

# **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities**

Permit No.: CTR100000

This National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities* is issued in accordance with Section 22a-430 of Chapter 446k, Connecticut General Statutes (“Conn. Gen. Stat.”), and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (“Regs. Conn. State Agencies”) adopted thereunder, as amended, and Section 402(b) of the Clean Water Act (“CWA”), as amended, 33 USC 1251, et. seq., and pursuant to an approval dated September 26, 1973, by the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Connecticut to administer a NPDES permit program. Persons shall comply with all conditions of this permit.

This permit becomes effective January 1, 2026. This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire sixty (60) months (five (5) years) from the effective date. This permit expires on December 31, 2030.

Issued: January 1, 2026



Emma Cimino  
Deputy Commissioner

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# General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities

## Section 1 Authority

This general permit is issued under the authority of Section 22a-430b of the Connecticut General Statutes (“Conn. Gen. Stat.”).

## Section 2 Authorization Under This General Permit

### 2.1 Eligible Activities

This general permit authorizes the discharge of stormwater from construction activities, as defined in this general permit as “any activity and discharges associated with construction at a site or the site’s preparation for construction including, but not limited to, clearing, grubbing, pile driving, soil disturbance, soil compaction by construction equipment, staging and stockpiling, storage, cleaning and washout, grading, excavation, and dewatering,” with a total disturbance of one (1) or more acres of land area for the entire project regardless of project phasing to waters of the State of Connecticut provided the requirements of this section are satisfied and the activity is conducted in accordance with this permit.

In the case of a larger plan of development (such as a subdivision), the estimate of total acres of site disturbance shall include, but is not limited to, road and utility construction, individual lot construction (e.g. house, driveway, septic system, etc.), and all other construction associated with the overall plan, regardless of the individual parties responsible for construction of these various elements.

#### 2.1.1 Allowable non-stormwater discharges

The following non-stormwater discharges associated with the construction activity are authorized under this permit provided that, with the exception of water used to control dust and to irrigate vegetation in stabilized areas, these discharges are not routed to areas of exposed soil on the site, are included in the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, and the Permittee complies with the applicable requirements of Section 5.2:

- uncontaminated discharges from construction dewatering operations in accordance with requirements of Section 5.2.2.8.
- uncontaminated and non-turbid discharges from natural springs or naturally occurring groundwater.
- foundation or footing drains where flows are not contaminated with process materials such as solvents or contaminated ground water.
- discharges from emergency fire-fighting activities.
- landscape irrigation.
- water used to control dust.
- potable water including uncontaminated water line or fire hydrant flushing.
- uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate.

All other non-stormwater discharges except those specifically listed are not authorized by this permit. Such discharges to surface water must be authorized under a different permit issued by the Commissioner (pursuant to Section 22a-430 or 22a-430b of the Conn. Gen. Stat.).

#### 2.1.2 Emergency Construction Activity Exception

The general permit authorizes short-term discharges of stormwater from construction activities in response to a public emergency as determined by the Commissioner (e.g., mud slides, earthquake, extreme flooding conditions, widespread disruption in essential public services), when the related work requires immediate authorization to avoid imminent endangerment to human health, public safety, or the environment, or to reestablish essential public services.

## 2.2 Requirements for Authorization

This general permit authorizes the discharge of stormwater from construction activity and associated discharges listed in the Section 2.1 “Eligible Activities” of this general permit provided the following conditions are met:

### 2.2.1 Limitations of Coverage

#### 2.2.1.1 Prohibited discharges

The following discharges are prohibited:

- wastewater from washout of concrete, unless managed in accordance with Section 5.2.2.11.b of this general permit and the Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (“the Guidelines”).
- 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.
- soaps, solvents, or detergents used in vehicle and equipment washing or external building washdown.
- toxic or hazardous substances from a spill or other release.
- discharges from dewatering activities, including discharges from dewatering of trenches and excavations, are prohibited unless managed by appropriate Control Measures.
- discharges containing or resulting in a visible oil sheen, floating solids, or foam.
- discharge of litter, debris, building materials, hardened concrete waste, or similar materials from the site.
- process wastewater as defined by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (“CFR”) 122.2.
- slurry materials and waste from shaft drilling, including process wastewater from shaft drilling for construction of building, road, and bridge foundations unless managed to prevent discharge to surface water.
- wheel wash wastewater, unless managed in accordance with Section 5.2.2.11.c of this general permit and the Guidelines.
- discharges of water, substance, or material into the waters of the State other than eligible discharges specified in this general permit.
- eligible discharges to publicly or privately owned storm sewers or conveyances without notification being provided to the owner.
- the stormwater discharge resulting from an activity classified by the Standard Industrial Classification 10 and 12 through 14 (the mining industry) is not eligible to be authorized by this general permit and is regulated under the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity.
- discharges of dewatering waters known to contain pollutants other than sediment.
- discharges of polychlorinated biphenyl (“PCB”) compounds.
- discharges of mercury compounds.

### 2.2.2 Complete Application

A complete application pursuant to Section 3 of this general permit shall be filed with the Commissioner.

### **2.2.3 Coastal Management Act**

Such construction activity must be consistent with all applicable goals and policies in Section 22a-92 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and must not cause adverse impacts to coastal resources as defined in Section 22a-93(15) of the Conn. Gen. Stat. Please refer to the Appendix D for additional guidance.

### **2.2.4 Endangered and Threatened Species**

Such construction activity must not threaten the continued existence of any species listed pursuant to Section 26-306 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. as endangered or threatened and must not result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat designated as essential to such species. See Appendix A for permit terms and conditions.

### **2.2.5 Aquifer Protection Areas**

Such construction activity, if it is located within an aquifer protection area as mapped under Section 22a-354b of the Conn. Gen. Stat., must comply with regulations adopted pursuant to Section 22a-354i of the Conn. Gen. Stat. Please refer to the Appendix C for guidance. For any construction activity regulated pursuant to the Aquifer Protection Regulations in Sections 22a-354i-8(c) and 9(b) of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies, the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SPCP”) must provide sufficient information to assure that stormwater discharge generated from the construction activity is (i) managed in a manner so as to prevent pollution of groundwater, and (ii) complies with all the requirements of this general permit.

### **2.2.6 Conservation and Preservation Restrictions**

Such construction activity, if located within a conservation or preservation restriction area, complies with Section 47-42d of the Conn. Gen. Stat., by providing the following documentation to the Commissioner: proof of written notice to the holder of such restriction of the proposed activity’s application pursuant to this general permit or a letter from the holder of such restriction verifying that the proposed activity is in compliance with the terms of the restriction.

### **2.2.7 Historic Preservation**

Such construction activity, in accordance with the criteria in Appendix G, complies with state Historic Preservation statutes, regulations, and policies including identification of any potential impacts on property listed or eligible for listing on the Connecticut Register of Historic Places. A review conducted for an Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 wetland permit would meet this qualification. Refer to Appendix G for guidance on conducting the required review.

### **2.2.8 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act**

Such construction activity must be consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287) for those river components and tributaries which have been designated as Wild and Scenic by the United States Congress. Further, such construction activities must not have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river designation was established. Please refer to Appendix H for guidance.

### **2.2.9 Antidegradation**

#### **2.2.9.1 New or Increased Discharges to High Quality Waters**

Any new or increased discharge of stormwater to a High Quality Water (as identified by the Commissioner consistent with the Water Quality Standards) shall be discharged in accordance with the Connecticut Anti-Degradation Implementation Policy in the Water Quality Standards regulation (Section 22a-426 of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies). Before commencing any new or increased discharge, the Permittee must identify in its Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SPCP”), the Control

Measures it will implement to ensure compliance with anti-degradation provisions and the terms of this permit. At a minimum, the Permittee shall evaluate and implement measures and practices consistent with Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (“BAT”) that will prevent the discharge of the Water Quality Volume (“WQV”) to a surface water body or other practices necessary to protect and maintain designated uses and meet standards and criteria contained in the Water Quality Standards.

#### **2.2.9.2 Discharges to Impaired Waters**

For any portion of the site that discharges stormwater into a waterbody that is listed as impaired for sediment or a sediment-related impairment in the State’s Integrated Water Quality Report as of the effective date of this general permit, the Permittee shall comply with the requirements of Section 5.2.3 of this permit. Additionally, the Commissioner may require new or enhanced Control Measures or outfall monitoring, as necessary to protect instream water quality standards. These Control Measures may include those necessary for the stormwater discharge to be consistent with the assumptions of any available load allocation in any applicable TMDL or Watershed Action Plan.

#### **2.2.9.3 For discharges to other impaired waters or waters with an established TMDL**

If the Permittee discharges stormwater into a waterbody that is impaired for a parameter other than a sediment or sediment-related parameter, the Commissioner may inform the Permittee if any additional measures are necessary for the discharge to be controlled as necessary to protect the instream water quality standards. These Control Measures may include those necessary for the discharge to be consistent with the assumptions of any available load allocation in any applicable TMDL or Watershed Action Plan. In addition, the Commissioner may require the Permittee to apply for and obtain coverage under an individual permit.

### **2.2.10 Cold Water Stream Habitat**

Unless otherwise authorized in writing by the Commissioner, a Permittee shall maintain a one-hundred (100) foot buffer of undisturbed soil and well-established vegetation between any construction activity and any stream, river, or tributary that is included within a cold water stream habitat as defined in regulation and accessible on DEEPs website here: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water/Inland-Water-Monitoring/Cold-Water-Stream-Habitat-Map>.

### **2.2.11 Discharge to POTW**

The stormwater is not discharged to a privately or Publicly Owned Treatment Works (“POTW”).

### **2.2.12 Discharge to Groundwater**

The stormwater is not discharged entirely to groundwater.

### **2.2.13 Certification Requirements for Applicants and other Individuals**

As part of the application for this general permit, the applicant and any other individual or individuals responsible for preparing the application submits to the Commissioner a written certification which, at a minimum, complies with the following requirements:

#### **2.2.13.1 Review**

The applicant and any other individual or individuals responsible for preparing the application and signing the certification has completely and thoroughly reviewed, at a minimum, this general permit and the following regarding the activities to be authorized under such general permit:

- a. All application information provided in accordance with Section 3.3 of this general permit.
- b. The project site, based on a site inspection.

- c. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.
- d. Any plans and specifications and any Department approvals regarding such Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.

#### 2.2.13.2 Affirmative Determination

The applicant and any other individual or individuals responsible for preparing the application and signing the certification pursuant to this general permit has, based on the review described in Section 2.2.13.1 of this general permit, made an affirmative determination to:

- a. Comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit.
- b. Maintain compliance with all plans and documents prepared pursuant to this general permit including, but not limited to, the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.
- c. Properly implement and maintain the elements of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.
- d. Properly operate and maintain all stormwater management systems in compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit to protect the waters of the State from pollution.

#### 2.2.13.3 The applicant and any other individual or individuals responsible for preparing the application certifies to the following statement:

"I hereby certify that I am making this certification in connection with an application under the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities (general permit), submitted to the Commissioner by [INSERT NAME OF APPLICANT] for an activity located at [INSERT ADDRESS OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY] and that all terms and conditions of the general permit will be met for all discharges which will be initiated and such activity is eligible for authorization under such permit. I further certify that a system is in place to ensure that all terms and conditions of this general permit will continue to be met for all discharges authorized by this general permit at the site. I certify that the application filed pursuant to this general permit is on complete and accurate forms as prescribed by the Commissioner without alteration of their text. I certify that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information that provides the basis for this certification, including but not limited to all information described in Section 2.2.13.1 of such general permit, and I certify, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining such information, that the information upon which this certification is based is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that I have made an affirmative determination in accordance with Section 2.2.13.2 of this general permit. I understand that the application filed in connection with such general permit is submitted in accordance with and shall comply with the requirements of Section 22a-430b of Conn. Gen. Stat. I also understand that knowingly making any false statement in the submitted information and in this certification may be punishable as a criminal offense, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment, under Section 53a-157b of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and any other applicable law."

#### 2.2.14 Designing Professional Engineer or Landscape Architect Certification

The applicant submitted to the Commissioner a written certification by a professional engineer or, where appropriate, a landscape architect licensed in the State of Connecticut for the preparation, planning and design of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan ("SPCP") and stormwater management systems.

The professional engineer or landscape architect shall certify to the following statement:

"I hereby certify that I am a [professional engineer] [landscape architect] licensed in the State of Connecticut. I am making this certification in connection with an application under the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities (general permit), submitted to the Commissioner by [INSERT NAME OF APPLICANT] for an activity located at [INSERT ADDRESS OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY]. I certify that I have thoroughly and completely reviewed the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan for the project or activity covered by this certification. I further certify, based on such review and on the standard

of care for such projects, that the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, as amended, the Stormwater Quality Manual, as amended, and the conditions of the general permit, and that the controls required for such SPCP are appropriate for the site. I further certify, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining such information, that the information upon which this certification is based is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also understand that knowingly making any false statement in this certification may subject me to sanction by the Department and/or be punishable as a criminal offense, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment, under Section 53a-157b of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and any other applicable law."

## **2.2.15 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan Review and Certification by a District for Locally Approvable Projects**

For Locally Approvable Projects, any Stormwater Pollution Control Plan ("SPCP" or "Plan") not reviewed in accordance with Section 2.2.16 below, the applicant has submitted to the Commissioner a written certification by the appropriate regional Soil and Water Conservation District ("District"), as defined in this general permit, for the review of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan pursuant to Appendix E, which, at a minimum, complies with the following requirements:

### **2.2.15.1 Plan Review Certification**

The Plan Review Certification must be signed by an authorized representative of the District. Information on the District review process is outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement provided in Appendix E. In cases where the District is unable to complete the review of the SPCP within the time limits specified in the Memorandum of Agreement in Appendix E, a notice to that effect signed by an authorized representative of the District may be submitted in lieu of the certification.

### **2.2.15.2 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan**

The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 5.2 of the general permit.

## **2.2.16 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan Review and Certification by a Qualified Professional for Locally Approvable Projects**

For the purposes of this section, a "Qualified Professional" is either a Qualified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Professional or a Qualified Professional Engineer licensed in the state of Connecticut and in good standing.

### **2.2.16.1 Qualified Professional Criteria**

#### **a. Projects with an engineered stormwater management system**

For projects with an engineered stormwater management system, if the SPCP is not reviewed in accordance with Section 2.2.15 above, the applicant shall submit to the Commissioner a signed certification by a Qualified Professional engineer.

#### **b. Projects without an engineered stormwater management system**

For projects without an engineered stormwater management system, if the SPCP is not reviewed in accordance with Section 2.2.15 above, the applicant shall submit to the Commissioner a written certification by a qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional or Qualified Professional engineer.

### **2.2.16.2 Certification by Qualified Professional**

All projects shall submit a signed certification by a Qualified Professional to the Commissioner in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. For projects disturbing more than one acre and less than twenty (20) acres, such Qualified Professional:
  - i. Is not an employee, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, of the applicant.
  - ii. Has no ownership interest or monetary investment of any kind in the project for which the application is being submitted.
- b. For projects disturbing twenty (20) acres or more, such Qualified Professional:
  - i. Is not an employee, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, of the applicant.
  - ii. Has no ownership interest or monetary investment of any kind in the project for which the application is being submitted.
  - iii. Did not engage in any activities associated with the preparation, planning, designing or engineering of such plan for soil erosion and sediment control or plan for stormwater management systems on behalf of such applicant.
  - iv. Is not under the same employ as any person who engaged in any activities associated with the preparation, planning, designing or engineering of such plans and specifications for soil erosion and sediment control or plans and specifications for stormwater management systems on behalf of such applicant.

2.2.16.3 The Qualified Professional signing the certification has, at a minimum, completely and thoroughly reviewed this general permit and the following regarding the discharges to be authorized under such general permit:

- a. All application information provided in accordance with Section 3.3 of this general permit.
- b. The site, based on a site inspection.
- c. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.
- d. The Guidelines.
- e. The Stormwater Quality Manual, if applicable.
- f. All non-engineered and engineered stormwater management systems, including any plans and specifications and any approvals by the Commissioner regarding such stormwater management systems.

2.2.16.4 Affirmative Determination

- a. Qualified Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Professional

The qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional signing the certification must have made an affirmative determination, based on the review described in Section 2.2.13.1 of this general permit that:

- i. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan prepared and certified pursuant to the application is adequate to assure that the project or activity authorized under this general permit, if implemented in accordance with the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, will comply with the terms and conditions of such general permit.
- ii. All non-engineered stormwater management systems:
  - have been designed to control pollution using measures that reflect the Best Available Technology economically achievable (“BAT”), and that conform to the Guidelines and the Stormwater Quality Manual.

- will function properly as designed and constructed.
- are adequate to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit.
- will not cause or contribute to violations of the instream water quality standards and protect the waters of the State from pollution.

iii. There are no engineered stormwater management systems for the site.

b. Qualified Professional Engineer

The Qualified Professional engineer, licensed in the state of Connecticut and in good standing, signing the certification must have made an affirmative determination, based on the review described in Section 2.2.13.1 of this general permit that:

- i. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan prepared and certified pursuant to the application is adequate to assure that the activity authorized under this general permit, if implemented in accordance with the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, will comply with the terms and conditions of such general permit.
- ii. All non-engineered and engineered stormwater management systems:
  - have been designed to control pollution to the BAT and that conform to those in the Guidelines and the Stormwater Quality Manual.
  - will function properly as designed.
  - are adequate to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit. and
  - will protect the waters of the State from pollution.

**2.2.16.5 The Qualified Professional shall, provided it is true and accurate, certify to the following statement:**

“I hereby certify that I am a Qualified Professional engineer licensed in the state of Connecticut and in good standing or a qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional, or both, as defined in the General Permit for Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities (general permit) and as further specified in Sections 2.2.16.1.a and 2.2.16.1.b of the general permit. I am making this certification in connection with an application under such general permit, submitted to the Commissioner by [INSERT NAME OF APPLICANT] for an activity located at [INSERT ADDRESS OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY]. I have personally examined and am familiar with the information that provides the basis for this certification, including but not limited to all information described in Section 2.2.16.3 of such general permit, and I certify, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining such information, that the information upon which this certification is based is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that I have made the affirmative determination in accordance with Sections 2.2.13.2 and 2.2.16.4 of this general permit. I understand that this certification is part of an application submitted in accordance with Section 22a-430b of Conn. Gen. Stat. and is subject to the requirements and responsibilities for a Qualified Professional in such statute. I also understand that knowingly making any false statement in this certification may be punishable as a criminal offense, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment, under Section 53a-157b of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and any other applicable law.”

**2.2.17 Plan Review and Certification for Projects Conducted by State Agencies**

For construction activity owned or operated by a state of Connecticut agency (e.g. Department of Transportation (CTDOT), Department of Administrative Services (DAS), etc.), the applying agency has submitted to the Commissioner a signed certification by a Qualified Professional in accordance with the following requirements:

2.2.17.1 The applying agency or another state agency has developed a process to establish a list of Qualified Professionals for which the process to qualify has been approved in writing by the Commissioner.

2.2.17.2 The Qualified Professional reviewing and certifying the SPCP is included on the list prepared by a state agency and for which the process to establish the list has been approved by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 2.2.17.1, above.

2.2.17.3 The Qualified Professional signing the certification has, at a minimum, completely and thoroughly reviewed this general permit and the following regarding the discharges to be authorized under such general permit:

- a. All application information provided in accordance with Section 3.3 of such general permit.
- b. The site, based on a site inspection.
- c. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.
- d. The Guidelines.
- e. The Stormwater Quality Manual, if applicable.
- f. All non-engineered and engineered stormwater management systems, including any plans and specifications and any Department approvals regarding such stormwater management systems.

2.2.17.4 Affirmative Determination

- a. A qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional signing the certification must have made an affirmative determination, based on the review described in Section 2.2.13.1 of this general permit that:
  - i. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan prepared and certified pursuant to the application is adequate to assure that the project or activity authorized under this general permit, if implemented in accordance with the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, will comply with the terms and conditions of such general permit.
  - ii. All non-engineered stormwater management systems:
    - have been designed to control pollution to the BAT and that conform to those in the Guidelines and the Stormwater Quality Manual.
    - will function properly as designed.
    - are adequate to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit.
    - will protect the waters of the State from pollution.
  - iii. There are no engineered stormwater management systems for the site.
- b. A Qualified Professional engineer signing the certification must have made an affirmative determination, based on the review described in Section 2.2.13.1 of this general permit that:
  - i. The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan prepared and certified pursuant to the application is adequate to assure that the activity authorized under this general permit, if implemented in accordance with the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, will comply with the terms and conditions of such general permit.
  - ii. All non-engineered and engineered stormwater management systems:
    - have been designed to control pollution to the BAT and that conform to those in the Guidelines and the Stormwater Quality Manual.
    - will function properly as designed.

- are adequate to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit.
- will protect the waters of the State from pollution.

2.2.17.5 The Qualified Professional shall, provided it is true and accurate, certify to the following statement:

"I hereby certify that I am a Qualified Professional engineer licensed in the state of Connecticut and in good standing or qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional, or both, as defined in the General Permit for Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities and as further specified in Sections 2.2.16.1.a and 2.2.16.1.b of such general permit. I am making this certification in connection with an application under such general permit, submitted to the Commissioner by [INSERT NAME OF APPLICANT] for an activity located at [INSERT ADDRESS OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY]. I have personally examined and am familiar with the information that provides the basis for this certification, including but not limited to all information described in Section 2.2.17.3 of such general permit, and I certify, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining such information, that the information upon which this certification is based is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that I have made the affirmative determination in accordance with Sections 2.2.13.2 and 2.2.17.4 of this general permit. I understand that this certification is part of an application submitted in accordance with Section 22a-430b of Conn. Gen. Stat. and is subject to the requirements and responsibilities for a Qualified Professional in such statute. I also understand that knowingly making any false statement in this certification may be punishable as a criminal offense, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment, under Section 53a-157b of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and any other applicable law."

2.2.17.6 Applications for construction activities conducted by a state agency under this subparagraph may be submitted in accordance with the requirements in Sections 3.3.2.

## 2.2.18 Solar Arrays

For construction activities associated with the development of a Solar Array that is categorized as Locally Exempt, as defined in Section 10 of this general permit, the applicant shall also comply with the requirements in Appendix I.

## 2.3 Geographic Area

This general permit applies throughout the State of Connecticut.

## 2.4 Effective Date and Expiration Date of this General Permit

This general permit is effective on the date it is issued by the Commissioner and expires five (5) years from such date. The general permit may be administratively continued in effect until the Department has reissued the permit in accordance with the Conn. Gen. Stat. and Regs. Conn. State Agencies. If the permit is administratively continued, Permittees are required to comply with all permit terms and conditions, including the monitoring requirements and submittal of reports at the original frequency during the continuance of the permit.

## 2.5 Effective Date of Authorization

### 2.5.1 Authorization to Discharge for Existing Permittees

Upon the effective date of this general permit, Permittees that had existing authorization to discharge under the *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities*, issued December 31, 2020, ("Existing Permittees") shall have continued authorization to discharge under the terms and conditions of this general permit, provided the Permittee is in compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit and a complete application for this general permit is submitted to the Commissioner in accordance with Section 3 of this general permit on or before ninety (90) days after the effective date of this general permit until the Commissioner makes a final determination regarding such application.

