement that specifies the material terms and conditions under which the information is provided, or (2) pays for the information by means of a prepaid account, credit, debit, charge, or calling card and the information service provider includes in response to each

* Session Closed-Exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(8) and (9).