If the Existing Permittee does not submit an appropriate, complete, and accurate application requesting authorization to discharge under this general permit or a Notice of Termination, if applicable, on or before ninety (90) days following the effective date of this permit, authorization under this permit will terminate on such due date. The Permittee must then submit a new application in compliance with the full terms and conditions of this permit. The Commissioner will review and approve, reject, or deny such applications in writing.

### **2.5.2 Emergency Construction Activity Exception**

For emergency construction activities (pursuant to Section 2.1.2) resulting in short-term discharges of stormwater from construction activities in response to a public emergency (e.g., mud slides, earthquake, extreme flooding conditions, widespread disruption in essential public services), when the related work requires immediate authorization to avoid imminent endangerment to human health, public safety, or the environment, or to reestablish essential public services, the date of authorization is the day the discharge initiated.

### **2.5.3 Locally Approvable Small Construction Activity**

No application or SPCP review is required for Small Construction Locally Approvable Projects that will disturb an area equal to or greater than one (1) and less than five (5) acres, regardless of phasing, provided a land-use commission of the municipality (i.e. planning/zoning, wetland, conservation, etc.) reviews and issues a written approval of the proposed erosion and sediment Control Measures, pursuant to the requirements of Section 22a-329 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. The owner or operator shall adhere to the erosion and sediment control land use regulations of the municipality in which the construction activity is conducted, as well as the Guidelines and the Stormwater Quality Manual. The date of authorization is the day written approval is obtained.

In the absence of a municipal commission to review and approve such activity, the Permittee shall apply with the DEEP under the requirements for a “Locally Exempt Project” and comply with all applicable conditions of this general permit.

### **2.5.4 Authorization to Discharge for New Permittees**

2.5.4.1 A new construction activity that has never been authorized to discharge under this general permit (“New Permittee”) is authorized to discharge in accordance with the terms and conditions of this general permit upon submittal of a complete application and after receiving a Notice of Coverage from the Commissioner in accordance with the following timelines:

- a. Standard Authorization Timelines:
  - i. For Locally Approvable Projects: sixty (60) days after submission of a complete application form.
  - ii. For Locally Exempt Projects with a total disturbed area of under twenty (20) acres: sixty (60) days after submission of a complete application form.
  - iii. For Locally Exempt Projects with a total disturbed area equal to or more than twenty (20) acres: ninety (90) days after submission of a complete application form.

2.5.4.2 Exceptions to the Standard Authorization Timelines

If either of the criteria apply below, authorization timelines shall supersede those in Subsection 2.5.4.1 above:

- a. For sites where the application and the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SPCP) availability and review provisions in Section 3.10 of this general permit are fulfilled prior to the expiration of the authorization timelines referenced in Subsection 2.5.4.1.a above, the Commissioner may grant authorization to discharge upon completion of those requirements.
- b. For sites where conditions of Section 2.2.4, 2.2.9 or Section 5.1.2 of the general permit apply, the construction activity is authorized only upon the date of the Commissioner's affirmative determination and/or Notice of Coverage.
- c. For Locally Exempt Projects conducted by a state agency, the construction activity may be authorized sixty (60) days after submission of a complete application form, regardless of the total disturbed area.

## **2.6 Transition to and from an Individual Permit**

No person shall operate or conduct an activity authorized by both this general permit and an individual permit or an alternative general permit issued by the Commissioner. The requirements for transitioning authorization are as follows:

### **2.6.1 Transition from an Individual Permit to Authorization Under this General Permit**

If an activity meets the requirements of authorization of this general permit and such operation or activity is presently authorized by an individual permit, the Permittee may seek a modification to the individual permit to exclude such operation or activity from that permit. If the operation or activity is the sole operation or activity authorized by such permit, the Permittee shall surrender its permit in writing to the Commissioner. In either event, such Permittee's individual permit shall continue to apply and remain in effect until authorization of such operation or activity under this general permit takes effect.

### **2.6.2 Transition from Authorization Under this General Permit to an Individual Permit**

If an activity or operation is authorized under this general permit and the Commissioner subsequently issues an individual permit for the same activity, then on the date any such individual permit is issued by the Commissioner, the authorization issued under this general permit shall automatically expire.

## Section 3 Application Requirements

### 3.1 Who Must File an Application

An application form is not required for an Emergency Construction Activity (Section 2.5.2) or “Small Construction Locally Approvable Activities” (Section 2.5.3).

For all other eligible construction activities, any person, municipality, or state agency that initiates, creates, originates, or maintains a discharge of stormwater from or associated with construction activities that disturb one (1) or more acres shall file with the Commissioner an application form that meets the requirements of this Section of this general permit. Such form shall be submitted along with the applicable fee within the timeframes and in the amounts specified in this Section.

### 3.2 Scope of Application

An applicant shall submit one (1) application for all discharges taking place at the site for which the application seeks authorization under this general permit. Discharges or activities taking place at more than one (1) site may not be consolidated on one (1) application form.

#### 3.2.1 Application Fees

3.2.1.1 For Existing Permittees, construction activities that were authorized to discharge under the previous iteration of the general permit, the renewal fee shall be \$1,250.

3.2.1.2 For new Locally Approvable projects and Locally Exempt projects conducted by a state agency, the application fee shall be \$1,250.

3.2.1.3 New Locally Exempt Projects

For new Locally Exempt projects the application fee shall be as follows:

a. For sites with total disturbance of one (1) or more acres, but less than twenty (20) acres, the fee shall be \$3,000.

b. For sites with total disturbance equal to or greater than twenty (20) acres and less than fifty (50) acres, the fee shall be \$4,000.

c. For sites with total disturbance equal to or greater than fifty (50) acres, the fee shall be \$5,000.

3.2.1.4 The fees for municipalities shall be half of those indicated, pursuant to Section 22a-6(b) of the Conn. Gen. Stat. State and Federal agencies shall pay the full fees specified in this subsection.

3.2.1.5 The application fee shall be paid to the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection.

3.2.1.6 An application shall not be deemed complete, and no activity shall be authorized by this general permit unless the application fee has been paid in full.

3.2.1.7 The application fee is non-refundable.

### 3.3 Application Requirements

All applications must be electronically submitted, along with all required elements. Failure to submit a complete application form with all the required components of the application may result in the rejection of the application and/or significant delay in the processing of the application.

#### 3.3.1 Permittees with Existing Authorization to Discharge

3.3.1.1 Permittees Authorized Under Previous General Permit

Upon the effective date of this general permit, existing Permittees authorized under the previous version of this general permit shall submit a complete application electronically for authorization to discharge under this general permit to the Commissioner in accordance with the requirements of this general permit on or before ninety (90) days after the effective date of this general permit. The Permittee submitting such application is not required to submit stormwater management design information included in Sections 5.2.1.2.g and 5.2.2.9. For such Permittees subject to Appendix I for solar projects, the Permittee will not be required to modify any existing Letters of Credit to meet the provisions of Section 1.0(8)(d)(ii) of Appendix I.

### 3.3.1.2 Permittees Submitting New Application for Change of Permittee

For permittees submitting a new application for a construction activity with existing coverage authorized after the effective date of this permit, pursuant to Section 3.7 (Change of Permittee), the new permittee shall submit a complete application electronically for authorization to discharge under this general permit to the Commissioner in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.7. The Notice of Termination of the previous permittee's authorization shall be submitted in accordance with Section 4.2.2. If the new application includes any change of construction activities from those authorized in the existing application, the new Permittee is not eligible for authorization under this Section and a complete application must be submitted in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.3.2. or 3.3.3, as appropriate.

### 3.3.1.3 Permittees Authorized Under a Site Preparation Phase Permit for a Design-Build Project

For state or federal agencies submitting an application for a Final Design Phase Permit to supersede a Site Preparation Phase Permit previously authorized for a design-build project, the permittee shall submit a complete application electronically for authorization to discharge under this general permit to the Commissioner in accordance with the requirements of this general permit at least thirty (30) days prior to the termination of the Site Preparation Phase Permit authorization pursuant to Section 4.2.3.

## 3.3.2 Applicants for New Locally Approvable Projects

For applications for new Locally Approvable projects and Locally Exempt projects conducted by a state agency, the application shall:

- 3.3.2.1 Be submitted to the Commissioner at least sixty (60) days prior to the planned commencement of the construction activity.
- 3.3.2.2 Include all of the information that may be required pursuant to Section 2.2, "Requirements for Authorization" of the general permit regarding compliance and/or consistency with the Coastal Management Act, NDDB Determination Letter, Discharges to Impaired Waters and TMDL requirements, Fisheries Consultation, and Aquifer Protection Areas. *Failure to include these components may result in the rejection of the Application.*
- 3.3.2.3 Include a copy of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan. The electronic SPCP shall be in Adobe™ PDF format or similar publicly available format in common use. The SPCP should not include any pages or other material that do not pertain to stormwater management or erosion and sediment control (such as electrical and lighting plans, boundary or lot surveys, building plans, non-stormwater related detail sheets, etc.). *The submission of these additional pages in the SPCP will delay the Department's review of the Application.*
- 3.3.2.4 Include a Plan Review Certification in accordance with the plan review certification requirements of either Section 2.2.15, 2.2.16, or 2.2.17 of the general permit.

### **3.3.3 Applications for New Locally Exempt Projects**

Applications for new Locally Exempt projects (except those projects conducted by a state agency pursuant to Section 3.3.2), shall:

3.3.3.1 Be submitted at least:

- a. Sixty (60) days prior to the planned commencement of the construction activity if the site has a total disturbance of between one (1) and twenty (20) acres.
- b. Ninety (90) days prior to the planned commencement of construction activity if the site:
  - i. Has a total disturbance greater than twenty (20) acres.
  - ii. Discharges to a tidal wetland (that is not a fresh-tidal wetland) within 500 feet of the discharge point.
  - iii. Or is subject to the impaired waters provisions of Section 2.2.9.2 of the general permit.

3.3.3.2 Include all of the additional information that may be required pursuant to Section 2.2 of the general permit, “Requirements of Authorization”, regarding compliance and/or consistency with the Coastal Management Act, NDDB Determination Letter, Discharges to Impaired Waters including TMDL requirements, Fisheries Consultation, Historic Preservation Review, Solar Array provisions, and Aquifer Protection.

3.3.3.3 Include an electronic copy of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SPCP) for the Commissioner’s review. The electronic SPCP shall be in Adobe™ PDF format. The SPCP should not include any pages or other material that does not pertain to stormwater management or erosion and sediment control (such as electrical and lighting plans, A-2 boundary or similar lot surveys, building plans, non-stormwater related detail sheets, etc.). *The submission of these additional pages in the SPCP will delay the Departments review of the application.*

## **3.4 Contents of Application**

### **3.4.1 Standard Application Form**

Applications shall be filed electronically on forms prescribed and provided by the Commissioner and include the following:

3.4.1.1 Legal name, mailing address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant. If the applicant is a person as defined in this permit transacting business in Connecticut and is registered with the Connecticut Secretary of the State, provide the exact name as registered with the Connecticut Secretary of the State.

3.4.1.2 Name, address, telephone number, contact’s name, title, phone number, and email address for the following, if different than the applicant:

- Owner of the property on which the construction activity will take place.
- Primary contact for departmental correspondence and inquiries, if different from the applicant.
- Developer of the property on which the construction activity is to take place.
- General contractor(s) or other representative(s), if different from the developer (day and night).
- Qualified Professionals, engineer(s) or landscape architect(s) retained by the Permittee to prepare the application and/or the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.

3.4.1.3 Physical address or description of the site for which the application is filed. If the site does not have a mailing address, provide the nearest crossroads, mile markers, latitude/longitude, or permanent structures to identify the location.

3.4.1.4 For Existing Permittees, the previously issued permit number.

3.4.1.5 The estimated duration of the construction activity.

3.4.1.6 Indication of the normal working hours at the site.

3.4.1.7 A brief description of the construction activity, including, but not limited to

- Total number of acres to be disturbed, regardless of phasing.
- Indication or Narrative description that construction is in accordance with The Guidelines and Stormwater Quality Manual and local erosion and sediment control ordinances, where applicable.
- Assurances

Assurance that the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan is consistent with the requirements of this general permit and the following provisions of state statutes and regulations, as appropriate:

- For sites in the Coastal Boundary, documentation that the DEEP Land and Water Resources Division or local governing authority has issued a coastal site plan approval or a determination that the project is exempt from coastal site plan review (see Appendix D) in accordance with Section 22a-92 and 22a-93(15) of the Conn. Gen. Stat.
- Documentation that the construction activity will not threaten the continued existence of any species listed pursuant to Section 26-306 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. as endangered or threatened and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat designated as essential to such species (see Appendix A). For sites located within a “listed species” habitat, applications must include a valid National Diversity Database Determination Letter Identification number.
- For sites discharging to impaired waters or waters that have a TMDL or specific load allocation for the site, as specified in Section 2.2.9.3 of the general permit, documentation that the construction activity meets the requirements of that section and Section 5.2.3 of the general permit for authorization under this general permit.
- Indication or documentation to determine if the construction activity is located within an aquifer protection area (see Appendix C) as mapped under Section 22a-354b of the Conn. Gen. Stat. If the site is partially or wholly in an aquifer protection area or public water supply watershed, provide a copy of correspondence with the local water company demonstrating that the construction activity will comply with regulations adopted pursuant to Section 22a-354i of the Conn. Gen. Stat.
- Documentation that the proposed construction activity has been reviewed for consistency with state Historic Preservation statutes, regulations, and policies including identification of any potential impacts on property listed or property eligible for listing on the Connecticut Register of Historic Places. A review conducted for an Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 wetland permit would meet this qualification. Refer to Appendix G for guidance on conducting the required review.

- For a Locally Approvable project, a plan review certification from the appropriate and authorized District, qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional, and/or Qualified Professional engineer in accordance with Section 2.2.15.1 or Section 2.2.16.4.a or Section 2.2.16.4.b or a notice from the District that they were unable to complete the SPCP review within the time limits specified in the Memorandum of Agreement in Appendix E.

- e. For construction activities within one hundred (100) feet of any stream, river, or tributary that is included within a Cold Water Stream Habitat, as may be authorized by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 2.2.10 of this general permit, a completed Fisheries Consultation Form or, for projects conducted by state agencies, documentation of official interagency coordination between the Fisheries Division and other state agency staff. An email is not considered official coordination.

3.4.1.8 Stormwater discharge information

- a. Name and waterbody ID of receiving stream(s) or waterbody(ies) to which the construction activity discharges and indication of whether or not a receiving stream is listed as an impaired water with or without a TMDL, including identification of the impairment in the most recent State of Connecticut Integrated Water Quality Report or identification of the receiving stream as a high quality water in the Connecticut Water Quality Standards.
- b. Number, type (e.g., swale or pipe), material (e.g., concrete or metal pipe, grass swale), and size of all outfalls that convey stormwater runoff from the site.
- c. Unique identifier (001, 002) and location of all stormwater discharge(s) including latitude and longitude.
- d. If the discharge enters a private or publicly owned storm sewer system, provide the name of the owner of the system.
- e. Indication whether or not the site discharges within 500 feet of a tidal wetland (not a fresh tidal wetland).
- f. Type of structural and nonstructural treatment practice used at each outfall or upgradient from each outfall if one exists.

3.4.1.9 The total effective impervious cover for the site before and after the proposed construction activity.

3.4.1.10 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan

- a. An electronic copy of the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan. The electronic SPCP shall be in Adobe™ PDF format.  
Provide an internet address (URL) where the Pollution Control Plan is accessible for public review. The internet address shall remain available and accessible during the term of the permit.
- b. The SPCP should not include any pages or other material that do not pertain to stormwater management or erosion and sediment control (such as electrical and lighting plans, boundary or lot surveys, building plans, non-stormwater related detail sheets, etc.). Also, the full calculation sheets for peak flow analysis (e.g. HydroCAD), other than sheets providing a brief summary of peak flow and Water Quality Volume analyses, should not be included in the SPCP. The full calculation sheets shall be available upon request by the Commissioner. *The submission of these additional pages in the SPCP will delay the Departments review of the application.*
- c. SPCPs submitted for application must comply with all requirements listed in Section 5.2.1.2 of this general permit.

3.4.1.11 Certifications

- a. The certification of the applicant and of the individual or individuals responsible for preparing the application, in accordance with Section 2.2.13 of the general permit.
- b. A design certification must be signed by a professional engineer or, where appropriate, a landscape architect in accordance with Section 2.2.14 of the general permit.
- c. For Locally Approvable projects a signed certification must be submitted by either:

- i. An authorized representative of the District in accordance with Section 2.2.15 of the general permit.
- ii. A qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional and/or Qualified Professional engineer in accordance with either Section 2.2.16 of the general permit.
- d. The training certification(s) obtained by the Qualified Inspector.

### **3.4.2 Application for State or Federal Agency Design-Build Projects**

#### **3.4.2.1 Application for Site Preparation Projects**

For a state or federal agency submitting an application for Early Release Construction (ERC) work for the Site Preparation Phase of a design-build project, the Permittee shall include in their application all information included in Section 3.4.1, above, except the peak flow and Water Quality Volume analyses in Section 3.4.1.10.b. The Permittee shall also not be subject to the Post-Construction Performance Standards in Section 5.2.2.9.

#### **3.4.2.2 Application for Final Design Projects**

For a state or federal agency submitting an application for the Final Design Phase of a design-build project, the Permittee shall include in their application all information included in Section 3.4.1, including identification of the Site Preparation Phase Permit number pursuant to Section 3.4.1.4.

### **3.5 Notice of Change**

The Permittee shall submit a Notice of Change to the Commissioner electronically to the Department at: [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) if any of the following criteria are met:

- To correct inaccurate or misleading information previously submitted to DEEP.
- Change of contractor.
- Changes to name of the project or site.
- Changes to the disturbed area on the site that reduces the distance to impaired waters, high quality waters, cold water habitat, endangered or threatened species habitat, or aquifer protection areas from those in the original SPCP. For increases of the disturbed area, see Section 3.6.
- Changes to engineered or non-engineered construction or post-construction Control Measures that have the potential to increase the rate or volume of stormwater discharged.

The Notice of Change shall be submitted before any such increases or changes are implemented. Changes to the SPCP documented under this section as well as those not requiring notice under this section shall continue to follow the provisions of Section 5.2.5, Keeping Pollution Control Plans Current.

### **3.6 New Application Required**

For sites that increase the amount of disturbed area by more than one (1) acre from the amount specified in the application approved by the Commissioner, a new application shall be submitted to the Commissioner in accordance with Section 3 of the general permit.

### **3.7 Change of Permittee**

Permit coverage is **not transferable**. When there is a change to the site's Permittee, the new Permittee must submit a new application to the Commissioner in accordance with Section 3 of this general permit within thirty (30) days following the date of transfer and the previous Permittee must submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) in accordance with Section 4 of this general permit.

### **3.8 Additional Information**

The Commissioner may require an applicant to submit additional information that the Commissioner reasonably deems necessary to evaluate the consistency of the subject activity with the requirements for authorization under this general permit. A response to the Commissioner's request for additional information shall be submitted to the Department within fifteen (15) days of the Commissioner's request.

### **3.9 Where to File an Application and Stormwater Construction Pollution Plan**

An application (available at: [www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater](http://www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater)) shall be filed electronically with the Commissioner in accordance with Section 3.4 of the general permit. If a permittee is not capable of submitting electronically, contact the DEEP stormwater staff at [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov).

### **3.10 Availability of Application and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan**

#### **3.10.1 Application Availability**

The application shall be made available for public review and comments by both the Permittee and the Commissioner.

##### **3.10.1.1 Availability by the Permittee**

- a. No later than five (5) days after submitting an application to the Commissioner, the Permittee shall make their application available to the following parties:
  - i. For discharges authorized by this general permit to a privately or publicly owned separate storm sewer system, a copy of the application that was submitted to the Department shall also be submitted to the owner and operator of that system.
  - ii. For discharges authorized by this general permit to a CTDOT separate storm sewer system, a copy of the application and all attachments thereto shall also be submitted to the CTDOT.
  - iii. For discharges within a public drinking water supply watershed or aquifer protection area, a copy of the application and the SPCP described in Section 5.2 of this general permit shall be submitted to the water company.
  - iv. For discharges to river components and tributaries which have been designated as Wild and Scenic under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a copy of the application and the SPCP described in 5.2 of this general permit shall be submitted to the applicable Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee. Please refer to Appendix H for additional guidance.
- b. A completed application shall be provided to the following persons immediately upon request:
  - i. The municipal planning commission, zoning commission and/or inland wetlands agency, or its respective enforcement officer or designated agent.
  - c. Following approval of the application by the Commissioner, the Permittee shall make a copy of the application available to the public pursuant to the Notice of Construction Activities requirements in Section 5.1.7.

##### **3.10.1.2 Availability by the Commissioner**

The Commissioner shall post on the DEEP website a list of applications submitted. SPCPs shall be posted electronically, or a link to such plans provided, with the corresponding application. On or before thirty (30) days from the date such application is accessible to the public through posting by the Commissioner, members of the public may review and comment on an application and/or SPCP. This provision shall not apply to Permittee's submitting a Permit renewal for sites applied under any previous version of this general permit and for which no Notice of Termination has been submitted pursuant to the "Termination Requirements" in Section 4 of the general permit.

### **3.10.2 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan Availability**

The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SPCP”) shall be made available for public review and comments by both the Permittee and the Commissioner.

#### **3.10.2.1 Availability by the Permittee**

The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan shall be provided to the following persons immediately upon request:

- a. The municipal planning commission, zoning commission and/or inland wetlands agency, or its respective enforcement officer or designated agent.
- b. If the stormwater discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer system, the municipal operator of the system.
- c. If the stormwater discharge is located within a public drinking water supply watershed or aquifer protection area, the water company or entity responsible for that water supply.
- d. Following approval of the application by the Commissioner, the Permittee shall make a copy of the SPCP available to the public for the duration of construction pursuant to the Notice of Construction Activities requirements of Section 5.1.7.

#### **3.10.2.2 Availability by the Commissioner**

- a. On or before thirty (30) days of receipt of an application and SPCP, the Commissioner shall post the SPCP on the DEEP website.
- b. On or before thirty (30) days from the date of posting of the list by the Commissioner, members of the public may submit written comments to the Commissioner. Comments shall be sent via email to [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) with the subject line “Construction GP Comments [INSERT NAME OF PERMITTEE].”

## **3.11 Actions by Commissioner**

### **3.11.1 Approval with Permit Conditions**

The Commissioner may approve an application with reasonable permit conditions. If the Commissioner approves the application with conditions, the Permittee shall be bound by such conditions as if they are part of this general permit.

### **3.11.2 Rejection or Denial**

The Commissioner may reject or deny without prejudice an application if it is determined that it does not satisfy the application requirements in Section 3 of this general permit, or if more than fifteen (15) days have elapsed since the Commissioner requested the Permittee submit additional information to determine eligibility for permit coverage for authorization to discharge under this general permit. Any application refiled after such a rejection shall be accompanied by the fee specified in Section 3.2.1 of this general permit.

### **3.11.3 Require Individual Permit**

The Commissioner may require that a Permittee obtain an individual permit for any discharge authorized by this permit in accordance with Section 22a-430b(c) of the Conn. Gen. Statutes.

### **3.11.4 Activity Inconsistent with Authorization Requirements**

The Commissioner may reject or deny an application if he or she finds that the subject activity is inconsistent with the “Requirements for Authorization” in Section 2.2 of this general permit, or for any other reason provided by law.

### **3.11.5 Notice to Applicant**

Denial or rejection of an application under this subsection shall constitute notice to the applicant that the subject activity may not lawfully be conducted or maintained without the issuance of an individual permit in accordance with Section 22a-430 of Regs. Conn. State Agencies.

### **3.11.6 Notice in Writing**

Rejection or denial of an application shall be provided to the applicant in writing and state the reasons for such rejection or disapproval.

## Section 4 Termination Requirements

### 4.1 Notice of Termination

A Notice of Termination (NOT) must be submitted to the Commissioner on a prescribed form under the following conditions: at the completion of the construction project; or, for projects for which there is a Change of Permittee pursuant to Section 3.7, upon approval of a new permit authorized pursuant to Section 3.3.1.2; or for a state or federal agency with a Site Preparation Phase Permit authorized pursuant to Sections 3.3.2 and 3.4.2.1, upon approval of a Final Design Phase Permit authorized pursuant to Sections 3.3.2 and 3.4.2.2.

For Solar Array Projects, also refer to Appendix I for additional requirements.

### 4.2 Termination Requirements

#### 4.2.1 Standard Termination

A project shall be considered complete after all post-construction measures have been installed, cleaned, functioning, inspected, and the site has achieved final stabilization as defined in Section 10 for all phases of construction for at least one (1) year following the Final Stabilization Inspection. The termination process for a project for which the Permittee has completed construction and is obtaining a Notice of Termination shall include the following information:

4.2.1.1 A Notice of Termination form shall include the following:

- The permit number as provided to the Permittee on the Notice of Coverage.
- The name of the Permittee as reported on the general permit application form.
- The address of the completed construction site.
- A description of the post-construction activities at the site.
- A copy of the Termination Inspection.

4.2.1.2 The dates when:

- Construction was completed.
- All storm drainage structures were cleaned of construction debris pursuant to the “Other Controls” in Section 5.2.2.11 of this general permit.
- The Post-Construction Inspection was completed pursuant to Section 5.2.4.3.
- The Final Stabilization Inspection was completed pursuant to Section 5.2.4.4.
- The Termination Inspection was completed pursuant to Section 5.2.4.5.

4.2.1.3 Certifications and Signatures for the following:

- The Permittee.
- The person who conducted the Post-Construction Inspection pursuant to Section 5.2.4.3 of the general permit.
- The person who conducted the Final Stabilization Inspection pursuant to Section 5.2.4.4 of the general permit.
- The person who conducted the Termination Inspection pursuant to Section 5.2.4.5 of the general permit.

#### **4.2.2 Termination Upon Change of Permittee**

For termination of a permit for which there is a change of Permittee (pursuant to Section 3.7), the original Permittee shall submit their Notice of Termination on or before thirty (30) days following the approval of an application filed by the new Permittee pursuant to Section 3.3.1.2. The original Permittee shall include the following information in their Notice of Termination:

4.2.2.1 A Notice of Termination form shall include the following:

- The permit number as provided to the original Permittee on their Notice of Coverage.
- The name of the original Permittee as reported on their general permit application form.
- The address of the construction site.
- The permit number as provided to the new Permittee on their Notice of Coverage.
- The name of the new Permittee as reported on their general permit application form.

4.2.2.2 The dates when:

- The date of transfer of ownership or assignment of the project to the new Permittee.
- The date the new Permittee obtained authorization as provided on their Notice of Coverage.

4.2.2.3 Certifications and Signatures for the following:

- The original Permittee.
- The new Permittee.

#### **4.2.3 Termination of Site Preparation Phase for Design-Build Projects by a State or Federal Agency**

For termination of a Site Preparation Phase Permit authorized pursuant to Sections 3.3.2 and 3.4.2.1, the original Permittee shall include the following information in their Notice of Termination following the approval of an application for a Final Design:

4.2.3.1 A Notice of Termination form shall include the following:

- The permit number as provided to the Permittee on the Notice of Coverage for the Site Preparation Phase Permit.
- The address of the construction site.
- The permit number as provided to the Permittee on the Notice of Coverage for the Final Design Phase Permit.

4.2.3.2 The date when the Permittee obtained authorization as provided on their Notice of Coverage for the Final Design Phase Permit.

4.2.3.3 Certifications and Signatures for the Permittee.

### **4.3 Where to File a Termination Form**

A termination form shall be filed electronically with the Commissioner at the following address:

[DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) with the subject line “Construction GP Termination [INSERT NAME OF PERMITTEE].”

## **Section 5 Conditions of this General Permit**

The Permittee shall, at all times, continue to meet the requirements for authorization set forth in this general permit. In addition, the Permittee shall ensure that authorized activities are conducted in accordance with the conditions in this section and the federal Effluent Limitation Guidelines 40 CFR§450—Construction and Development Point Source Category.

In the absence of information demonstrating otherwise, DEEP expects that compliance with the conditions in this permit will result in stormwater discharges being controlled as necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. If at any time the Permittee becomes aware, or DEEP determines, that discharges are not being controlled as necessary to meet applicable water quality standards, the Permittee must take corrective actions and document those actions. If during coverage under a previous permit, the Permittee was required to install and maintain stormwater controls specifically to meet the assumptions and requirements of an EPA-approved or established TMDL (for any parameter) or to otherwise control discharges to meet water quality standards, the Permittee must continue to implement such controls as part of their coverage under this permit. Failure to implement necessary corrective actions is considered a violation of this permit.

### **5.1 General Conditions**

#### **5.1.1 Structures and Dredging in Coastal and Tidal Areas**

Any person or municipality who discharges stormwater into coastal tidal waters for which a permit is required under Section 22a-361 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. (structures and dredging) or Section 22a-32 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. (Tidal Wetlands Act), shall obtain such permit(s) from the Commissioner. A tidal wetland permit is required for any regulated activity conducted within a tidal wetland, including, but not limited to, the placement of any sediment upon a tidal wetland, whether it is deposited directly or indirectly.

#### **5.1.2 Discharges to Tidal Wetlands**

Any site which has a post-construction stormwater discharge to a tidal wetland (that is not a fresh-tidal wetland) where such discharge is within 500 feet of the tidal wetland, shall discharge such stormwater through a system designed to retain and infiltrate the Water Quality Volume (“WQV”), as defined in Section 10, on the site. If there are site constraints that would prevent retention of this volume on-site (e.g., brownfields, capped landfills, bedrock, elevated groundwater, etc.), documentation must be submitted, for the Commissioner’s review and written approval, explaining the site limitations and offering an alternative retention volume for consideration. In such cases, the portion of the WQV that cannot be retained must be provided with additional stormwater treatment to protect water quality. Any such treatment shall be designed, installed and maintained in accordance with the Stormwater Quality Manual.

For sites unable to comply with this section, the Commissioner, at the Commissioner’s sole discretion, may require the submission of an individual permit in lieu of authorization under this general permit.

#### **5.1.3 Quality of Discharge**

The discharge shall not contain visible floating scum, oil, trash, or other matter contained in the stormwater discharge.

#### **5.1.4 Toxicity to Aquatic and Marine Life/Risk to Human Health**

The discharge shall not result in pollution which may cause or contribute to acute or chronic toxicity to aquatic life, impair the biological integrity of aquatic or marine ecosystems, result in unacceptable bioaccumulation, risk to human health, or ecological communities.

#### **5.1.5 Water Quality Standards**

The stormwater discharge shall not cause or contribute to an exceedance of the applicable Water Quality Standards or Criteria in the receiving water.

### **5.1.6 Inspections and Certifications**

The following initial inspections and certifications shall apply to all projects:

#### **5.1.6.1 Pre-Construction Meeting**

Prior to commencement of any construction activity, the Permittee shall conduct a pre-construction meeting with the Qualified Professional who designed the project, the Qualified Inspector who will be conducting inspections, and all site contractors and subcontractors to be involved in construction activity. Such meeting shall convey the design, stormwater Control Measures, erosion and sediment controls, plan implementation and routine site inspections, and contract requirements for the project prior to earth disturbance. Such a meeting shall also include a site walk of the project site.

- a. For Solar Arrays subject to Appendix I and any other project that may be reviewed and/or inspected by a representative of the District, the pre-construction meeting and site walk shall also include the appropriate District personnel.
- b. For State of CT Agencies, the CTDOT District Engineer, District Environmental Coordinator, or the designated employee of another state agency shall conduct the pre-construction inspection

The Permittee shall develop and retain in the SPCP a pre-construction meeting report. The report shall, at a minimum, include the date, time, names and titles of attendees, company names, phone and email addresses for each attendee and their signature confirming the Permittee held a pre-construction meeting and that they understand the design, stormwater Control Measures erosion and sediment controls, plan implementation, routine site inspections and contract requirements for the project.

#### **5.1.6.2 Contractor Certifications**

The Permittee shall obtain signed certifications for all contractors and subcontractors that will perform construction activities on the site and that have the potential to cause pollution of the waters of the State. Such signed certifications shall be retained in the SPCP. Contractors and subcontractors shall certify the following:

“I certify under penalty of the law that I have read and understand the terms and conditions of the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities and the site-specific Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SPCP”). I understand that as a contractor or subcontractor at the site, I must comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit and the SPCP.”

#### **5.1.6.3 Construction Inspections**

All construction site inspections shall be conducted in accordance with Section 5.2.4 of this general permit.

### **5.1.7 Post Notice of Construction Activities**

Upon commencement of construction activities, the Permittee shall post a sign of permit coverage at a safe, publicly accessible location in close proximity to the construction site. The sign must be at least two (2) feet by three (3) feet in dimension, weatherproof, and in English and Spanish, located so it is visible and legible from the public road nearest to the active part of the construction. The notice shall include:

- the name of the Permittee.
- the DEEP permit number.
- the site address.
- a contact name.

- contact email and phone number.
- the estimated start date and completion date.
- the Permittee-hosted website or email where the SPCP and application are available or can be obtained.
- the following statement: “If you observe indicators of stormwater pollutants in the discharge from this site or in the receiving water, please contact the CT DEEP through the link for Reporting Water Pollution at: [www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater](http://www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater)”.

For linear projects, such as roadways or utility rights-of-way, the Permittee shall post a sign at roadway crossings, public access points, and other areas where the public may reasonably view the notice.

The notice must be maintained on-site from the time construction activities begin until a Notice of Termination is approved.

## 5.2 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan

All Permittees shall develop and maintain on-site a Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SPCP”) for the discharge of stormwater for the construction activity authorized by this general permit. Once the construction activity begins, the Permittee shall perform all actions required by such SPCP and shall maintain compliance with the SPCP at all times. The Permittee shall ensure that the design and implementation of the SPCP minimizes: (1) soil erosion and sedimentation during and after construction; and (2) stormwater pollution from the site after construction is completed.

### 5.2.1 Development and Required Elements of the Plan

5.2.1.1 The SPCP shall consist of site plan drawings, selected Best Management Practices (“BMPs”), Control Measures and a narrative described in this section. The SPCP shall be prepared in accordance with sound engineering practices, and shall be consistent with the Guidelines, the Stormwater Quality Manual (available at <http://www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater>) and any applicable requirements of this general permit. The SPCP shall also be consistent with any remedial action plan, closure plan or other plan required by any other DEEP permit.

5.2.1.2 The SPCP shall, at a minimum, take into account and include the following items:

a. Account for the following factors in designing stormwater controls:

- The expected amount, frequency, intensity, and duration of precipitation.
- The nature of stormwater runoff (i.e., flow) and run-on at the site, including factors such as expected flow from impervious surfaces, slopes, and site drainage features.
- The proximity to wetlands, vernal pools, and surface waters.
- The Permittee must design stormwater controls to control stormwater volume, velocity, and peak flow rates to minimize discharges of pollutants in stormwater and to minimize channel and streambank erosion and scour in the immediate vicinity of discharge points.
- The soil type and range of soil particle sizes that are expected to be present on the site.

b. Project Description and Construction Sequencing

The SPCP shall provide a detailed description of the entire project, including the expected phasing or sequence of all construction activities on the site, names of corresponding erosion and sediment Control Measures for each phase of the project, and an estimated timeline for all construction activities. The timeline must be revised as necessary to keep the SPCP current. Wherever practicable, site construction activities shall be phased to avoid the disturbance of over five (5) acres at one time (or a lesser area of disturbance as required in Section 5.2.3 of the general permit regarding “Impaired Waters”). In addition, perimeter Control Measures and permanent

stormwater Control Measures, including, but not limited to, stormwater basins should be constructed in the early phases of the construction sequence prior to large-scale site disturbance. The SPCP shall clearly show the estimated limits of total disturbance for the construction activity and for each phase.

The SPCP shall provide a detailed description of how each phase of construction will be conducted, including, but not limited to:

- commencement of construction activities in each portion of the site, including clearing and grubbing, mass grading, demolition activities, site preparation (i.e., excavating, cutting and filling), final grading, and creation of soil and vegetation stockpiles requiring stabilization.
- temporary or permanent cessation of construction activities in each portion of the site.
- temporary or final stabilization of exposed areas for each portion of the site.
- removal of temporary stormwater controls and construction equipment or vehicles.
- the cessation of construction-related pollutant-generating activities.

c. Site Description, including, but not limited to:

- a narrative description of the nature of the construction activity.
- an estimate of the total area of the site and the total area of the site that is expected to be disturbed by construction activities.
- an estimate of the average runoff coefficient of the site after construction activities are completed.
- the name of the immediate receiving water(s) and the ultimate receiving water(s) of the discharges authorized by this general permit.
- extent of the wetland acreage on the site.

d. Site plan drawings indicating:

- drainage patterns and approximate slopes anticipated after major grading activities.
- areas of soil disturbance.
- the location of major structural and non-structural controls as specified in Subsection 5.2.2.
- the location of areas where stabilization practices are expected to occur.
- areas of existing vegetation.
- areas which will be vegetated following construction.
- the locations of test pits and infiltration tests for stormwater Control Measures.
- surface waters, impaired waters (identifying those with and without a TMDL), high quality waters, inland wetlands, tidal wetlands, fresh-tidal wetlands.
- discharge locations and serial numbers where stormwater will be discharged to surface water (both during and post-construction).
- other surface or subsurface conditions that may affect design considerations regarding potential environmental impact.

e. Pollutants of Concern

The SPCP shall include a list and description of all pollutant-generating activities on the site, include an inventory of pollutants or pollutant constituents (e.g., sediment, fertilizers, pesticides, paints, caulk, sealants, fluorescent light ballasts, contaminated substrates, solvents, fuels)

associated with that activity, which could be discharged in stormwater from the construction site. The Permittee shall address the need for proper containment and/or storage of such potential pollutants to minimize the potential for the discharge of such pollutants from the site. The Permittee must consider where potential spills and leaks could occur that contribute pollutants to stormwater discharges, and any known hazardous or toxic substances, such as PCBs and asbestos, that will be disturbed or removed during construction.

f. Control Measures

The SPCP shall include detailed descriptions of all the Control Measures that will be implemented at the site, both in a separate narrative and on the site plan drawings, to prevent and minimize the discharge of pollutants to the BAT. Control Measures shall be implemented in accordance with Section 5.2.2 of the general permit. In addition, the following information shall be provided in the narrative for each Control Measure:

- calculations supporting the design of sediment and floatables removal controls pursuant to Section 5.2.2.10.b of the general permit.
- calculations supporting the design of velocity dissipation controls pursuant to Section 5.2.2.10.c of the general permit.

g. Runoff Reduction and Low Impact Development (LID) Information

Where runoff reduction practices and/or LID measures are utilized, the following information shall be included in the site plan and narrative description:

- the location of the site's existing streams, floodplains, wetlands, riparian buffers, slopes 3:1 and steeper, and the vegetation identified for preservation and non-disturbance during construction such as forested areas, hay fields, and other old agricultural fields.
- natural drainage patterns, swales, and other drainage ways, that are not streams, floodplains, or wetlands.
- the location of all areas with soils suitable for infiltration and areas of the site best suited for infiltration for the siting of runoff reduction practices and LID design measures.
- the location of all areas unsuitable or least suitable for infiltration for the siting of areas of development/building.
- the location of all test pits and infiltration tests in accordance with the Stormwater Quality Manual.
- the location of all post-construction stormwater management measures, runoff reduction practices, and LID design measures developed pursuant to Subsection 5.2.2.10 of the general permit.
- identification of areas inappropriate for the infiltration of stormwater runoff from land uses with a significant potential for groundwater pollution (e.g. brownfields sites).
- a description of the nature, purpose, implementation, and long-term maintenance of the post-construction stormwater management measures, runoff reduction practices, and LID design measures. Identify who will be responsible for the management of the post-construction stormwater Control Measures and the timeline for such management.
- calculations, for Control Measures developed pursuant to Section 5.2.2.9 of the general permit, illustrating the retention of the Water Quality Volume or half the Water Quality Volume for the site, as applicable, including a discussion of the impact of any runoff reduction and/or LID practices on these calculations.
- a narrative description for all site constraints that may prevent retention of the required Water Quality Volume specified in Section 5.2.2.9 of the general permit including: site limitations;

a description of the runoff reduction practices implemented; a demonstration and explanation that the amount retained is the Best Available Technology; an alternative retention volume; and a description of the measures used to provide additional stormwater treatment for sediment, floatables, bacteria, nutrients and metals above the alternate volume up to the Water Quality Volume.

- calculations showing the proposed effective impervious cover for the site and, where required or proposed for linear projects pursuant to Section 5.2.2.9.b of the general permit, each outfall drainage area.

h. Site Inspections

All inspections shall comply with the requirements and conditions of Section 5.2.4 of the general permit.

i. Plan Implementation Inspections

The SPCP shall include the following information for all completed inspections:

- Plan Implementation Inspection Checklist.
- a schedule for conducting inspections.
- name, credentials, and responsibilities for each inspector.
- name, credentials, and responsibilities of the designing Qualified Professional (and District personnel, as appropriate) conducting such inspections, and required procedures pursuant to Section 5.2.4 of the general permit.
- inspection findings.
- corrective actions required.
- signature of the inspector.
- for additional inspection requirements for Solar Arrays Projects see Appendix I.

ii. Routine Inspections

The SPCP shall include the following information for all complete inspections:

- a routine inspection checklist.
- schedule for conducting inspections.
- identification and qualifications of the Qualified Inspector(s) conducting the routine inspections and their responsibilities and procedures pursuant to Subsection 5.2.4.2 of the general permit.
- inspection findings.
- corrective actions required.
- signature of the Qualified Inspector.
- For additional inspection requirements for Solar Arrays Projects see Appendix I.

i. Contractors

- i. The SPCP shall clearly identify each contractor and subcontractor that will perform construction activities on the site that have the potential to cause pollution of the waters of the State. The SPCP shall retain a signed and dated copy of each certification statement in accordance with Section 5.1.6.2 of the general permit.

ii. Subdivisions

Where individual lots in a subdivision or other common plan of development are conveyed or otherwise the responsibility of another person or municipality, the Permittee is responsible to ensure that those individual lot contractors comply with the provisions of this general permit and the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan, regardless of the lot size or disturbed area. In such cases, the Permittee shall provide a copy of the SPCP to each individual lot contractor, obtain their signed certification, and retain the documentation in the SPCP.

j. Impaired Waters

For construction activities that discharge to impaired waters, as specified in Section 2.2.9, the SPCP shall include a description of the provisions for controlling the preconstruction, active construction, and post-construction stormwater discharges to these waters pursuant to Section 5.2.3 below.

## 5.2.2 Stormwater Control Measures

Control Measures are required Best Management Practices (“BMPs”) that the Permittee must implement to prevent or minimize, as defined in this permit, the discharge of pollutants from the permitted activity. The Permittee shall comply with all of the BMPs in this section.

Control Measures shall be designed in accordance with the Guidelines, the Stormwater Quality Manual or the CTDOT Qualified Products List ([CTDOT QPL](#)). Use of Control Measures to comply with Section 5.2.2.1 of this general permit (“Erosion and Sediment Controls”), that are not included in such references must be approved by the Commissioner. The narrative and drawings of controls shall address the following minimum components:

### 5.2.2.1 Erosion and Sediment Controls

a. Soil Stabilization and Protection

The SPCP shall include a narrative description and drawings of interim and permanent soil stabilization practices for managing disturbed areas and soil stockpiles, including a schedule for implementing the practices. The Permittee shall ensure that existing vegetation is preserved to the BAT and disturbed portions of the site are minimized and stabilized throughout the duration of the construction activity at the site.

b. Erosion Control Barriers

In addition to requirements for erosion control barriers prescribed in the Guidelines, the Permittee shall ensure that two (2) rows of erosion control barriers are installed and maintained on sites with slopes equal to or greater than eight percent (8%) within the contributing drainage area to such barrier.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, use of two (2) rows of erosion control barriers shall not be required on the sites specified in this paragraph when:

- i. The Commissioner determines, for a limited section or portion of such erosion control barriers, that it is necessary to accommodate animal crossing or animal movement.
- ii. The Commissioner approves a SPCP that includes an erosion control system whose performance is equivalent to, or exceeds, two rows of erosion control barriers.
- iii. For linear projects, the Commissioner has determined that two rows of erosion control barriers, when compared to one row, will cause greater adverse impact to wetlands, waters, or other sensitive resources.

In such a situation the Commissioner may approve of a SPCP with one row of erosion control barriers or an alternative erosion control system. When implementing this paragraph, the Commissioner may consider the contributing disturbed area, drainage area, length of the slope,

flow conditions to maintain sheet flow, the efficacy of the proposed barrier, any adverse impacts and any other reasonable factor as determined by the Commissioner.

#### 5.2.2.2 Soil Stabilization Timeline

Where construction activities have permanently ceased or when final grades are reached in any portion of the site, stabilization and protection practices as specified in the Guidelines or as approved by the Commissioner shall be initiated immediately and completed within seven (7) days. Notwithstanding any provisions of the Guidelines, areas that will remain disturbed but inactive for at least fourteen (14) calendar days shall receive temporary seeding or soil protection within seven (7) days in accordance with the Guidelines unless site conditions warrant shorter time periods for these provisions.

Areas that will remain disturbed beyond the seeding season as identified in the Guidelines, shall receive long-term, non-vegetative stabilization and protection sufficient to protect the site through the winter and spring when vegetative stabilization can resume. In all cases, stabilization and protection measures shall be implemented as soon as possible in accordance with the Guidelines or as approved by the Commissioner. In drought-stricken areas, alternative stabilization measures must be employed, as necessary, in accordance with the Guidelines.

#### 5.2.2.3 Maintenance of Vegetation

To prevent erosion and soil compaction during construction activities, temporary or permanent vegetation or other ground cover shall be maintained at all times in all areas of the site, except those undergoing active disturbance. All new temporary and permanent vegetation shall consist of native plant species. With respect to such vegetation, the Permittee shall not use chemical fertilization, herbicides, or pesticides except as necessary to establish such vegetation in accordance with the manufacturer's label. The application of chemical pesticides and herbicides shall fully comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The Commissioner encourages the use of pollinator-friendly plant species and integrated pest management practices.

#### 5.2.2.4 Slope Benches

A reverse slope bench is required for any slope steeper than 3:1 (horizontal: vertical) that exceeds 15 feet vertically, except when engineered slope stabilization structures or measures are included or a detailed soil mechanics analysis has been conducted to verify stability. Engineered analyses and measures must be designed by a Qualified Professional engineer with experience in geotechnical engineering or soil mechanics. The qualifications, engineered analysis, and measures shall be included in the SPCP.

#### 5.2.2.5 Wetland Protection

The Commissioner encourages the use of a one hundred (100) foot buffer from any wetland or watercourse. Where site disturbance occurs within fifty (50) feet upgradient of a wetland or waters a double row of sediment barriers (e.g. hay bales, silt fence, wattles, etc.) shall be installed in accordance with the Guidelines between the disturbed area and any such downgradient wetland or waters.

#### 5.2.2.6 Structural Measures

The SPCP shall include a narrative description and drawings of structural measures to divert flows away from exposed soils, store flows or otherwise limit runoff and minimize the discharge of pollutants from the site. Unless otherwise specifically approved in writing by the Commissioner, or if otherwise authorized by another State of Connecticut or federal permit, structural measures shall be installed on upland soil.

For points of discharge from disturbed sites with a total contributing drainage area of between two (2) to five (5) acres, a temporary sediment trap or temporary sediment basin shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Guidelines. For points of discharge from disturbed sites with a total contributing

drainage area greater than five (5) acres, a temporary sediment basin shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Guidelines. Such trap(s) or basin(s) shall utilize outlet structures that withdraw water from the surface (surface outlet), if feasible, and must be maintained until final stabilization of the contributing area.

The requirement for sediment traps or basins shall not apply to flows from off-site areas and flows from areas of the site that are either undisturbed or have undergone final stabilization, provided such flows are diverted around the temporary sediment trap or basin and are approved in writing by the Commissioner.

#### 5.2.2.7 Maintenance

The SPCP shall include a narrative of the procedures to maintain, in good and effective operating condition, all erosion and sediment BMPs and Control Measures, including vegetation, and all other protective measures identified in the SPCP. Maintenance of all erosion and sediment controls shall be performed in accordance with the Guidelines, or more frequently as necessary.

#### 5.2.2.8 Dewatering

- a. Dewatering shall be managed in accordance with the Guidelines. Stormwater discharged to surface waters shall be discharged in a manner that minimizes the discoloration of the receiving waters. The SPCP shall include a narrative description and identify in the drawings the operational and structural measures that will be used to ensure that dewatering waters will not cause scouring or erosion or contain suspended solids in amounts that could reasonably be expected to cause pollution of surface waters of the State or cause or contribute to instream water quality violations. Unless otherwise specifically approved in writing by the Commissioner, or if otherwise authorized by another state or federal permit, dewatering measures shall be installed on upland soil. If turbidity or discoloration or other pollutants are observed in the discharge from dewatering Control Measures, additional or alternate Control Measures or other corrective actions must be implemented in accordance with Section 5.2.4.2.c.i and the Guidelines. The Permittee shall document any corrective actions taken in their SPCP.

No discharge of stormwater shall contain or cause a visible oil sheen, turbidity, floating solids, debris, trash, or foaming in the receiving water.

##### b. Turbidity Monitoring

For construction activities with dewatering operations, the Permittee shall carry out initial and weekly monitoring for turbidity from each dewatering discharge point for the duration of dewatering operations. Samples shall be taken after the dewatering water has been treated by any treatment device or control measure. The Permittee shall measure turbidity in accordance with 40 CFR 136. The Permittee shall take the first turbidity measurement within 30 minutes of initiating the dewatering discharge. Following this initial monitoring, the Permittee shall conduct weekly monitoring during the Routine Inspection pursuant to Section 5.2.4.2. A record of the turbidity monitoring results shall be kept on-site with the SPCP and submitted to the Commissioner pursuant to Section 5.3.2.2.

- c. In the absence of information demonstrating otherwise, DEEP expects that compliance with the conditions in this permit will result in stormwater discharges being controlled as necessary to meet applicable water quality standards. If the Permittee is aware of, or becomes aware of, or has reasonable suspicion of contamination onsite from historical activities or the site may have contaminated groundwater, or if any pollutants are known or believed present in the proposed dewatering discharge water, the applicant or Permittee shall apply for coverage under the appropriate permit for authorization to discharge to surface water, ground water, or a POTW. That permit will only cover the treatment and discharge of the contaminated water and will remain active until the cessation of dewatering activities.

- d. For the purposes of this condition, a pollutant may be verified as “known present” if measured above the analytical detection limit using a sufficiently sensitive test method in an environmental sample, and “believed present” if a pollutant has not been measured in an environmental sample but will be added or generated prior to discharge, such as through a treatment process. Consequently, a pollutant may be verified as “known absent” if measured as non-detect relative to the analytical detection limit using a sufficiently sensitive test method in an environmental sample, and “believed absent” if a pollutant has not been measured in an environmental sample but will not be added or generated prior to discharge and is not a parameter that applies to the applicable activity category for a site. If any pollutants are known or believed present in the proposed dewatering discharge water, the applicant shall test one sample of the proposed dewatering discharge water for the pollutants known or believed to be present.

#### 5.2.2.9 Post-Construction Performance Standards

The SPCP shall include a narrative description and drawings of measures that will be installed during the construction process to minimize the discharge of pollutants in stormwater discharges that will occur after construction operations have been completed. Permittees are encouraged to consider the potential need for future resiliency measures to minimize impacts from stormwater discharges from major storm events such as hurricanes, storm surge, extreme/heavy precipitation, and flooding events. Post-construction stormwater management measures shall be designed and implemented in accordance with the Stormwater Quality Manual, the CTDOT Qualified Products List, or as approved by the Commissioner. Unless otherwise specifically provided by the Commissioner in writing, or authorized by another state or federal permit, structural measures shall be placed on upland soils. The SPCP shall include provisions to address the long-term maintenance of any postconstruction stormwater management measure installed.

The Permittee shall utilize runoff reduction practices as defined in Section 10 of this general permit to meet runoff volume requirements based on the conditions below.

##### a. Redevelopment

For sites that are currently developed with an effective impervious cover of forty percent or more and for which the Permittee is proposing redevelopment, the Permittee shall design the site in such a manner as to retain on-site half the water quality volume (as defined in Section 10 of the general permit) for the site and provide additional stormwater treatment without retention for discharges up to the full Water Quality Volume for sediment, floatables and nutrients to BAT. In cases where the Permittee is not able to retain half the Water Quality Volume (e.g., brownfields, capped landfills, bedrock, elevated groundwater, etc.), the Permittee shall design the redevelopment to retain a runoff volume to the BAT. In such cases, additional stormwater treatment up to the full Water Quality Volume is still required. Any such treatment shall be designed, installed and maintained in accordance with the Stormwater Quality Manual. If retention of half the Water Quality Volume is not achieved, the Permittee shall submit a report for the Commissioner’s review and written approval describing: the measures taken to maximize runoff reduction practices on the site; the reasons why those practices constitute the BAT; the alternative retention volume; and a description of the measures used to provide additional stormwater treatment above the alternate volume up to the Water Quality Volume.

For sites falling under this subsection, where redevelopment only impacts a portion of a previously developed site, the retention of half the Water Quality Volume shall be calculated based on the area of the site and stormwater management system that is disturbed as part of the redevelopment.

##### b. Linear Redevelopment

In the case of linear redevelopment projects (e.g. roadway reconstruction or widening or public utility rights of way) for the developed portion of the right of way: (1) for projects that may be unable to comply with the retention of the appropriate portion of the Water Quality Volume

specified in subparagraphs (a) and (c) of this subsection, the alternate retention and treatment provisions may also be applied as specified in such subparagraphs, or (2) for projects that will not increase the effective impervious cover within a given watershed, the Permittee shall implement the additional stormwater treatment measures referenced in Subsections (a) and (c) of this subsection, but will not be required to retain the appropriate portion of the Water Quality Volume specified in such paragraphs.

c. Other Development

The following performance standard applies to all sites that are currently undeveloped or are currently developed with less than forty percent effective impervious cover. For these sites, the Permittee shall design the site to retain the Water Quality Volume for the site. If there are site constraints that would prevent retention of this volume on-site (e.g., brownfields, capped landfills, bedrock, elevated groundwater, etc.), documentation must be submitted, for the Commissioner's review and written approval, which: explains the site limitations; provides a description of the runoff reduction practices implemented; provides an explanation of why this constitutes the BAT; offers an alternative retention volume; and provides a description of the measures used to provide additional stormwater treatment for sediment, floatables and nutrients above the alternate volume up to the Water Quality Volume. In the case of linear projects that do not involve impervious surfaces (e.g. electrical transmission rights-of-way or natural gas pipelines), retention of the Water Quality Volume is not required as long as the post-development runoff characteristics do not differ significantly from pre-development conditions.

For redevelopment sites falling under this subsection, where redevelopment only impacts a portion of a previously developed site, the retention of the Water Quality Volume shall be calculated based on the area of the site and stormwater management system that is disturbed as part of the redevelopment.

5.2.2.10 Post-Construction Control Measures

a. Runoff Reduction and Low Impact Development (“LID”) Practices

The site design shall incorporate runoff reduction practices, low impact development (“LID”) practices or other post-construction Control Measures to meet the performance standards in Section 5.2.2.9 above, promote groundwater recharge and minimize post-construction impacts to water quality.

b. Suspended Solids and Floatables Removal

The Permittee shall install post-construction stormwater Control Measures designed to minimize the discharge of suspended solids and floatables (e.g. oil and grease, other floatable liquids, floatable solids, trash, etc.) from stormwater. A goal of 80 percent removal of the annual sediment load from the stormwater discharge shall be used in designing and installing such stormwater Control Measures. The SPCP shall provide calculations supporting the capability of such measures in achieving this goal and any third-party verification, as applicable, of the sediment removal efficiencies of such measures. This goal is not intended to limit local approval authorities from requiring a higher standard pursuant to local requirements.

c. Velocity Dissipation

Velocity dissipation devices shall be placed at discharge locations and along the length of any outfall channel as necessary to provide a non-erosive velocity flow to receiving waters so that the natural physical and biological characteristics and functions of such waters are maintained and protected.

5.2.2.11 Other Controls

The following additional controls shall be implemented:

a. Waste Disposal

Best management practices shall be implemented to minimize the discharge of litter, debris, building materials, hardened concrete waste, or similar materials to waters of the State. The Permittee shall ensure that waste storage containers, including, but not limited to, dumpsters or tanks, be covered and leak proof to prevent stormwater from coming into contact with solid or liquid waste. A narrative of these practices shall be provided in the SPCP. In addition, the dumping of liquid wastes in storm sewers is prohibited.

b. Washout Areas

Washout of applicators, containers, vehicles and equipment for concrete, paint and other materials shall be conducted in a designated washout area. There shall be no surface discharge of washout wastewater from this area. Such a washout shall be conducted:

- outside of any buffers.
- as far away as possible, but at least fifty (50) feet, from any stream, wetland, storm drain inlet, or other sensitive resource.
- in an area directed into a leak-proof container or leak-proof and lined pit designed so no overflows can occur due to inadequate sizing or precipitation in accordance with 40 CFR 450.21(e).

The Permittee shall clearly flag off and designate areas to be used for washing and conduct such activities only in these areas. The Permittee shall direct all wash water into a container or pit designed such that no overflows can occur during rainfall or after snowmelt. At least once per week, the Permittee shall inspect all the containers or pits used for washout to ensure structural integrity, adequate holding capacity, and to check for leaks or overflows. If there are signs of leaks, holes or overflows in the containers or pits that could lead to discharge, the Permittee shall repair them prior to further use.

For concrete washout areas, the Permittee shall remove hardened concrete waste whenever the hardened concrete has accumulated to a height of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the container or pit or as necessary to avoid overflows. The Permittee shall remove and dispose of such hardened concrete waste in accordance with the practices developed for "Waste Disposal" (see Section 5.2.2.11.a of this general permit).

A narrative of maintenance procedures and a record of maintenance and inspections shall be included in the SPCP.

c. Off-site Vehicle Tracking & Dust Suppression

- i. Off-site vehicle tracking of sediments and the generation of dust shall be minimized. A construction entrance shall be installed and maintained in accordance with the Guidelines, including appropriately configured measures for vehicle washdown.
- ii. Where sediment has been tracked-out from the site onto paved roads, sidewalks, or other paved areas outside of the site, the Permittee shall remove the deposited sediment by the end of the same business day in which the track-out occurs or by the end of the next business day if track-out occurs on a non-business day. The Permittee shall remove the track-out by sweeping, shoveling, or vacuuming these surfaces, or by using other similarly effective means of sediment removal. The Permittee is prohibited from hosing or sweeping tracked-out sediment into any constructed or natural site drainage feature, storm drain inlet or receiving water.
- iii. Wet dust suppression shall be used, in accordance with Section 22a-174-18(c) of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies, for any construction activity that causes airborne particulates. The volume of water sprayed for controlling dust shall be minimized to prevent the runoff of water. No discharge of dust control water shall contain or cause a visible oil sheen, floating

solids, visible discoloration, or foaming agents in any receiving waters. Additionally, water used in dust suppression shall not contain contaminants that could violate water quality standards.

d. Cleaning

All post-construction stormwater structures shall be cleaned of construction sediment and any remaining silt fence shall be removed upon stabilization of the site.

e. Storage of Chemicals, Petroleum Products, and Other Potential Pollutant Sources

All chemical and petroleum product containers stored on the site (excluding those contained within vehicles and equipment) shall be stored within an impermeable containment system that is free of gaps and cracks, can contain any leaks or spills and accumulated precipitation until the collected materials are detected and removed, and which can hold at least 110% of the volume of the largest container, or 10% of the total volume of all containers in the area, whichever is larger, without overflow from the containment system. In addition, all chemicals and petroleum products shall be stored under a roofed area except for those chemicals stored in containers of 100-gallon capacity or more, in which case a roof is not required. Double-walled tanks satisfy the requirements of this paragraph for containment and roofing.

Covered storage shall be provided for all non-liquid potential pollutant sources such as fertilizers, pesticides, caulk, sealants, fluorescent light ballasts, contaminated substrates, solvents, and other potential pollutant sources stored on-site. For liquid pollutants, including, but not limited to, paints and solvents, containment shall be considered adequate if it meets the requirements for chemical and petroleum storage in the previous paragraph.

f. Emergency Spill Response

Spills of oil, grease, or other harmful chemicals must immediately be cleaned by the removal of and containment of contaminated soil or emergency spill kit. An emergency spill kit, or alternative proprietary device, must be present and accessible on site for emergency removal of oil, grease, or chemical spills. For reportable spills per Regs. Conn. State Agencies 22a-430-3 subsection (p), the Permittee shall call the DEEP Emergency Response Unit at (860)424-3338.

g. Cold Water Stream Habitat

For construction activities within one hundred (100) feet of any stream, river, or tributary that is included within a Cold Water Stream Habitat, as may be authorized by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 2.2.10 of this general permit, any mitigation strategies authorized by the Commissioner must be verified post-construction by the designing qualified professional.

### 5.2.3 Additional Conditions for Impaired Waters

For construction activities that discharge directly to impaired waters for sediment or sediment-related impairments, as specified in “Discharges to Impaired Waters” in Section 2.2.9.2 of this general permit, the SPCP shall include the following provisions:

- Where an applicable TMDL sets specific load allocations or requirements for discharges authorized by this permit, discharges shall be consistent with any specific load allocations or requirements established by the applicable TMDL.
- Where an applicable TMDL has been established, but no specific requirements have been identified, compliance with this permit will be assumed to be consistent with the approved TMDL.
- The SPCP shall document that Control Measures are in place to ensure there will be no discharge to the waterbody that may impact or exceed the allocations.

### 5.2.4 Inspections

All construction activities authorized by this general permit shall be inspected initially for SPCP implementation as described in Section 5.1.6, and then routinely pursuant to Section 5.2.4.2. Upon project completion and prior to submission of a Notice of Termination, post-construction, final stabilization, and Termination Inspections shall also be conducted. For Solar Array inspections, see additional requirements in Appendix I.

#### 5.2.4.1 Plan Implementation Inspections

Prior to commencement of each phase of the construction activity on the site, the Permittee shall contact the designing Qualified Professional and, for Locally Exempt projects including, but not limited to, Solar Arrays subject to Appendix I, the appropriate District, to ensure that all required inspections are conducted. For each phase of construction, the site shall be inspected at least once within the first thirty (30) days of construction activity and at least three times, with seven (7) or more days between inspections, within the first ninety (90) days of construction activity to confirm compliance with the general permit and proper initial implementation of all Control Measures designated in the SPCP for each phase of construction. The following conditions shall apply:

- a. For all projects not conducted by a state agency and which disturb more than one (1) acre, the inspector shall be someone who:
  - i. Is not an employee, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, of the applicant, and
  - ii. Has no ownership interest of any kind in the project for which the application is being submitted.
- b. For projects conducted by a state agency and which disturb more than one (1) acre, the inspector shall be someone who:
  - i. Meets the requirements in subparagraph (a), above, or
  - ii. Is included in the list of Qualified Professionals specified in Section 2.2.17.1 of the general permit.

#### 5.2.4.2 Routine Inspections

The Permittee shall routinely inspect the site for compliance with the general permit, including, but not limited to, compliance with the SPCP for the site, until a Notice of Termination under Section 4 of the general permit has been submitted to the Commissioner. Inspection procedures for these routine inspections shall comply with the following:

- a. The Permittee shall maintain a rain gauge on-site to document rainfall amounts. At least once a week and within 24 hours of the end of a storm that generates a discharge, a Qualified Inspector (provided by the Permittee), shall inspect, at a minimum, the following: disturbed areas of the construction activity that have not been finally stabilized; site discharge outfalls; dewatering discharges; all erosion and sediment Control Measures; all structural Control Measures; all soil stockpile areas; all washout areas, and locations where vehicles enter or exit the site. If at all possible, the inspection shall be conducted during an active rain event. For storms that end on a weekend, holiday or other time after which normal working hours will not commence within 24 hours, a routine inspection is required within 24 hours only for storms that equal or exceed 0.5 inches. For storms of less than 0.5 inches, an inspection shall occur immediately upon the start of the subsequent normal working hours.

In areas of the site where temporary stabilization has been implemented, a routine inspection shall be conducted at least weekly until final stabilization has been achieved. Once all post-construction stormwater measures have been installed in accordance with the Post-Construction Stormwater Management and cleaned of any construction sediment or debris, a Post-Construction Inspection shall be conducted. For sites that have achieved final stabilization pursuant to Section 5.2.4.4, routine inspections shall then be conducted at least monthly.

- b. During each routine inspection the Qualified Inspector(s) shall, among other things, evaluate the effectiveness of erosion and sediment controls, structural controls, stabilization practices, and any other controls implemented to prevent pollution and determine if it is necessary to install, maintain, or repair such controls and/or practices to improve the quality of stormwater discharge(s). In addition, during each routine inspection, the site, including but not limited to, all of the areas noted in the preceding paragraph, shall be inspected for evidence of, or the potential for, the discharge of pollutants (such as sediment, discoloration, floatables, sheen, etc.) to waters or entering the drainage system, and impacts to the receiving waters. Turbidity monitoring pursuant to Section 5.2.2.8.b may also be conducted during these inspections. Locations where vehicles enter or exit the site shall also be inspected for evidence of off-site sediment tracking.
- c. The Qualified Inspector conducting routine inspections shall prepare a report on each inspection. Each such report shall be retained in the SPCP. This report shall summarize: the scope of the inspection; name(s) and qualifications of personnel conducting the inspection; the date(s) of the inspection; weather conditions including precipitation information; major observations relating to erosion and sediment controls and the implementation of the SPCP; a description of the stormwater discharge(s) from the site, including any evidence of pollutant discharge; and any water quality monitoring performed during the inspection.

The report shall be signed by the Permittee or his/her authorized representative in accordance with the Certification of Documents this general permit. The report shall include a statement that, in the judgment of the Qualified Inspector(s) conducting the site inspection, the site is either in compliance or out of compliance with the terms and conditions of the SPCP and permit. If the site inspection indicates that the site is out of compliance, the Permittee shall implement corrective actions pursuant to subsection i, below.

i. Corrective Actions

If the site inspection indicates that the site is out of compliance, the inspection report shall include a summary of the corrective actions required to bring the site back into compliance. Non-engineered corrective actions (as identified in the Guidelines) shall be implemented on site within 24 hours and incorporated into a revised SPCP within three (3) calendar days of the date of inspection unless another schedule is specified in the Guidelines. Engineered corrective actions (as identified in the Guidelines) shall be implemented on site within seven (7) calendar days and incorporated into a revised SPCP within ten (10) calendar days of the date of inspection, unless another schedule is specified in the Guidelines or is approved by the Commissioner. During the period in which any corrective actions are being developed and have not yet been fully implemented, interim measures shall be implemented to minimize the potential for the discharge of pollutants from the site. If the Permittee must repeatedly (i.e., three (3) or more times) make the same routine maintenance fixes to the same control at the same location, even if the fix can be completed within the time periods prescribed above, the designing Qualified Professional shall investigate and develop a revised control measure to remedy the failure. A record of all corrective actions shall be maintained in the SPCP.

- d. For solar projects under Appendix I, or other projects at the Commissioner's request, a copy of each inspection report shall be submitted electronically to the Department at: [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov)
- e. Inspectors from DEEP and the appropriate District, where applicable, may inspect the site to verify compliance with this general permit at any time construction activities are ongoing, and upon completion of construction activities, until a Notice of Termination has been accepted by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 4 of the general permit.

#### 5.2.4.3 Post-Construction Inspection

- a. For Locally Approvable projects, once all post-construction stormwater measures have been installed in accordance with Section 5.2.2.10 of the general permit, Post-Construction Stormwater

Management, and cleaned of any construction sediment or debris, the Permittee shall ensure that the appropriate Conservation District or a Qualified Professional, as appropriate, inspects the site to confirm site stabilization and compliance with the post-construction stormwater management requirements. The Permittee shall ensure that the person inspecting the site pursuant to this paragraph is not an employee, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, of the Permittee and that such person has no ownership interest of any kind in the project for which the site's application was submitted. A report shall be prepared and certified in accordance with Sections 4.2.2, 5.1.6, and 5.2.1.2.h of the general permit to indicate compliance with this requirement on the Notice of Termination form.

- b. For Locally Exempt Projects except those conducted by state agencies, once all post-construction stormwater measures have been installed in accordance with the Section 5.2.2.10 of the general permit, "Post-Construction Control Measures" and cleaned of any construction sediment or debris, the Permittee shall ensure that a qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional or a Qualified Professional Engineer inspects the site to confirm site stabilization and compliance with the post-construction stormwater management requirements of the general permit. A report shall be prepared and certified in accordance with Sections 4.2.2, 5.1.6, and 5.2.1.2.h of the general permit to indicate compliance with this requirement on the Notice of Termination form.
- c. For projects conducted by state agencies, once all post-construction stormwater measures have been installed in accordance with the Post-Construction Stormwater Management in Subsection 5.2.2.10 and cleaned of any construction sediment or debris, the CTDOT District Engineer or his/her designee and/or CTDOT District Environmental Coordinator, or the designated employee of another state agency, will inspect the site to confirm site stabilization and compliance with the post-construction stormwater management requirements of the general permit.

#### **5.2.4.4 Final Stabilization Inspection**

For all projects, once the site has achieved final stabilization, as defined in Section 10, the Permittee shall have the site inspected by a Qualified Professional Engineer (and, for Solar Array Projects subject to Appendix I, the appropriate District). This inspection shall confirm that all temporary erosion and sedimentation measures (silt fence, haybales, etc.) have been removed, all areas of the site are fully stabilized and vegetated, and that all post-construction stormwater management measures are implemented and functioning as designed. The inspection report shall include ground and/or aerial photographs to document final stabilization. All photographs must be clear and in focus, and in the original format and resolution; and include the date each photograph was taken, and a brief description of the area of the site captured by the photograph (e.g., photo shows full establishment of vegetation on northeast corner of site).

#### **5.2.4.5 Termination Inspection**

For all projects, except Solar Array Projects conducted pursuant to Appendix I, once the site has maintained final stabilization for at least one (1) year following the Final Stabilization Inspection, the Permittee shall have the site inspected by a Qualified Inspector to confirm such stabilization has been maintained. The inspection report shall include ground or aerial photographs to document final stabilization. All photographs must be clear and in focus, and in the original format and resolution; and include the date each photograph was taken, and a brief description of the area of the site captured by the photograph (e.g., photo shows application of seed and erosion control mats to remaining exposed surfaces on northeast corner of site). The Permittee shall submit the Termination Inspection report with the Notice of Termination form.

- a. No Termination Inspection is required for permits terminated by a Change of Permittee pursuant to Section 3.7 or for Site Preparation Phases authorized under a state or federal agency design-build project.

### **5.2.5 Keeping Pollution Control Plan Current**

The Permittee is responsible for keeping the SPCP in compliance with this general permit at all times. This may involve any or all of the following:

- 5.2.5.1 The Permittee shall amend the SPCP if the actions required by the SPCP fail to prevent pollution or unauthorized discharges to the waters of the State or fail to comply with any other provision of this general permit. The SPCP shall also be amended whenever there is an addition of or change in contractors or subcontractors at the site, the designing Qualified Professional, District personnel, or a change in design, construction, operation, or maintenance at the site which has not otherwise been addressed in the SPCP. The Permittee shall comply with Section 3.5 if submission of a Notice of Change is required pursuant to that section.
- 5.2.5.2 The Commissioner may notify the Permittee at any time that the SPCP or the site does not meet one or more requirements of this general permit. Within seven (7) days of such notice, or such other time as the Commissioner may allow, the Permittee shall make the required changes to the SPCP and perform all actions required by such revised SPCP. Within fifteen (15) days of such notice, or such other time as the Commissioner may allow, the Permittee shall submit to the Commissioner a written certification that the requested changes have been made and implemented and such other information as the Commissioner requires. Any such certification or information shall be submitted in accordance with the ‘Duty to Provide Information’ and ‘Certification,’ Sections 8.9 and 8.21.4 of this general permit.
- 5.2.5.3 The Permittee shall ensure qualified persons maintain this SPCP at all times.
- 5.2.5.4 The Permittee shall retain as part of the SPCP all modifications, and any documentation associated with each modification, made under this section.
- 5.2.5.5 **Failure to Prepare, Maintain or Update Plan**  
In no event shall failure to complete, maintain or update a SPCP, in accordance with the ‘Development and Required Elements of the Plan’ in Subsections 5.2.1 and 5.2.5 of this general permit, excuse non-compliance or relieve a Permittee of responsibility to implement any actions required to protect the waters of the State or comply with the requirements of this permit.
- 5.2.5.6 **Plan Signature**  
The SPCP shall be signed and certified as follows:
  - a. The SPCP shall be signed by the Permittee in accordance with Section 8.21.4 of this general permit.
  - b. The SPCP shall include certification by all contractors and subcontractors in accordance with Section 5.2.1.2.i of this general permit.
  - c. The SPCP shall include a copy of the certification by a professional engineer or landscape architect made in accordance with Section 2.2.14 of this general permit.

#### 5.2.5.7 **Plan Review Certification**

For a Locally Approvable project pursuant to Section 3.3.2 of this general permit, a copy of the SPCP Review Certification made in accordance with Section 2.2.15 or 2.2.16 of this general permit, as applicable, shall be maintained with the SPCP. (Note: Construction activities reviewed and certified pursuant to those Sections are still subject to the local erosion and sediment control and stormwater management regulations of the municipality in which the activity is conducted.)

### **5.3 Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements**

#### **5.3.1 Record Keeping**

- 5.3.1.1 For a period of at least five (5) years from the date the Notice of Termination is accepted by the Commissioner, the Permittee shall retain copies of the SPCP and all reports required by this general permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this general permit, unless the Commissioner specifies another time period in writing.
- 5.3.1.2 The Permittee shall retain an updated copy of the SPCP required by this general permit at the construction site from the date construction is initiated at the site until the date construction at the site is completed and the site is fully stabilized.
- 5.3.1.3 Inspection records must be retained as part of the SPCP for a period of five (5) years after the date of inspection. In addition, the following inspection reports shall be kept on-site with the SPCP and shall be submitted to the Commissioner upon request:
  - a. Plan Implementation Inspections conducted in accordance with Section 5.1.6.3 and recorded on checklist forms prepared pursuant to Section 5.2.1.2.h.i.
  - b. Routine Inspections conducted in accordance with Section 5.2.4.2 and recorded on checklist forms prepared pursuant to Section 5.2.1.2.h.ii.

#### 5.3.1.4 Plan Modification

SPCP modifications made pursuant to Section 5.2.5.4 of this general permit and any documentation associated with such modification shall be kept on-site with the SPCP.

### 5.3.2 Reporting

- 5.3.2.1 All reports requested by the Commissioner, except turbidity monitoring reports pursuant to Section 5.2.2.8.b, shall be provided to the Commissioner within the timeframe specified in any request by the Commissioner, and if no timeframe is specified, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of any such request. If requested by the Commissioner, the reports shall be submitted to the Commissioner by email to [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov). Solar Array Projects subject to Appendix I shall also submit the reports prescribed in that Section of the permit by email.

#### 5.3.2.2 Turbidity Monitoring Reports

Records of turbidity monitoring conducted pursuant to Sections 5.2.2.8.b. shall be submitted to the Commissioner on the first day of each month following the initiation of the dewatering discharge for as long as the discharge exists. Turbidity Monitoring Reports shall be submitted by email to [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) with the subject line “Construction turbidity monitoring” on forms prescribed by the Commissioner.

## Section 6 Duty to Correct, Record, and Report Violations

### 6.1 Corrective Actions

Immediately upon learning of a violation of a condition of this general permit, the permittee shall 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.

### 6.2 Reporting Violations

#### 6.2.1 Noncompliance with Permit Terms or Conditions

In accordance with Section 22a-430-3(j)(8), 22a-430-3(j)(11)(D), 22a-430-3(k)(4), and 22a-430-3(i)(3) of the RSCA, the Permittee shall notify the Commissioner of the following actual or anticipated noncompliance with the terms or conditions of this permit within two hours of becoming aware of the circumstances. All other actual or anticipated violations of the permit shall be reported to the Commissioner within 24 hours of becoming aware of the circumstances:

- a noncompliance that is greater than two times an effluent limitation.
- a noncompliance of any minimum or maximum daily limitation or excursion beyond a minimum or maximum daily range.
- any condition that may endanger human health or the environment.
- a failure or malfunction of monitoring equipment used to comply with the monitoring requirements of this permit.
- any actual or potential bypass of the Permittee's collection system or treatment facilities.
- expansions or significant alterations of any wastewater collection, treatment components, or its method of operation for the purpose of correcting or avoiding a permit violation.

Notifications shall be submitted via the Commissioner's online Noncompliance Notification Form:

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/water-regulating-and-discharges/stormwater/stormwater-management>

#### 6.2.2 Five-Day Follow Up Report

Within five (5) days of any notification of noncompliance in accordance with this permit, the Permittee shall submit a follow-up report within five days of the noncompliance using the Commissioner's online Noncompliance Follow-up Report Form:

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/water-regulating-and-discharges/stormwater/stormwater-management>

The follow-up report shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- 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.
- steps taken or planned to correct the noncompliance and reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.

Notification of an actual or anticipated noncompliance or site modification does not stay any term or condition of this permit.

### **6.2.3 Additional Notification Requirements**

In accordance with Section 22a-430-3(j)(11)(ED) of the RSCA, the Permittee shall notify the Commissioner within seventy-two (72) 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 substance listed in the application, or any toxic substance as listed in Appendix B or D of RSCA Section 22a-430-4, 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.

The 72-hour initial notifications and thirty (30) day follow-up reports shall be submitted via the Commissioner's online Noncompliance Follow-up Report Form. The Forms are available on the DEEP website here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/water-regulating-and-discharges/stormwater/stormwater-management>

## **Section 7 Regs. Conn. State Agencies Incorporated into this General Permit**

The Permittee shall comply with all laws applicable to the subject discharges, including but not limited to, the following Regs. Conn. State Agencies which are hereby incorporated into this general permit, as if fully set forth herein:

### **7.1 Section 22a-430-3**

- Subsection (b) General
- Subsection (c) Inspection and Entry
- Subsection (d) Effect of a Permit
- Subsection (e) Duty to Comply
- Subsection (f) Proper Operation and Maintenance
- Subsection (g) Sludge Disposal
- Subsection (h) Duty to Mitigate
- Subsection (i) Facility Modifications, Notification
- Subsection (j) Monitoring, Records and Report Requirements
- Subsection (k) Bypass
- Subsection (m) Effluent Limitation Violations
- Subsection (n) Enforcement
- Subsection (p) Spill Prevention and Control
- Subsection (q) Instrumentation, Alarms, Flow Recorders
- Subsection (r) Equalization

### **7.2 Section 221-430-4**

- Subsection (a) Duty to Apply
- Subsection (b) Duty to Reapply
- Subsection (c) Application Requirements
- Subsection (0) Permit or Application Transfer
- Subsection (p) Revocation, Denial, Modification
- Subsection (q) Variances
- Subsection (t) Prohibitions

## **Section 8 Standard Conditions**

The following standard conditions have been included in this general permit for the convenience of the permittee and are generally duplicative of the incorporated regulations in Section 6 of this general permit. If there are conflicting requirements, the regulations in Section 22a-430 take precedence.

### **8.1 Inspection and Entry**

The Commissioner or his or her authorized representative may take any actions authorized by Sections 22a-6 (5), 22a-425 or 22a-336 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. as amended.

### **8.2 Reliance on Application**

When evaluating an application, the Commissioner relies on information provided by the applicant. If such information proves to be false or incomplete, the authorization issued under this general permit may be suspended or revoked in accordance with law, and the Commissioner may take any other legal action provided by law.

### **8.3 Submission of Documents**

Any document, other than a DMR, required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this Section of the permit will, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Commissioner or through this general permit, be directed to [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) with the subject line: "ATTN: Construction Stormwater GP".

### **8.4 Violations**

Violations of any of the terms, conditions, or limitations contained in this permit may subject the permittee to enforcement action including, but not limited to, seeking penalties, injunctions and/or forfeitures pursuant to applicable Sections of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and Regs. Conn. State Agencies.

### **8.5 Enforcement**

The Commissioner may take any enforcement action provided by law, including but not limited to seeking injunctions, penalties and forfeitures as provided in Sections 22a-6, 22a-7, 22a-430, 22a-432, 22a-435, 22a-438 and 22a-471 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. as amended, for any violations or acts of noncompliance with chapter 446k of the Conn. Gen. Stat. or any regulation, order, permit or approval issued there under.

### **8.6 Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense**

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit.

### **8.7 No Assurance**

No provision of this permit and no action or inaction by the Commissioner shall be construed to constitute an assurance by the Commissioner that the actions taken by the permittee pursuant to this permit will result in compliance or prevent or abate pollution.

### **8.8 Relief**

Nothing in this permit shall relieve the permittee of other obligations under applicable federal, state, and local law.

### **8.9 Duty to Provide Information**

The Commissioner may require any permittee to provide within a reasonable time (30 days) any information which the Commissioner may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying or revoking the permit or to determine compliance with the permit, including but not limited to copies of records required to be kept by the permittee.

## **8.10 Duty to Comply**

The permittee shall comply with all terms and conditions of the permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of Chapter 446k of the Conn. Gen. Stat. Permit noncompliance is grounds for enforcement action, permit revocation or modification, or denial of a permit renewal application.

The permittee shall comply with effluent limitations, standards or prohibitions established under Section 307 (a) CWA which are adopted in Subsection (l) of section 22a- 430-4 of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies for toxic substances upon adoption, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

Except for any toxic effluent standards and prohibitions imposed under Section 307 CWA, compliance with a permit during its term shall constitute compliance, for purposes of enforcement, with Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 318, 403 and 405 of the Clean Water Act.

The Commissioner may modify or revoke a permit during its term for cause as provided in Section 22a-430-4 of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies.

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit.

## **8.11 Duty to Mitigate**

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of the permit or any discharge which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

## **8.12 Sludge Disposal**

The permittee shall dispose of screenings, sludges, chemicals, and oils and any solid or liquid wastes resulting from the wastewater treatment processes at locations approved by the Commissioner for disposal of such materials, or by means of a waste hauler licensed under the provisions of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

## **8.13 Resource Conservation**

All permittees shall implement and maintain practices and/or facilities which, to the maximum extent practicable, result in the minimum amount of wastewater discharged. Such results may be achieved by methods including but not limited to water conservation, resource recovery, waste recycling, wastewater reuse, and material or product substitution. Excessive use of water or the addition of water to dilute an effluent in order to meet any permit limitations or conditions is prohibited.

## **8.14 Spill Prevention and Control**

The permittee shall maintain practices, procedures and facilities designed to prevent, minimize and control spills, leaks, or such other unplanned releases of all toxic or hazardous substances and any other substances as the Commissioner deems necessary to prevent pollution of the waters of the State. Such requirements shall, unless otherwise allowed by the Commissioner, apply to all facilities used for storing, handling transferring, loading, or unloading such substances, including manufacturing areas.

The requirements of this Section do not apply to site components or systems already covered by plans prepared or approved under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure program.

## **8.15 Duty to Reapply**

The permit shall be effective for a fixed term not to exceed five (5) years unless administratively extended. The Department will provide permit renewal directions.

## **8.16 Equalization**

All treatment facilities shall be designed to prevent upsets, malfunctions or instances of noncompliance resulting from variations in wastewater strength or flow rate, and shall include, as the Commissioner deems necessary, equalization facilities separate from the treatment facilities.

## **8.17 Effect of an Upset**

An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:

- an upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset.
- the permitted site was at the time being properly operated.
- the permittee submitted notice of the upset timely as required in Section 6.2 of this general permit.
- the permittee complied with all remedial measures.

## **8.18 Bypass**

The permittee shall not at any time bypass the collection system or treatment facilities or any part thereof unless such bypass is unanticipated, unavoidable, and necessary to prevent loss of life, personal injury or severe property damage, and there were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, including but not limited to the use of auxiliary or back-up treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, stopping the discharges, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime; or the permittee receives prior written approval of the bypass from the Commissioner in order to perform essential maintenance, and the bypass does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded.

### **8.18.1 Necessary Bypass**

In the event such a bypass is necessary, the permittee shall to the extent possible minimize or halt production and/or all discharges until the site is restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided.

### **8.18.2 Bypass Prevention**

In order to prevent a bypass, the permittee may schedule maintenance during periods when no discharge is occurring or employ any necessary means, including but not limited to duplicate units and systems or alternative collection and treatment or pretreatment schemes. Any such means shall insure that the effluent limitations specified in the permit are achieved; be approved by DEEP in writing prior to its use, which approval shall include an alternative schedule for monitoring if appropriate; and be discontinued upon completion of the performance of the essential maintenance.

### **8.18.3 Notification to DEEP**

8.18.3.1 The permittee shall provide notice to DEEP not less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the use of any alternative scheme and monitor and record the quality and quantity of the discharge in accordance with permit terms and conditions or an approved alternative schedule. Such monitoring shall be submitted with the next monitoring report required by the permit and shall not be used to meet routine scheduled monitoring report requirements of the permit.

8.18.3.2 If any bypass occurs or may occur, the permittee shall, within two hours of becoming aware of such condition or need, notify DEEP's 24-hour Emergency Response Unit at 860-424-3338 or 866-337-7745 and submit within five days a written report including the cause of the problem, duration

including dates and times and corrective action taken or planned to prevent other such occurrences. Information about incident reporting can be found on DEEP's Emergency Response and Spill Prevention website <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/emergency-response-and-spill-prevention/emergency-response-and-spill-prevention>.

8.18.3.3 If the permittee has reason to believe that any effluent limitation specified in the permit may be violated, the permittee shall immediately take steps to prevent or correct such violation, including but not limited to employing an alternative scheme of collection or treatment, and/or control the production of the wastewater and shall monitor and record the quality and quantity of the discharge in accordance with the permit terms and conditions or an approved alternative schedule. Such monitoring shall be submitted with the next monitoring report required by the permit and shall not be used to meet the routine monitoring requirements of the permit.

## **8.19 Proper Operation and Maintenance**

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems and parts thereof for wastewater collection, storage, treatment, and control which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes, but is not limited to, effective performance, adequate funding, and adequate operator staffing and training, including the employment of certified operators as may be required by the Commissioner pursuant to Sections 22a-416-1 through 22a-416-10 of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies, as amended, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures.

In accordance with Sections 22a-416 through 22a-471 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. as amended, the permittee is required to install and operate a back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems or the inventory of spare parts and appurtenances.

## **8.20 Instrumentation, Alarms, and Flow Records**

Except for batch treatment systems unless required by the Commissioner, process wastewater treatment systems shall include instrumentation to automatically and continuously indicate, record and/or control those functions of the system and characteristics of the discharge which the Commissioner deems necessary to assure protection of the waters of the State.

## **8.21 Signatory Requirements**

### **8.21.1 Signatory**

All permit applications and permit modification requests submitted to the Commissioner shall be signed as follows:

8.21.1.1 For a corporation, the signatory shall be a responsible corporate officer.

For the purposes of this Section, a responsible corporate officer means a president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function; any other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions for the corporation; or the manager of one or more manufacturing, production, or operating facilities employing more than 250 persons or having gross annual sales or expenditures exceeding twenty-five million dollars (in second quarter 1980 dollars), if authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.

8.21.1.2 For a partnership or sole proprietorship, the signatory shall be a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.

8.21.1.3 For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency, the signatory shall be either a principal executive officer or a ranking elected official.

For purposes of this Section, a principal executive officer of a federal agency includes the chief executive officer of the agency, or a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency.

### **8.21.2 Duly Authorized Representative**

All reports required by permits, and other information submitted to the Commissioner shall be signed by a person described in Section 8.21.1 of this general permit or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

- 8.21.2.1 The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Section 8.21.1 of this general permit,
- 8.21.2.2 The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated site or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position; and
- 8.21.2.3 The written authorization is submitted to the Commissioner.

### **8.21.3 Notification to DEEP**

If an authorization under this subsection is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has assumed the applicable responsibility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of this section must be submitted to the Commissioner prior to or together with any reports or other information to be signed by an authorized representative.

### **8.21.4 Certification**

Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certifications:

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with Section 22a-6 of the Conn. Gen. Stat., pursuant to Section 53a-157b of the Conn. Gen. Stat., and in accordance with any other applicable statute.”

## **8.22 Date of Filing**

For purposes of this general permit, the date of filing with the Commissioner of any document is the date such document is received by the Commissioner.

## **8.23 False Statements**

Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this general permit may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with Section 22a-6 of the Conn. Gen. Stat., pursuant to Section 53a-157b of the Conn. Gen. Stat., and in accordance with any other applicable statute.

## **8.24 Correction of Inaccuracies**

Within fifteen (15) days after the date a permittee becomes aware of a change in any of the information submitted pursuant to this general permit, becomes aware that any such information is inaccurate or misleading, or that any relevant information has been omitted, such permittee shall correct the inaccurate or misleading information or supply the omitted information in writing to the Commissioner. Such information shall be certified in accordance with Section 8.21.4 of this general permit. A Notice of Change shall be submitted for any changes made pursuant to Section 3.5 of this general permit.

## **8.25 Transfer of Authorization**

Any authorization under this general permit shall not be transferable.

## **8.26 Other Applicable Law**

Nothing in this general permit shall relieve the permittee of the obligation to comply with any other applicable federal, state, and local law, including but not limited to the obligation to obtain any other authorizations required by such law.

## **8.27 Duty to Reapply**

The permit will be effective for a fixed term not to exceed five (5) years unless administratively extended. The general permit will provide instructions on how and when to reapply.

## **8.28 Other Rights**

This general permit is subject to and does not derogate any present or future rights or powers of the State of Connecticut and conveys no rights in real or personal property nor any exclusive privileges and is subject to all public and private rights and to any federal, state, and local laws pertinent to the property or activity affected by such general permit. In conducting any activity authorized hereunder, the permittee may not cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the air, water, or other natural resources of this state. The issuance of this general permit shall not create any presumption that this general permit should or will be renewed.

## **8.29 Effect of a Permit**

The issuance of a permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege, authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, authorize any infringement of the Conn. Gen. Stat., Regs. Conn. State Agencies or municipal ordinances, or affect the responsibility of the permittee to obtain all applicable federal, State and municipal authorizations or permits for the discharge and activities which generate the discharge.

## **Section 9 Commissioner's Powers**

### **9.1 Abatement of Violations**

The Commissioner may take any action provided by law to abate a violation of this general permit, including but not limited to penalties of up to \$25,000 per violation per day under Chapter 446k of the Conn. Gen. Stat., for such violation. The Commissioner may, by summary proceedings or otherwise and for any reason provided by law, including violation of this general permit, revoke a Permittee's authorization hereunder in accordance with Sections 22a-3a-2 through 22a-3a-6, inclusive, of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies. Nothing herein shall be construed to affect any remedy available to the Commissioner by law.

### **9.2 General Permit Revocation, Suspension, or Modification**

The Commissioner may, for any reason provided by law, by summary proceedings or otherwise, revoke or suspend this general permit or modify to establish any appropriate conditions, schedules of compliance, or other provisions which may be necessary to protect human health or the environment.

### **9.3 Filing of an Individual Permit Application**

If the Commissioner notifies a Permittee in writing that such Permittee must obtain an individual permit, the Permittee shall file an application for an individual permit within thirty (30) days of receiving the Commissioner's notice or such other time that the Commissioner specified in the notice to the Permittee. While such application is pending before the Commissioner, the Permittee shall continue to comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit. Nothing herein shall affect the Commissioner's power to revoke a Permittee's authorization under this general permit at any time.

## Section 10 Definitions

The definitions of terms used in this general permit shall be the same as the definitions contained in Section 22a-423 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. and Section 22a-430-3(a) of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies. All references to an Appendix in this general permit means the applicable Appendix of this general permit. As used in this general permit, the following definitions shall apply:

*“x-year, 24-hour rainfall event”* means the maximum 24-hour precipitation event with a probable recurrence interval of once in the given number of years (i.e. x=2, 25 or 100), as defined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Atlas 14, Volume 10, Version 2, Point Precipitation Frequency Estimates (as amended), or equivalent regional or state rainfall probability information developed therefrom.

*“Annual sediment load”* means the total amount of sediment carried by stormwater runoff on an annualized basis.

*“Applicant”* means a person or municipality which files a complete application.

*“Application”* means an application filed with the Commissioner pursuant to this general permit.

*“Aquifer protection area”* means that term as defined in Section 22a-354 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“Authorized Activity”* means any activity authorized by this general permit.

*“Best Management Practice”* or *“BMP”* means a schedule of activities, practice (and prohibitions of practices), structure, vegetation, maintenance procedure, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the State consistent with state, federal or other equivalent and technically supported guidance. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from material storage.

*“CFR”* means the Code of Federal Regulations.

*“Clean Water”* means water which, in the judgment of the Commissioner, is of a quality substantially similar to that occurring naturally in the receiving stream under consideration. Clean water may include minor cooling waters, residential swimming pool water, and stormwater.

*“Coastal area”* means coastal area as defined in Section 22a-93(3) of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“Coastal waters”* means those waters of Long Island Sound and its harbors, embayments, tidal rivers, streams and creeks which contain a salinity concentration of at least five hundred parts per million under low flow conditions.

*“Commissioner”* means Commissioner as defined by Section 22a-2(a) of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“Control Measures”* means any BMPs, or other methods used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the State.

*“Construction Activity”* means any activity and discharges associated with construction at a site or the site’s preparation for construction, including, but not limited to, clearing, grubbing, pile driving, soil disturbance, soil compaction by construction equipment, staging and stockpiling, storage, cleaning and washout, grading, excavation, and dewatering.

*“Construction and Development Effluent Limitations and New Source Performance Standards”* (C&D Rule), as published in 40 CFR§450, means the regulation requiring effluent limitations guidelines (ELGs) and new source performance standards (NSPS) for controlling the discharge of pollutants from construction sites.

*“Day”* means the calendar day; if any date specified in the general permit falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, such deadline shall be the next business day thereafter.

*“DOT”* means the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.

*“DOT MS4”* means conveyances for stormwater including, but not limited to, roads with drainage systems, streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains owned or operated by the Connecticut Department of Transportation and discharging directly to surface waters of the State.

*“Department”* or *“DEEP”* means the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

*“Design-Build Project”* is an alternative project delivery method in which a developer selects a design and build team to complete the design and construction of a project rather than separate contracts with the designer and contractor. With such a project, the design and construction phases can be overlapped, so that site preparation and investigation can proceed before a final design is developed.

*“Designing Qualified Professional”* means the Qualified Professional engineer or qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional, as defined below, who developed the original Stormwater Pollution Control Plan for which authorization was granted under this general permit.

*“Developer”* means a person, municipality, or state or federal agency that is responsible, either solely or partially through contract, for the design and construction of a project site.

*“Dewatering water”* means water associated with the construction activity generated from the lowering of the groundwater table, the pumping of accumulated uncontaminated stormwater or uncontaminated groundwater from an excavation, the pumping of surface water from a cofferdam, or pumping of other surface water that has been diverted into a construction site.

*“Discharge”* means the emission of any water, substance, or material into the waters of the State, whether or not such substance causes pollution as defined in Section 22a-423 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“District”* means a Soil and Water Conservation District established pursuant to Section 22a-315 of the Conn. Gen. Stat. Appendices E and F list the Districts, their geographic delineations, and contact information.

*“Disturbance”* means the area on a site where soil will be exposed or susceptible to erosion during any construction activity.

*“Drought-Stricken Area”*, for the purposes of this permit, means an area in which the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook indicates for the period during which the construction will occur that any of the following conditions are likely: (1) “Drought to persist or intensify”, (2) “Drought ongoing, some improvement”, (3) “Drought likely to improve, impacts ease”, or (4) “Drought development likely”. See [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/sdo\\_summary.php](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/sdo_summary.php).

*“Early Release Construction”* or *“ERC”* means the preliminary construction activity for a design-build project conducted in order to investigate site conditions and obtain the information necessary to develop the final design for the project.

*“Effective Impervious Cover”* is the area of impervious cover that is hydraulically connected to a water or wetland by means of continuous paved surfaces, gutters, swales, ditches, drain pipes, or other conventional conveyance and detention structures that do not reduce runoff volume.

*“Engineered stormwater management system”* means any control measure and related appurtenances which requires engineering analysis and/or design by a professional engineer.

*“Erosion”* means the detachment and movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice and gravity.

*“Final Design Phase”* means the final design phase of a design-build project. This phase of the design-build project follows the Site Preparation Phase.

*“Final stabilization”* means that no disturbed areas remain exposed and there are no signs of erosion or sedimentation on site; the vegetation must be at least 6 inches tall with a minimum of one hundred (100) plants per square foot across all seeded areas, or a permanent non-vegetative ground cover has been fully established over the entire site.

*“Fresh-tidal wetland”* means a tidal wetland located outside of coastal waters.

*“General Permit”* or *“this permit”* means the *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities* issued by the Commissioner.

*“Groundwater”* means those waters of the State that naturally exist or flow below the surface of the ground.

*“Guidelines”* means the Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, as amended, established pursuant to Section 22a-328 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“High Quality Waters”* means those waters defined as high quality waters in Regs. Conn. State Agencies Section 22a-426-1, as may be amended.

*“Impaired water(s)”* for the purposes of this permit, means any waterbody that does not meet applicable water quality standards, including but not limited to waters listed in categories 5 or 4b on the Connecticut Integrated Report of waters listed pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 303(d) and 305(b). Impaired Waters are also known as *“Water Quality Limited Waters.”*

*“Impervious Cover”* means hard surfaces which prevent or impede the infiltration of water. Such surfaces include, but are not limited to, roof areas, compacted gravel, paved walkways, paved parking areas, paved driveways, and other paved surfaces.

*“In Responsible charge”* means professional experience for which the Commissioner determines that a professional’s primary duties consistently involve a high level of responsibility and decision making in the planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems or in the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects. The Commissioner shall consider the following in determining whether a professional’s experience qualifies as responsible charge experience:

- (i) The level of independent decision-making exercised.
- (ii) The number of individuals and the disciplines of the other professionals that the professional supervised or coordinated.
- (iii) The extent to which a professional’s responsibilities consistently involved the review of work performed by other professionals involved the planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems or the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects.
- (iv) The extent to which a professional’s responsibilities consistently involved the planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems or the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects and whether such responsibilities were an integral and substantial component of the professional’s position.

(v) The nature of a professional's employer's primary business interests and the relation of those interests to planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems or to planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects.

(vi) The extent to which a professional has engaged in the evaluation and selection of scientific or technical methodologies for planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems or for planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects.

(vii) The extent to which a professional drew technical conclusions, made recommendations, and issued opinions based on the results of planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems or of planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects.

(viii) Any other factor that the Commissioner deems relevant.

*“Individual permit”* means a permit issued to a named person under Section 22a-430 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“Infeasible”* means not technologically possible, or not economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practices.

*“Inland wetland”* means wetlands as defined in Section 22a-38 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“Landscape Architect”* means a person with a currently effective license issued in accordance with chapter 396 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“Linear Project”* includes the construction of roads, railways, bridges, bikeways, conduits, substructures, pipelines, sewer lines, towers, poles, cables, wires, connectors, switching, regulating and transforming equipment and associated ancillary facilities in a long, narrow area.

*“Locally Approvable Project”* or *“Locally Approvable”* means a construction activity that is not carried out by or on behalf of a municipal, state or federal entity and is required to obtain municipal approval for the project.

*“Locally Exempt Project”* or *“Locally Exempt”* means a construction activity which is either; (i) carried out by or on behalf of a municipal, state, or federal entity; or (ii) is not subject to local (municipal) approval.

*“Low Impact Development”* or *“LID”* means a site design and stormwater management strategy that maintains, mimics or replicates pre-development hydrology through the use of numerous site design principles and small-scale structural stormwater practices distributed throughout a site to manage runoff volume and water quality at the source.

*“Minimize”* means to reduce and/or eliminate to the extent achievable using stormwater controls that are technologically available and economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practices.

*“Municipal separate storm sewer system”* or *“MS4”* means conveyances for stormwater (including roads with drainage systems, streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels or storm drains) owned or operated by any municipality, DOT, or by any other state or federal institution.

*“Municipality”* means any metropolitan district, town, consolidated town and city, consolidated town and borough, city, borough, village, fire and sewer district, sewer district and each municipal organization having authority to levy and collect taxes or make charges for its authorized function as defined by Section 22a-423 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

*“New discharger”* means any building, structure, facility, or installation:

(a) From which there is or may be a “discharge of pollutants.”

- (b) That did not commence the “discharge of pollutants” at a particular “site” prior to August 13, 1979.
- (c) Which is not a “new source.”
- (d) Which has never received a finally effective NPDES permit for discharges at that “site.”

“*New or Increased Discharge*” means new discharge or activity as defined in Section 22a-426-8(b)(3) and increased discharge or activity as defined in Section 22a-426-8(b)(2), as referenced to the Regs. Conn. State Agencies.

“*New source*” means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a “discharge of pollutants,” the construction of which commenced after February 1, 2010.

“*Normal Working Hours*” are considered to be, at a minimum, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm, unless additional working hours are specified by the Permittee.

“*Notice of Termination*” (NOT) means the form (electronic or paper) required for terminating coverage under the Construction General Permit.

“*NPDES Permit*” means a permit authorizing a discharge to the surface waters of the State either directly, or indirectly by means other than through a POTW or the ground waters, which is issued by the Commissioner pursuant to Section 22a-430 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

“*Permittee*” means any person who or municipality which initiates, creates or maintains a discharge in accordance with this general permit.

“*Person*” means person as defined in Section 22a-2(b) of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

“*Phase*” means a portion of a project possessing a distinct and complete set of activities that have a specific functional goal wherein the work to be completed in the phase is not dependent upon the execution of work in a later phase in order to make it functional.

“*Point Source*” means any discernible, confined and discrete stormwater conveyance (including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft) from which pollutants are or may be discharged. Point source does not include agricultural stormwater discharges and return flows from irrigated agriculture.

“*Professional Engineer*” or “*P.E.*” means a person with a currently effective license issued in accordance with chapter 391 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

“*Qualified Inspector*” means an individual possessing either (1) a professional license or certification issued by EPA (<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/construction-general-permit-inspector-training>) or a professional organization recognized or approved by the Commissioner related to civil engineering, landscape architecture, soil science, and two years of demonstrable and focused experience in erosion and sediment control plan review, installation, inspection and/or report writing for residential and commercial construction projects in accordance with the Guidelines; or (2) certification by the CTDOT.

“*Qualified Professional engineer*” means a professional engineer who has, for a minimum of eight years, engaged in the planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems for residential and commercial construction projects in accordance with the Guidelines and the Stormwater Quality Manual including, but not limited to, a minimum of four years in responsible charge of the planning and designing of engineered stormwater management systems for such projects. Such Qualified Professional engineer shall remain in good standing with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection and the Commissioner.

*“Qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional”* means a landscape architect or a professional engineer who: (1) has for a minimum of eight years engaged in the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects in accordance with the Guidelines including, but not limited to, a minimum of four years in responsible charge of the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for such projects; or (2) is currently certified as a professional in erosion and sediment control as designated by EnviroCert International, Incorporated (or other certifying organization acceptable to the Commissioner) and has, for a minimum of six years, engaged in the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for residential and commercial construction projects in accordance with the Guidelines including, but not limited to, a minimum of four years in responsible charge in the planning and designing of soil erosion and sediment controls for such projects. Such qualified soil erosion and sediment control professional shall remain in good standing with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection and the Commissioner.

*“Regs. Conn. State Agencies”* means the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

*“Regulated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System”* or *“Regulated MS4”* means any MS4 (as defined above) authorized by the most recently issued General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, as well as the separate storm sewer system of the CTDOT and the City of Stamford.

*“Retain”* means to hold runoff on-site to promote vegetative uptake and groundwater recharge through the use of runoff reduction or LID practices or other measures. In addition, it means there shall be no subsequent point source release to surface waters from a storm event defined in this general permit or as approved by the Commissioner.

*“Runoff reduction practices”* means those post-construction stormwater management practices used to reduce post-development runoff volume delivered to the receiving water, as defined by retaining the volume of runoff from a storm up to the Water Quality Volume, as defined in the Stormwater Quality Manual, as amended. Runoff reduction is quantified as the total annual post-development runoff volume reduced through canopy interception, soil amendments, evaporation, rainfall harvesting, engineered infiltration, extended filtration or evapo-transpiration.

*“Sediment”* means solid material, either mineral or organic, that is in suspension, is transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by erosion.

*“Site”* means geographically contiguous land on which a construction activity takes place or on which a construction activity for which authorization is sought under this general permit is proposed to take place. Non-contiguous land or water owned by the same person shall be deemed the same site if such land is part of a linear project or is otherwise connected by a right-of-way, which such person controls.

*“Site Preparation Phase”* means the initial Early Release Construction activity of a design-build project. This phase of a design-build project is followed by the Final Design Phase.

*“Small Construction”* or *“Small Construction Activity”* defined at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(15) and incorporated here by reference, means a small construction activity, including clearing, grading, and excavating, resulting in a land disturbance equal to or greater than one (1) acre and less than five (5) acres of land or which will disturb less than one (1) acre of total land area but is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one (1) acre but less than five (5) acres. Small construction activity does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the site.

*“Soil”* means any unconsolidated mineral and organic material of any origin.

*“Soil Scientist”* shall be as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 22a-38.

“Solar Array” or “Soil Array Project” means an on-the-ground installation of arrays of photovoltaic cell panels, supporting structures and related equipment for the production of electricity.

“Stabilize” means the use of measures as outlined in the Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, as amended, or as approved by the Commissioner, to prevent the visible movement of soil particles and development of rills. A site or area of a site is stabilized when there is no evidence of erosion or sedimentation and temporary or permanent vegetative and/or non-vegetative measures have been applied to all disturbed areas.

“Standard of care”, as used in Section 2.2, means to endeavor to perform in a manner consistent with that degree of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the same profession currently practicing under similar circumstances.

“Stormwater” means waters consisting of rainfall runoff, including snow or ice melt during a rain event.

“Stormwater Pollution Control Plan” or “SPCP”, means a site-specific, written document that, at a minimum: (1) identifies potential sources of stormwater pollution at the construction site; (2) describes stormwater controls to reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater discharges from the construction site; and (3) identifies procedures to be implemented to comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit.

“Storm Sewer System” means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains) designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater.

“Stormwater Quality Manual” means the Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual published by the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, as amended, and maintained at <http://www.ct.gov/deep/stormwaterqualitymanual>.

“Surface water” means those waters of the State which are not ground water and the waters of Long Island Sound, its harbors, embankments, tidal wetlands, and creeks; rivers and streams, brooks, waterways, lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps, bogs, federal jurisdictional wetlands, and other natural or artificial, public or private, vernal or intermittent bodies of water. Surface water does not include ground water.

“Structural measure” means a measure constructed for the temporary storage and/or treatment of stormwater runoff.

“Tidal wetland” means a wetland as that term is defined in Section 22a-29(2) of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

“Total disturbance” means the total area of disturbance on a site during all phases of construction activity.

“Total Maximum Daily Load” or “TMDL” means a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL includes wasteload allocations (“WLAs”) for point source discharges, load allocations (“LAs”) for nonpoint sources and/or natural background, and must include a margin of safety (“MOS”) and account for seasonal variations.

“Upland soils” means soils which are not designated as poorly drained, very poorly drained, alluvial, or flood plain by the National Cooperative Soils Survey, as may be amended, of the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and/or the inland wetlands agency of the municipality in which the project will take place.

“Water company” means water company as defined in Section 25-32a of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

“Waters” shall be as defined in § 22a-423, Conn. Gen. Stat., and for clarification shall include vernal pools and intermittent waters.

“Water Quality Standards” means those water quality standards or classifications contained in Sections 22a-426-1 through 22a-426-9, inclusive, of the Regs. Conn. State Agencies and the Classification Maps adopted pursuant to Section 22a-426 of the Conn. Gen. Stat., which together constitute the Connecticut Water Quality Standards, as may be amended.

“Water Quality Volume” or “WQV” means the volume of runoff generated on a site by the Water Quality Storm as defined in the Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual, as amended.

“Watercourse” means a watercourse as that term is defined in Section 22a-38 of the Conn. Gen. Stat.

“Wetland” shall mean and include both “wetland” as defined in § 22a-29, Conn. Gen. Stat., and “wetlands” as defined in § 22a-38, Conn. Gen. Stat.

## **Section 11 Appendices**

The following appendices are incorporated into this general permit.

**11.1 Appendix A – Endangered and Threatened Species**

**11.2 Appendix B – RESERVED**

**11.3 Appendix C – Aquifer Protection Guidance Information**

**11.4 Appendix D – Coastal Management Act Determination Form**

**11.5 Appendix E & F – Memoranda of Agreement Between DEEP and Conservation Districts**

**11.6 Appendix G – Historic Preservation Review**

**11.7 Appendix H – Wild & Scenic Rivers Guidance**

**11.8 Appendix I – Stormwater Management at Solar Array Construction Projects**

**11.9 Appendix J – CT DEEP Financial Assurance Irrevocable Letter of Credit**

# National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities

## Fact Sheet

Permit No: CTR100000

January 2026

This fact sheet sets forth the significant factual, legal, and policy considerations examined during preparation of the 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 for similar types of discharges; in lieu 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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## **General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities Fact Sheet**

### **1.0 General Permit History and Authority**

#### **1.1 Regulatory Authority**

In 1965, the Connecticut Clean Water Task Force was commissioned to investigate the condition of rivers and harbors in Connecticut. In 1966, the Connecticut Clean Water Task Force developed an action program called Clean Water for Connecticut. Then, in 1967, Connecticut's Clean Water Bill was signed into law, inaugurating the state's modern water pollution control program. In 1970, the Connecticut Water Quality Standards were first approved by the federal government. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) was created in 1971, and Congress began writing the federal legislation for the first national Clean Water Act – using Connecticut's Clean Water Act as a guide.

In a broader federal effort, 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)).

In 1983, the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act was enacted by the Connecticut General Assembly and codified in Connecticut General Statutes ("Conn. Gen. Stat.") Sections 23a-325 to 23a-329. The Act established a state-wide coordinated Erosion and Sediment Control Program to reduce the impacts of soil erosion from storm water runoff, minimize nonpoint sediment pollution from land development, and to conserve and protect the land, water, air, and other environmental resources of the state. Under this act, all municipalities in the state were required to develop regulations to address erosion and sediment control for construction activities within their jurisdiction. The CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation was tasked with developing guidelines for soil erosion and sediment control and municipalities were required to adopt regulations by 1986. The CT Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control ("the Guidelines") were first published in 1985 and were updated in 2002 and again in 2024. The Guidelines can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water/Soil-Erosion-and-Sediment-Control-Guidelines>

The Water Quality Act of 1987 amended the CWA, adding section 402(p) that required implementation of a comprehensive program for addressing municipal stormwater discharges, industrial stormwater discharges, and any other stormwater discharge (or category of discharges) determined to contribute to a violation of an instream water quality standard or is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the United States. EPA developed stormwater regulations in two (2) phases and promulgated the Phase I and II Stormwater Rules in 1990 and 1999, respectively. As part of the Phase I rulemaking, EPA interpreted "stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity" to include "stormwater discharges associated with construction activity" greater than five (5) acres. As part of the Phase II rulemaking and in response to a court remand in *Natural Resources Defense Council v. EPA* (966 F.2d 1292, 1306 (9th Cir. 1992)), EPA designated

“small” construction activity, including clearing, grading, and excavation, a construction activity if it:

- will result in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre and less than five acres; or
- will result in disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one and less than five acres.

On December 1, 2009, the EPA promulgated Effluent Limit Guidelines (“ELGs” - Technology Based Effluent Limitation Guidelines for the “Construction and Development Point Source Category,” (40 CFR Part 450) regulating stormwater discharges from construction activity. The new C&D ELG required all construction sites disturbing 20 or more acres of land to sample stormwater discharges and meet a daily average turbidity limit of 280 NTU.

The following regulatory history extracted from EPA’s 2022 Construction General Permit Fact Sheet, describes the path leading up to EPA’s 2022 Construction General Permit: 'See 74 Fed. Reg. 62996, and 40 CFR 450.21. These requirements, known as the "Construction and Development Rule" or "C&D rule," became effective on February 1, 2010. Following the promulgation of the C&D rule in 2009, several parties filed petitions for review of the final rule, identifying potential deficiencies with the dataset that EPA used to support its decision to adopt a technology-based numeric turbidity limitation as well as other issues.' On March 6, 2014, pursuant to a settlement agreement to resolve the litigation, EPA finalized amendments to the C&D rule that withdrew the technology-based numeric turbidity limitation and monitoring requirements, and also provided clarification regarding several other requirements of the rule. See 79 Fed. Reg. 12661 and 80 Fed. Reg. 25235.

## 1.2 Delegation & Permitting

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (“DEEP” or “Department”) 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 (“Conn. Gen. Stat.”) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (“Regs. Conn. State Agencies”). The purpose of the general permit is to protect waters of the State from erosion and sedimentation as a result of stormwater runoff from construction activities, as well as to manage pollutants that may be present in post-construction stormwater discharges from the finished site.

Additionally, this general permit requires compliance with the *“Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control”*, as amended (“Guidelines”). These Guidelines provide direction intended to minimize the discharge and unintentional displacement of soil and sediment from land disturbing activities. By requiring incorporation of these guidelines into local planning and zoning regulations, this permit ensures uniform compliance with the conditions of the Erosion and Sediment Control Act (Conn. Gen. Stat. §22a-325 through 329) by all construction activities disturbing one (1) acre or greater.

For more information on sediment and sediment impacts, refer to the Guidelines at the following link: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water/Soil-Erosion-and-Sediment-Control-Guidelines>.

In 2004, CT DEEP and the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation developed the *Stormwater Quality Manual* to provide guidance on the measures necessary for protecting waters of the State from adverse impacts of stormwater runoff. The *Stormwater Quality Manual* was most recently updated in 2024 with community partners and stakeholders using updated best management practice and control measures. It's intended to assist communities involved in stormwater quality management with planning and design of post-construction stormwater controls for construction projects. The manual primarily focuses on site planning, source control, pollution prevention, and stormwater treatment processes.

*Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual* is available on the DEEP website and here: [CT Stormwater Quality Manual](#)

DEEP first issued the “*General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities*” (“general permit” or “Construction GP”) on October 1, 1992. The general permit has been reissued, with and without revisions, several times since then. It was most recently reissued on December 31, 2020, and further modified on November 25, 2022, to incorporate expanded application requirements for construction activities within cold water stream habitats.

## 2.0 Water Quality & Pollutants of Concern

Stormwater is the result of precipitation that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, paved streets, highways, and parking lots. Along the way, stormwater picks up and transports pollutants including motor oils, gasoline, antifreeze, and brake dust (commonly found on pavements), sediment, fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides (found in agricultural and landscaped areas), and soils and sediments (particularly from construction sites). The stormwater eventually flows into local streams, rivers, lakes, and ultimately, in CT, the Long Island Sound. Stormwater can result in significant pollution to surface and ground waters affecting public health, recreation (such as swimming and fishing), and aquatic life. Stormwater discharges can be highly intermittent, are usually characterized by high flows occurring over relatively short time intervals, and can carry a variety of pollutants whose source, nature, and extent varies during the duration of the storm event.

The term “pollutant” is defined in CWA section 502(6) and §122.2 and in RCSA 22a-430-3(a)(3). Pollutants are grouped into three (3) categories: conventional, non-conventional, and toxic. By definition, there are five (5) conventional pollutants: 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (“BOD<sub>5-day</sub>”), total suspended solids (“TSS”), bacteria, pH, and oil and grease. Toxic or “priority” pollutants are those defined in Section 307(a)(1) of the CWA (and listed in 40 CFR §401.15) and include metals and manmade organic compounds. Nonconventional pollutants are those pollutants which do not fall under either of the above categories including such parameters as ammonia, nitrogen, phosphorus, chloride, chemical oxygen demand (“COD”), and whole effluent toxicity (“WET”). Stormwater runoff generated from different land surfaces impacted by the behaviors and activities of humans often contains pollutants.

Construction activity involving grading, vegetation clearing, earthwork, and ground movement leads to the destabilization of soil. Construction sites are exposed to precipitation resulting in the discharge of stormwater carrying exposed soil containing pollutants such as, sediment, bacteria, nutrients, metals, trash, debris, etc. The contaminated stormwater may lead to adverse environmental impacts, including but not limited to: loss of critical topsoil; erosion of construction sites and adjacent property; pollutant discharges to waters of the State; and adverse effects to vegetation and wildlife habitats. The general permit requires the installation of Control Measures and has permit limits and conditions to mitigate these impacts from the discharges. Source control through minimization of soil erosion is therefore the most effective way of controlling the discharge of these pollutants.

Stormwater runoff generated from different land surfaces impacted by construction activities contain various types of pollutants. The major pollutants associated with construction activities are sediment, bacteria, nutrients, and metals. This general permit includes permit terms and conditions to ensure stormwater discharges do not cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality standards.

### 2.1 Sediment

The primary pollutant of concern from construction activity is sediment due to the disturbance of land. Sediment is transported by various means, but rainfall on exposed soil has the largest impact based on the topography of a site. The stormwater traveling over disturbed soil and impervious surfaces transports and deposits large quantities of potentially contaminated sediment.

Sediment transported by stormwater runoff results in the displacement and covering of aquatic habitats and the resulting turbidity can limit the growth of aquatic plants, damaging aquatic ecosystems. Sediment is a vector transporting other pollutants such as nutrients and bacteria. The

additional pollutants carried by the stormwater can cause further impairment to water quality and habitats in the receiving waterbodies.

This general permit requires the implementation of Control Measures and Best Management Practices (“BMPs”) to minimize the mobilization and offsite discharge of sediment through stormwater runoff. Permittees must implement a range of Control Measures that treat stormwater, divert or disperse runoff, or stabilize soils.

## **2.2 Nutrients**

Nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus are essential to the biological health of waterbodies, providing necessary components to support vegetative growth. However, when present in excess, nutrients can contribute to the overgrowth of algae. When this algae decays, it consumes a disproportionate amount of the dissolved oxygen typically available in the water, depriving other plants and animals of necessary oxygen and leading to ecological damage. Human-related activities can contribute to this issue. Activities such as soil disturbance, fertilizer overuse, and improper waste disposal practices can all introduce additional nutrients into the environment. Stormwater can then transport these nutrients to receiving waters.

Due to their relationship to sediment, BMPs effective at controlling sediment will also be effective at reducing the transport of nutrients by that sediment.

## **2.3 Bacteria**

Bacteria and pathogens occur naturally in the environment but can pose a risk to human health if ingested. Water that has been contaminated with bacteria or pathogens can become unsafe to drink and shellfish harvested from contaminated water can become unsafe to eat. Human-related activities can introduce additional bacteria or pathogens to the environment. Activities such as improper waste disposal practices, manure management, soil disturbance, and poor housekeeping can all contribute to higher amounts of bacteria and pathogens. Turbid waters can be associated with elevated levels of bacteria.

In addition to pollution prevention practices and proper material handling and storage, BMPs effective at controlling sediment will also be effective at reducing the transport of bacteria by that sediment.

## **2.4 Metals**

Metals such as lead, zinc, copper, and cadmium are common components of urban stormwater runoff due to their association with vehicle engine, brake, and tire wear. In high concentrations, metals bioaccumulate in aquatic plants and animals and can be toxic if not addressed. Stormwater travelling over impervious surfaces like roads, parking lots, and driveways can transport accumulated metals deposited by vehicles into waterbodies.

Due to their relationship to sediment, BMPs effective at controlling sediment will also be effective at reducing the transport of metals by that sediment.

## 2.5 Oil and Grease

Oil and grease is the term for a wide range of organic compounds that can be both petroleum-related (e.g., hydrocarbons) and non-petroleum-related (e.g., vegetable and animal oils and greases, fats, and waxes). While constituents in this category have many varying properties, oils and greases most commonly float on the surface of receiving waterbodies or absorb into floating or settled sediment. Oil and grease and related compounds can be lethal to fish, benthic organisms, and water-dwelling wildlife.

Due to their relationship to sediment, BMPs effective at controlling sediment will assist reducing the transport of oil and grease by that sediment. Additionally, permittees must minimize the potential of oil and grease discharges by properly storing containers and utilizing completely enclosed washout areas. For instances where oil or grease come into contact with soil, permittees must immediately clean up the spill and are required to have an emergency spill kit on site.

### **3.0 Authorization Under This General Permit**

This general permit authorizes the discharge from activity(ies) listed in the “Eligible Activities” Section of this general permit. This general permit authorizes the discharge of stormwater and uncontaminated dewatering discharges from construction activities as defined in the permit that disturb a total of one (1) acre or more.

For the purposes of this general permit, the term “Locally Approvable Project” or “Locally Approvable” means a construction activity that is not carried out by or on behalf of a municipal, state or federal entity and is required to obtain municipal approval for the project. The term “Locally Exempt Project” or “Locally Exempt” means a construction activity that is either carried out by or on behalf of a municipal, state, or federal entity, or is not subject to local (municipal) approval.

#### **3.1 Emergency Construction Activity Exception**

The general permit automatically authorizes short-term discharges of stormwater from construction activities undertaken in response to a public emergency, such as mudslides, earthquakes, extreme flooding, or widespread disruptions to essential public services, when immediate authorization is necessary to prevent imminent endangerment to human health, public safety, or the environment, or to restore essential public services.

#### **3.2 Locally Approvable Small Construction Activities**

EPA regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(s) establish the concept of “qualifying local programs” for construction activity. Under this provision, CT DEEP, as an authorized state agency, can formally recognize a municipal program that meets or exceeds the provisions of its own construction general permit. CT DEEP has recognized that the previously cited ‘Erosion and Sediment Control Act’ (CGS §22a-325 through 329) meets the requirements of a qualifying local program for small construction projects disturbing between one (1) and five (5) acres. Consequently, Locally Approvable Small Construction Projects that will disturb an area equal to or greater than one (1) acre and less than five (5) acres are considered small construction and the submittal of an application under the general permit is not required if the activity is reviewed and approved by a local land-use commission such as a planning and zoning, wetlands or a conservation commission. The Erosion and Sedimentation Control Regulations developed by all Connecticut municipalities, pursuant to the Connecticut Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act provide assurance that these small construction activities will be in compliance with the general permit. Activities that will disturb one (1) acre or more that are not typically subject to the local approval process, such as projects conducted by state or federal agencies and projects where the municipality is the permittee, must submit an application for coverage under the general permit as a Locally Exempt project.

#### **3.3 Construction Activities Greater than 5 Acres and Considered “Locally Approvable”**

Construction activities disturbing equal to or greater than five (5) acres that are required to receive municipal approval are considered “Locally Approvable” and must obtain authorization under this general permit by submitting an application and Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“Plan” or “SPCP”) to DEEP. The general permit requires a Qualified Professional Engineer or Qualified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Professional (“Qualified Professional”) to prepare a SPCP that complies with the terms and conditions of this general permit. The Plan must also be reviewed and

certified by a Qualified Professional or one (1) of the five (5) State of Connecticut Soil Conservation Districts (“District”) to ensure the Plan complies with the general permit.

### 3.4 Construction Activities Greater than 1 Acre and Considered “Locally Exempt”

Construction projects disturbing one (1) or more acres that are conducted under municipal, state, or federal authority and are typically not reviewed and approved by a local land-use commission are considered to be “Locally Exempt” and must submit an application and SPCP to the DEEP prepared by a Qualified Professional.

**Consolidated Requirements Table:** This table outlines the need for a state General Permit application for construction activities disturbing more than 1 acre, based on size and the requirement for local (municipal) approval.

Project Category	Disturbance Area	Entity Responsible (The "Who")	Local (Municipal) Approval Required?	State Permit Application to CT DEEP?	SPCP Prepared & Certified?
<b>Emergency Exception</b>	Any Size	Any	No	No (Authorization is immediate to prevent danger/restore services)	No
<b>Locally Approvable Small</b>	Greater than 1 and less than 5 acres	Private/Non-Governmental	Yes. Reviewed by P&Z, wetlands, etc.	No. Local review satisfies state permit requirements.	Only for local Erosion & Sediment Control Plan approval.
<b>Locally Approvable Large</b>	Greater than 5 acres	Private/Non-Governmental	Yes. Required to receive municipal approval.	Yes	Yes. By a Qualified Professional and certified by a Qualified Professional or Soil Conservation District.
<b>Locally Exempt</b>	Greater than 1 acre	Municipal, State, or Federal Authority	No. Typically not subject to local review.	Yes	Yes. By a Qualified Professional.

### **3.5 Obtaining Permit Coverage**

Any person or municipality who initiates, creates, originates, or maintains a discharge authorized by this general permit shall, if required by this general permit, submit an application with the Commissioner that meets the application requirements of the general permit. Such application shall be submitted on prescribed forms, within the timeframe specified in the general permit, include the applicable fee(s), and the site's Stormwater Pollution Control Plan ("Plan" or "SPCP").

#### **3.5.1 Existing Construction Activities Authorized by the 2020 Construction Stormwater GP**

Permittees with existing permit coverage ("Existing Permittees") under the 2020 Construction Stormwater GP, are eligible for continued permit coverage under this iteration of the general permit on an interim basis provided the Permittee submits a complete application to the Commissioner on or before ninety (90) days from the effective date of this general permit and the permittee is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit upon its effective date. If a complete and timely application is not submitted, authorization to discharge may be terminated.

#### **3.5.2 New Construction Activities Not Authorized by the 2020 Construction Stormwater GP**

New construction activities must submit an application sixty (60) days prior to the date the construction activity is initiated for Locally Approvable projects and projects conducted by a state agency. For Locally Exempt projects and depending on the amount of disturbance, applications must be submitted sixty (60) or ninety (90) days prior to the start of construction.

#### **3.5.3 New Owner or Operator**

This general permit is non-transferable. When an authorized site's permittee is transferred to a new entity, the new entity must submit a new application on or before thirty (30) days following the date of transfer. The existing permittee must submit a Notice of Termination form on or before thirty (30) days following the date of the new entity's permit approval.

### **3.6 Application Process and eRule**

On October 22, 2015, the United States Environmental Protection Agency published the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Electronic Reporting Rule ("NPDES eRule"), 40 CFR 127. The rule replaces most paper-based NPDES reporting requirements with electronic reporting and details in Appendix A to Part 127—Minimum Set of NPDES Data. The data is required to be sent to EPA's Central Data Exchange ("CDX"). To comply with the federal regulations, in 2016 DEEP developed an eRule Implementation Plan. As part of that plan, on November 6, 2023, DEEP signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with US EPA to develop an online application system.

At the time of drafting this general permit, DEEP was working with US EPA to develop the online application for the Industrial Stormwater General Permit and had been in the beginning phase of developing the online application for this general permit (along with several other general permits). In May 2025, CT DEEP was notified by US EPA that the funding to support the development of

the online application system had been rescinded and the industrial project was indefinitely suspended until further notice. Additionally, the other e-application projects were also indefinitely suspended until further notice. DEEP changed course and began updating its existing online application to continue working towards meeting DEEP's 20by26 Goal 10, "Expand Tools for Online Services." Applicants will continue to use the existing ezFile online application. During the duration of the general permit, DEEP intends to continue working on alternative solutions and may require applicants to use a new process once deployed. Additional information will be provided on the Construction Stormwater webpage.

### **3.6.1 Registration Review Timelines**

Upon receipt of a complete application, if an application is found to be incomplete, the registrant will be notified of the nature of the deficiency, and it may be rejected. The applicant will be required to submit a new application along with a new fee; please note that the registration fee is non-refundable. Once an application is determined to be complete, DEEP's will begin the technical review for further processing.

If a complete application is submitted, applicants should expect the process to take approximately sixty (60) to ninety (90) days from the submittal of a complete application. Delays are possible near the registration deadlines set forth in the permit, as a large volume of registrations are expected to be submitted at once. Registrants are encouraged to submit registrations prior to the deadline

For more information on registration timelines, refer to DEEP's 20by26 Initiative:  
<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/about/20by26/20by26-initiative/timely-permitting-decisions>

## **4.0 Summary of Proposed Modifications to the Stormwater Construction General Permit**

The general permit contains the changes below:

### **4.1 Standardized Language**

The format and language of the general permit has been updated for consistency with DEEP and division formats. This change is primarily cosmetic and does not affect the conditions of the permit.

### **4.2 Authorization Under This General Permit**

#### **4.2.1 Eligible Activities**

The general permit's Section 2.1.1 now clarifies the allowable non-stormwater discharges associated with construction activities. These discharges are authorized provided the Permittee ensures compliance with the following requirements:

- The discharges are included in the Stormwater Pollution Control Plan.
- The Permittee meets all other applicable permit requirements.
- Routing Restriction: These discharges must not be routed to areas of exposed soil on the construction site, except for:
  - Water used to control dust.
  - Water used to irrigate vegetation in stabilized areas.

#### Allowable Non-Stormwater Discharges

1. Uncontaminated discharges from construction dewatering operations in accordance with requirements of section 5.2
2. Uncontaminated and non-turbid discharges from natural springs or naturally occurring groundwater.
3. Foundation or footing drains where flows are not contaminated with process materials such as solvents or contaminated groundwater.
4. Discharges from emergency fire-fighting activities.
5. Landscape irrigation.
6. Water used to control dust.
7. Potable water, including uncontaminated waterline or fire hydrant flushing.
8. Uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate.

#### **4.2.2 Requirements for Authorization**

The general permit has been modified to include a "Prohibited Discharges" section that expressly lists the types of discharges that are not authorized under this general permit.

## 4.3 Application Requirements

### 4.3.1 Natural Diversity Database

If a construction site is located within a habitat that contains an Endangered or Threatened species (a "listed species"), the application form must include a National Diversity Determination Letter (NDDL) identification number. Without this number, the application will be considered incomplete.

### 4.3.2 Notice of Change (Modification of Existing Authorization to Discharge)

The Permittee shall submit a Notice of Change to the Commissioner at [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) if any of the following conditions apply:

- To correct inaccurate or misleading information previously submitted to DEEP.
- Change of contractor.
- Changes to the name of the project or site.
- Changes to the disturbed area on the site that reduce the distance to impaired waters, high quality waters, cold water habitat, endangered or threatened species habitat, or aquifer protection areas from those in the original SPCP.
- Changes to engineered or non-engineered construction or post-construction control measures that have the potential to increase the rate or volume of stormwater discharged.

The Notice of Change shall be submitted before any such increases or changes occur. Changes to the SPCP documented under this section as well as those not requiring notice under this section shall continue to follow the provisions of Section 5.2.6, Keeping Pollution Control Plans Current. A Notice of Change should not be submitted when there is a change in permittee.

## 4.4 New Application Required

When there is an increase in the amount of disturbed area by more than one (1) acre from the amount specified in the application approved by the Commissioner, the Permittee must submit a new application in accordance with Section 3 of this general permit.

## 4.5 Change of Permittee

Coverage under this general permit will no longer be transferrable to comply with the electronic reporting requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Electronic Reporting Rule ("NPDES eRule"), 40 CFR 127. Section 3.7 has been added to the permit to address application requirements when there is a change of permittee for an existing permit. Requirements for the Notice of Termination have also been added in Section 4.2.2 to address the termination requirements for existing permits upon a change of permittee.

## 4.6 Design-Build Projects for Locally Exempt Projects by a State or Federal Agency

Design-build projects aim to increase efficiency and provide higher quality outcomes and more cost-effective project delivery than traditional design-bid-build methods. A design-build project is one in which initial Early Release Construction ("ERC") work is begun on site before a final design has been

completed for the project. This ERC work is used to determine site conditions that will be used to develop the final design of the project. In the general permit, the design-build process will be covered by two (2) separate application submissions. The first submission will be an application for a ‘Site Preparation Phase Permit’ to authorize the ERC work. Once this work is completed and a final design has been developed, the permittee will submit an application for a ‘Final Design Phase Permit’. Upon approval of the Final Design Phase Permit, the Site Preparation Phase Permit will be terminated. Permitting of design-build projects will only apply to state and federal projects. To accommodate this process, DEEP has modified the permit to include provisions in Sections 3.3.1.3 and 3.4.2 to address application requirements and Section 4.2.3 to address termination requirements of these permits. In addition to these sections, DEEP has included definitions in Section 10 for “design-build project”, “ERC”, “Final Design Phase”, and “Site Preparation Phase”.

#### **4.7 Turbidity Monitoring**

The primary pollutant from construction activities is sediment, which disrupts aquatic habitats, increases turbidity, and harms aquatic ecosystems by limiting plant growth and transporting other pollutants such as nutrients, bacteria, and metals. Turbidity is the measure of water clarity and cloudiness, which is directly caused by suspended particles. These suspended particles often include sediment (clay, silt, sand) from sources like erosion, runoff, and bottom disturbance. Excess turbidity is linked to reduced photosynthesis, habitat loss, and direct harm to aquatic life.

EPA reports that ten states—Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming, and EPA-administered permits in Massachusetts and New Hampshire—require turbidity monitoring for dewatering discharges, with some imposing numeric effluent limits.

This general permit already requires control measures and best management practices to minimize sediment mobilization and offsite discharge through stormwater. Permittees must implement stormwater treatment, runoff diversion, and soil stabilization techniques. To verify the design assumptions and ensure these control measures and techniques are being installed and maintained properly, CT DEEP sought feedback on including turbidity monitoring as a permit requirement for dewatering and/or stormwater discharges. Following a review of the feedback as well as the rationale for monitoring detailed in EPA’s 2022 Construction General Permit, and in consideration of existing statewide nutrient TMDLs and action plans, DEEP determined that monitoring data would help evaluate the effectiveness of existing control measures and BMPs to identify areas needing corrective action in order to better protect the waters of the State. Turbidity monitoring of dewatering discharges has been added to Section 5.2.2.8 of general permit requiring an initial analysis at the start of the dewatering discharge followed by weekly monitoring for the duration of dewatering activities. This data will be provided to the Commissioner on the prescribed form available online and submitted by email to [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov).

## 5.0 Permit Termination Requirements

### 5.1 Notice of Termination

The permittee shall submit a Notice of Termination (“NOT”) to the Commissioner via email at: [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov). Paper submissions will not be accepted or processed. The NOT shall be submitted at least one (1) year (two (2) years for solar projects under Appendix I) after a certified Final Stabilization Inspection. It is a requirement of the general permit and the responsibility of the Permittee to ensure that permit coverage is terminated at the appropriate time in the project.

To document that stabilization requirements in the general permit have been met, the permittee must submit certified inspection reports for the Post-Construction, Final Stabilization, and Termination Inspections.

There is an alternative process for projects that have a change in ownership for which a new permit application is required or for a design-build project conducted by a state or federal agency. See general permit Section 4.2.3 for details.

## 6.0 Conditions of this General Permit

The Permittee shall, at all times, continue to meet the requirements for authorization set forth in this general permit. In the absence of information demonstrating otherwise, DEEP expects that compliance with the conditions in this permit will result in stormwater discharges being controlled as necessary to protect applicable water quality standards. If at any time the Permittee becomes aware, or DEEP determines, that discharges are not being controlled as necessary to meet applicable water quality standards, the Permittee must take corrective actions and document those actions. If during coverage under a previous permit, the Permittee was required to install and maintain stormwater controls specifically to meet the assumptions and requirements of an EPA-approved or established TMDL (for any parameter) or to otherwise control discharges to meet water quality standards, the Permittee must continue to implement such controls as part of their coverage under this permit.

### 6.1 Stormwater Quality Manual and Soil Erosion Guidelines

All references to the *Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual* and *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* in this general permit refer to the most recent editions, both went into effect on March 30, 2024 and are available on DEEP’s website.

*Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual* is available here: [CT Stormwater Quality Manual](#)

*Soil Erosion and Guidelines* are available here: [Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion & Sediment Control](#)

### 6.2 Post a Notice of Construction Activities

Upon commencement of construction activities, the permittee shall post a sign of permit coverage at a safe, publicly accessible location in close proximity to the construction site. The sign must be at least two (2) feet by three (3) feet in dimension, weatherproof, and in English and Spanish, located so it is visible and legible from the public road nearest to the active part of the construction. The notice shall include:

- the name of the permittee.
- the permit number.
- the site address.
- a contact name, email, and phone number.
- the estimated start date and completion date.
- the Permittee-hosted website where the SPCP and application are available.
- the following statement: “If you observe indicators of stormwater pollutants in the discharge from this site or in the receiving water, please contact the CT DEEP through the link for Reporting Water Pollution at: [www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater](http://www.ct.gov/deep/stormwater)”.

### **6.3 Water Quality and Technology Based Effluent Limits**

Consistent with EPA’s Construction Stormwater permit, this general permit requires permittees to comply with federal and state non-numeric technology and water quality-based effluent limits expressed narratively by implementing Control Measures, commonly referred to as best management practices (“BMPs”) in accordance with 40 CFR 450 Subpart B, Construction and Development Effluent Guidelines. In limited circumstances, BMPs take the place of numeric effluent limitations to control or abate the discharge of pollutants, including, but not limited to, control of stormwater discharges authorized under section 402(p) of the CWA and where reasonable to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purpose of the CWA (40 CFR § 122.44(k)(3) and (4)).

Due to the variability associated with stormwater and in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(k)(3), BMPs are currently the most appropriate method to regulate discharges of stormwater from construction activities. By designing and installing Control Measures and BMPs in accordance with requirements of this general permit, permittees can significantly reduce the discharge of pollutants. Control Measures must be designed to control pollution to the Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (“BAT”) in accordance with 40 CFR 450.21. DEEP’s expectations align with the EPA’s, which states, “In the absence of information demonstrating otherwise, EPA expects that compliance with the conditions in this permit will result in stormwater discharges being controlled as necessary to meet applicable water quality standards.” (EPA 2022 Construction Stormwater General Permit Fact Sheet). The non-numeric effluent limits include Erosion and Sediment Controls, Soil Stabilization, Dewatering Requirements, Pollution Prevention Measures, Prohibited Discharges, and Surface Outlets. The effluent limits are discussed throughout this fact sheet and incorporated into the general permit.

The Commissioner may require the permittee to install additional controls on a site-specific basis, or require an individual permit, if information in the application or from other sources indicates that the discharge(s) are not controlled as necessary. This includes situations where additional controls are necessary to comply with a load allocation in a CT DEEP approved TMDL or Watershed Action Plan.

## 6.4 Discharges to Waters With or Without Total Maximum Daily Loads

DEEP is required by Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act to assess state waterbodies to determine if such waterbodies are meeting their designated use(s). If a waterbody is not meeting the designated use, the waterbody is listed as impaired and DEEP is required to develop a plan – such as a Total Maximum Daily Load (“TMDL”) or Action Plan – which identifies potential sources that may be contributing to the impairment and sets forth a plan aimed at restoring and/or maintaining the designated use of the waterbody.

The general permit continues to implement the applicable TMDLs and Action Plans through permit requirements designed to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants. Permittees discharging to impaired waters with established TMDLs for sediment or sediment-related parameters may be required to implement additional controls as necessary for the discharge to meet water quality standards. The following sections identify applicable TMDLs that may be applicable to a construction activity covered under this general permit.

## 6.5 Long Island Sound Nitrogen TMDL

Long Island Sound (“LIS”) has an approved TMDL to achieve water quality standards for dissolved oxygen by addressing sources of nitrogen in the watershed. The watershed for the LIS encompasses virtually the entire state of Connecticut as well as portions of Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Quebec, Canada. Nitrogen is the primary limiting nutrient for the growth of algal blooms in LIS. Algal growth and decay contribute to low dissolved oxygen levels and the subsequent impairment of the designated uses of the waterbody. While nitrogen naturally occurs in the environment and is essential to the health of the waterbody, excess nitrogen caused by human-related disturbances can have significant impacts on the receiving water. Stormwater runoff from urban areas is considered a significant source of nitrogen into LIS.

The general permit continues to address potential sources of nitrogen throughout the state through permit conditions and enhanced BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate discharges of nitrogen through stormwater treatment.

For more information on the Long Island Sound Nitrogen TMDL, refer to the core document: [https://portal.ct.gov/\\_media/DEEP/water/lis\\_water\\_quality/nitrogen\\_control\\_program/tmdlpdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/_media/DEEP/water/lis_water_quality/nitrogen_control_program/tmdlpdf.pdf).

## 6.6 Connecticut Advance Restoration Plan for Total Phosphorus

While phosphorus naturally occurs in the environment and is essential to the health of the waterbody, excess phosphorus caused by human-related disturbances can have significant impacts on the receiving water, such as the promotion of algal blooms and subsequent low dissolved oxygen. The *Connecticut Advance Restoration Plan for Total Phosphorus in Non-Tidal Surface Waters* (2024) identifies erosion and/or stormwater runoff from urban areas as potential sources of phosphorus.

The general permit continues to address potential sources of phosphorus throughout the state through permit conditions and enhanced BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate discharges of phosphorus.

For more information on the Connecticut Advance Restoration Plan for Total Phosphorus, refer to the core document: <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-12/ct-statewide-phosphorus-advance-restoration-plan-for-freshwater-rivers.pdf>.

## 6.7 Connecticut Statewide Bacteria TMDL

The presence of bacteria and other pathogens in surface waters can pose a risk to human health through contact with and ingestion of contaminated waters or through consumption of shellfish harvested from contaminated waters. The draft revised Connecticut Statewide Bacteria TMDL Core Document (2024) identifies several ways by which bacteria and other pathogens can be deposited in surface waters including water pollution control facilities, urban stormwater runoff, construction activities, illicit connections, failing subsurface disposal systems (i.e., septic systems), and waste from pets, livestock, and wildlife. Connecticut uses indicator bacteria such as Total Coliform, *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), fecal coliform bacteria, and Enterococcus as evidence of pathogenic contamination.

The general permit continues to address potential sources of bacteria throughout the state through permit conditions and enhanced BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate discharges of bacteria.

For more information on the Connecticut Statewide Bacteria TMDL, refer to the core document: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/water/water-quality-action-plans/tmdl/2024\\_draft\\_bacteria\\_tmdls/ctbacteriatmdl\\_core-doc\\_2024draft.pdf?rev=9e525ad1214b470eb90d9159c85e2b39&hash=1987CA3CC64531CE6EE027878C332D30](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/water/water-quality-action-plans/tmdl/2024_draft_bacteria_tmdls/ctbacteriatmdl_core-doc_2024draft.pdf?rev=9e525ad1214b470eb90d9159c85e2b39&hash=1987CA3CC64531CE6EE027878C332D30).

## 6.8 Northeast Regional Mercury TMDL

The presence of mercury in surface waters can pose a risk to human health primarily through consumption of fish or shellfish harvested from mercury contaminated waters. The majority of mercury released into the environment is released into the air and reaches waterbodies via atmospheric deposition. Although stormwater runoff is included in this TMDL as a potential source, it is expected that “all significant decreases in mercury loading to the region will come from reductions in atmospheric deposition (Northeast Regional Mercury TMDL, 2007).”

The general permit continues to address potential sources of mercury throughout the state through permit conditions and enhanced BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate discharges of mercury.

For more information on the Northeast Regional Mercury TMDL, refer to the core document: [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/water/tmdl/CTFinalTMDL/ne\\_hg\\_tmdl](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/water/tmdl/CTFinalTMDL/ne_hg_tmdl).

## 7.0 Stormwater Pollution Control Plan

The Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (“SPCP” or “Plan”) is a site-specific document required by the general permit describing in detail the pre- and post-construction site conditions and BMPs and Control Measures that will be in place to meet the terms and conditions of the general permit. The Plan includes operation and management procedures for the site to minimize or eliminate the potential to discharge pollutants via stormwater run-off as a result of precipitation including rainfall, snow melt, or groundwater intrusion. The SPCP is a living document and is intended to be updated routinely throughout the duration of the construction activity to reflect current site conditions and best practices.

The Plan must address, at minimum, the following elements:

- Site Description.
- Construction Sequencing.
- Best Management Practices and Control Measures.
- Runoff Reduction and Low Impact Development (“LID”) Information.
- Required inspections and associated Checklists.
- Impacted waterbodies, classification, designated use, and status.

## **7.1 Development of the SPCP**

### **7.1.1 Site Description**

The Site Description section of SPCP shall include site plan drawings indicating drainage patterns, approximate post grading slopes, areas of soil disturbance, location of major structural controls, areas currently vegetated and those vegetated after construction, test pit and infiltration test locations, surface waters, impaired waters, wetlands, and discharge locations.

### **7.1.2 Site Plan Drawings**

In addition to the current requirements, the Stormwater Pollution Control Plans must contain the infiltration and test pit locations and results to confirm the design assumptions for the proposed stormwater BMPs.

## **7.2 Stormwater Control Measures**

Control Measures are designed to prevent stormwater pollutants from leaving a site. Control Measures must be designed, installed, and maintained to ensure erosion of disturbed soils and the associated discharge of eroded sediments and/or the dewatering of stormwater to waters of the State, tidal wetlands, inland wetlands, or watercourses are minimized or eliminated. The permittee shall describe in the SPCP how each Control Measure is designed, installed, and implemented.

### **7.2.1 Perimeter Controls**

Perimeter controls must be installed in accordance with The Guidelines to prevent sediment from discharging off sites. Perimeter controls must be regularly inspected and maintained due to continual sediment loading during a project.

### **7.2.2 Sediment Traps & Basins**

As required in the Guidelines, for drainage areas of two (2) to five (5) acres, permittees must install a sediment trap or sediment basin for each outfall. Outfalls in drainage areas that exceed five (5) acres must install a sediment basin.

### **7.2.3 Flow Reduction Measures**

Permittees must implement flow reduction Control Measures on site in areas that have steep slopes or receive significant drainage flows. Such controls must reduce the velocity of runoff or disperse or redirect stormwater to minimize erosion.

## **7.3 Erosion and Sediment Controls**

### **7.3.1 Soil Stabilization and Protection**

The SPCP shall include descriptions of the BMPs used for managing disturbed areas and soil stockpiles. Such BMPs may include, but are not limited to, erosion control matting, stone riprap, erosion control barriers, and/or vegetative growth.

### **7.3.2 Wetland Protection**

The general permit encourages a one hundred (100) foot buffer from wetlands and watercourses. Additional Control Measures are required if the activity or disturbance is within fifty (50) feet upgradient of a wetland(s), or waters of the State and a double row of sediment barriers must be installed and maintained for the entire project.

### **7.3.3 Structural Measures**

SPCPs must include descriptions and drawings of all structural measures used for the storage, diversion, or treatment of stormwater runoff. Such structural measures must be designed and installed in accordance with the *Stormwater Quality Manual* and the Guidelines.

### **7.3.4 Operation & Maintenance**

Operation and maintenance of all BMP and Control Measures are a critical component of the general permit and the Plan must include a standard operating procedures used to maintain BMPs, Control Measures, and erosion and sediment controls. Routine inspections and maintenance must be completed to ensure all practices and controls are in good operating conditions, and if needed, updated. Failure to maintain the practices or controls is a violation of the permit.

### **7.3.5 Dewatering Discharges**

- The Plan shall include a detailed description for the management of dewatering discharges from construction activities in accordance with the Guidelines. The water shall be treated or stored to prevent erosion, and energy dissipation structures shall be utilized to mitigate erosion, scouring, or discoloration of the receiving waters.
- If the Permittee is or becomes aware of or has reasonable suspicion of contamination onsite from historical activities, or the site may have contaminated groundwater, or if any pollutants are known or believed present in the proposed dewatering discharge water, the applicant or permittee shall apply for coverage under the appropriate discharge permit for authorization to discharge to surface water, ground water, or a POTW. This additional permit will only cover the treatment and discharge of the contaminated water and the Permittee is required to maintain the permit until the cessation of dewatering activities.

- Turbidity Monitoring: The general permit requires dewatering discharges to be monitored for turbidity. A sample of the dewatering discharge will be collected following all treatment devices and control measures and analyzed using approved methods pursuant to 40 CFR 136. The sample results will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment and assist the permittee in determining if additional treatment is required prior to discharge. Sampling will begin on the first day within thirty (30) minutes of the start of the dewatering discharge and then on a weekly basis in conjunction with the required routine site inspections.
- Sample results will be submitted to DEEP via email to: [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov). See Record Keeping and Reporting below.

### 7.3.6 Post-Construction Stormwater Management

The Plan shall include descriptions and drawings of Control Measures that will be installed to minimize the discharge of pollutants in stormwater discharges occurring after construction has been completed. Post-construction stormwater management shall be designed and implemented in accordance with the *Stormwater Quality Manual*, Connecticut Department of Transportation (“CTDOT”) Qualified Products list, or as approved by the Commissioner. Plans must also include provisions to address long-term maintenance of such measures, including but not limited to ownership, maintenance, and inspection schedules.

### 7.3.7 Redevelopment of Existing Sites

Except for linear redevelopment, sites that are currently developed with an effective impervious cover of forty percent (40%) or more and will be redeveloped must design the site in such a manner to retain half the site's water quality volume (“WQV”) and provide additional stormwater treatment without retention for discharges up to the full WQV on-site. Stormwater must be treated to the BAT using Control Measures that are technologically available and economically practicable.

### 7.3.8 Linear Redevelopment

Linear redevelopment projects that are unable to comply with the retention of the water quality volume or are not increasing the effective impervious cover within a given watershed, shall implement additional stormwater treatment measures and will not be required to retain the appropriate portion of the WQV specified in such paragraphs.

### 7.3.9 Other Development

Sites that are currently not yet developed or developed with less than 40% effective impervious cover must be designed to retain the water quality volume, unless site constraints limit the ability to retain the full WQV. In such cases, the Permittee must submit an explanation of why the current runoff reduction practices implemented have reached their maximum possible retention; documentation of an alternative WQV with all supporting information; and a proposal for alternative or additional BMPs and Control Measures for stormwater treatment for the Commissioner's consideration.

### **7.3.10 Runoff Reduction and Low Impact Design Practices**

Low Impact Development (“LID”) practices or other post-construction Control Measures shall be incorporated into site design for the promotion of uncontaminated groundwater recharge and minimization of post-construction impacts to water quality.

### **7.3.11 Suspended Solids and Floatables Removal**

Post-construction Control Measures shall be designed to minimize the discharge of suspended solids and floatables (e.g. oil and grease, gas, debris, liquid waste, trash, etc.) from stormwater prior to being discharged. Control Measures shall be designed to remove eighty percent (80%) of the annual sediment load from stormwater discharges. Plans must provide sufficient documentation and supporting information, such as the calculations for the selected Control Measures.

### **7.3.12 Velocity Dissipation**

The Plan shall include the selected velocity dissipation devices to be installed at discharge locations and along the length of outfall channels. These devices must provide a non-erosive velocity flow to receiving waters to prevent degradation of their physical and biological characteristics.

## **7.4 Additional BMPs and Control Measures**

### **7.4.1 Waste Disposal**

The discharge of litter, debris, building materials, hardened concrete waste, or similar materials from the site into waters of the State is prohibited. The Permittee shall ensure that waste storage containers, such as dumpsters or tanks, be covered and leak proof to prevent runoff of stormwater from coming into contact with solid or liquid waste. A narrative of these practices shall be provided in the SPCP. In addition, the dumping of liquid wastes in storm sewers is prohibited. The Plan shall include BMPs, management procedures, and waste disposal practices to ensure materials do not enter the receiving waterbodies.

### **7.4.2 Washout Area**

Plans shall designate an area on site for the washout of applicators, containers, vehicles, and equipment for concrete, paint and other materials. Washout areas must be positioned outside any buffers and at least fifty (50) feet from any water body, stream, wetland, sensitive resource, or waters of the state. Washout areas must be directed into a leak-proof container or leak-proof and lined pit designed so no overflows can occur due to inadequate sizing or precipitation in accordance with 40 CFR 450.21(e). Containers or pits must be inspected and maintained at least once a week to ensure effectiveness and good operating condition. Hardened concrete must be regularly removed from containers or pits in accordance with the general permit.

### **7.4.3 Off-site Vehicle Tracking and Dust Suppression**

Plans shall include BMPs and Control Measures to minimize the track-out of debris, sediment, and dust generation from vehicles. Implement additional track-out controls as necessary to ensure that sediment removal occurs prior to vehicle exit. If sediment has been

tracked out from the site onto paved roads, sidewalks, or other paved areas, remove the deposited sediment by the end

of the same business day in which the track-out occurs, or by the end of the next business day if track-out occurs on a non-business day.

Remove the track-out by sweeping, shoveling, or vacuuming these surfaces, or by using other similarly effective means of sediment removal. Examples of additional track-out controls include the use of wheel washing, rumble strips, and rattle plates. Hosing or sweeping track out sediment into any constructed or natural site drainage feature, storm drain, or receiving water is prohibited.

Wet dust suppression shall be used in accordance with Section 22a-174-18(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. Water used in dust suppression shall not contain contaminants that could violate water quality standards.

#### **7.4.4 Storage of Chemical and Petroleum Products**

All chemicals and petroleum product containers on site (except those contained in vehicles and equipment) shall be stored in impermeable containment systems. Storage containers must be capable of holding 110% of the volume of the largest container, or 10% of the total volume of all containers in the area, whichever is greater.

#### **7.4.5 Cold Water Stream Habitat**

Construction activity within one hundred (100) feet of any surface waterbody included within a cold water stream habitat must have mitigation strategies verified post-construction.

### **7.5 Additional Control Measures for Impaired Waters**

For construction activities that discharge directly to impaired waters for sediment or sediment-related impairments, as specified in “Discharges to Impaired Waters” section of the general permit, the SPCP shall include the following provisions:

- Where an applicable TMDL sets specific load allocations or requirements for discharges authorized by this permit, discharges shall be consistent with any specific load allocations or requirements established by the applicable TMDL.
- Where an applicable TMDL has been established, but no specific requirements have been identified, compliance with this permit will be assumed to be consistent with the approved TMDL.
- The SPCP shall document that Control Measures are in place to ensure there will be no discharge to the waterbody that may impact or exceed the allocations.

### **7.6 Inspections and Maintenance**

Permittees are required to routinely evaluate the condition of the site and respond to observed issues and/or deficiencies in a timely manner.

#### **7.6.1 Plan Implementation Inspections**

Prior to commencement of each phase of construction activity, the site shall be inspected at least once within the first thirty (30) days of construction activity and at least three (3) times,

with seven (7) or more days between inspections, within the first ninety (90) days of construction activity to demonstrate compliance with the general permit.

### **7.6.2 Routine Inspections**

The Permittee shall routinely inspect the site to ensure compliance with the permit terms and conditions pursuant to the general permit. Such routine inspections shall be conducted by a Qualified Inspector at least once a week and within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of a storm that generates a discharge. After confirmation of final stabilization, these inspections may be conducted monthly. These inspections are required for the duration of the project until a Notice of Termination is submitted to the Commissioner.

### **7.6.3 Post-Construction Inspection**

Once construction is complete, a post-construction inspection shall be conducted by a Qualified Professional to verify that all post-construction stormwater measures are installed properly in accordance with the Plan, the general permit, and that all construction sediment, debris, and trash have been removed from the site. For state agency projects, the post-construction inspection can be conducted by a Qualified Professional on the Qualified Professional list approved by DEEP in accordance with Section 2 of the permit.

### **7.6.4 Final Stabilization Inspection**

A final stabilization inspection shall be conducted by a Qualified Professional to ensure the site has been fully stabilized, all temporary erosion and sedimentation measures (silt fence, haybales, etc.) have been removed, and all post-construction stormwater BMPs and Control Measures are in place and operational. The inspection report shall include ground and/or aerial photographs to document final stabilization.

### **7.6.5 Termination Inspection**

Once a site has achieved final stabilization, as confirmed by a Final Stabilization Inspection, for at least a year (two years for Solar Array Projects), a Termination Inspection shall be conducted by a Qualified Inspector. The inspection report shall include ground and/or aerial photographs to document final stabilization. The Permittee shall submit the Termination Inspection report with the Notice of Termination form.

## **7.7 Keeping Pollution Control Plan Current**

The permittee must amend the SPCP if the actions required by the SPCP fail to prevent pollution or unauthorized discharges to the waters of the state or fail to comply with any other provision of the general permit. Any revisions of the SPCP must be developed in coordination with the designing Qualified Professional to ensure compliance with the general permit. After the issuance of the 'Notice of Coverage' by the Commissioner, any increase in disturbed area or changes in the SPCP that may result in an increase in the amount or potential pollutants in the discharge requires the submission of a Notice of Change (Section 3.5). If disturbed area increases by more than an acre, a new application and an updated SPCP are required in accordance with the 'New Application Required' section of this General Permit. The Permittee is required to retain as part of the SPCP all modifications and any documentation associated with each modification.

## **7.8 Record Keeping and Reporting**

The permittee must retain a current copy of Stormwater Pollution Control Plan on site from the date construction is initiated until the date construction at the site is complete. All records, communications, inspection reports, logs, data, and reports shall be retained in the SPCP.

Turbidity monitoring results shall be submitted on a monthly basis by email to the Commissioner at [DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.StormwaterConstruction@ct.gov) with the subject line “Construction turbidity monitoring”. The Commissioner may also require other reports to be submitted by email.

For a period of at least five (5) years from the date the Notice of Termination is submitted to the Commissioner, the permittee must retain a copy of the SPCP, including all records, communications, inspection records, logs, reports, and data generated and required by this general permit.

## **8.0 Duty to Correct, Record, and Report Violations**

Consistent with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, permittees are required to immediately take all reasonable actions to correct known noncompliance with the conditions of this general permit. In the event that such noncompliance may endanger human health or the environment, the Permittee must notify DEEP.

In the event that such noncompliance may endanger human health or the environment, the permittee must notify DEEP, following the concise and consistent requirements for how and when to report a permit violation.

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

Permittees must report violations in accordance with the timelines prescribed in the state regulations and submit the required five (5) day follow-up report.

## **9.0 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 fully set forth herein.

## **10.0 Standard Conditions**

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

### **10.1 Antidegradation**

Such activity is consistent with the Antidegradation Standards of section 22a-426 of the RCSA.

## **11.0 Definitions**

Definitions have been added to this section for “Design-Build Project”, “Early Release Construction”, “Final Design Phase”, and “Site Preparation Phase”. The definition of “Developer” was modified to include state and federal agencies and the definition of “Final Stabilization” was modified from a minimum of sixty percent (60%) coverage to one hundred (100) plants per square foot to maintain consistency with the Guidelines.

## **12.0 Appendices**

### **12.1 Appendix A - Endangered and Threatened Species**

Applicants are required to include the identification number from the NDDB Determination Letter on the Application forms.

*Failure to include this information may delay DEEP's review of or result in the rejection of the application.*

### **12.2 Appendix B - RESERVED**

### **12.3 Appendix C - Aquifer Protection Guidance Information**

The CT DEEP Aquifer Protection Area Interactive Map has been provided to assist applicants in identifying aquifer protection areas: [Connecticut Aquifer Protection Areas](#)

### **12.4 Appendix D - Coastal Management Act Determination Form**

### **12.5 Appendices E & F - Memoranda of Agreement Between DEEP and Conservation Districts**

### **12.6 Appendix G - Historic Preservation Review**

The appendix has been updated by the State Historic Preservation Office to include links to online forms.

### **12.7 Appendix H - Wild & Scenic Rivers Guidance**

A segment of the Housatonic River has been added to the list of National Wild and Scenic Rivers. Visit the National Wild and Scenic Rivers webpage (<https://rivers.gov/river/housatonic>) for additional information.

### **12.8 Appendix I - Stormwater Management at Solar Array Construction Projects**

Appendix I has been modified to provide the option for applicants to submit three (3) separate letters of credit prior to permit approval. Applicants may request a single letter of credit under the condition that the letter of credit will only be returned upon submittal and approval of the Notice of Termination. In addition, the minimum time for a Notice of Termination to be filed following a successful Final Stabilization Inspection is now two (2) years rather than two (2) full growing seasons. Provisions have also been added specific to solar arrays located on top of closed landfills.

### **12.9 Appendix J - CTDEEP Financial Assurance Irrevocable Letter of Credit**

The financial assurance form has been modified to include additional information regarding the Permittee's name, the site name and address, and the permit number.

## 13.0 Public Participation

### 13.1 Public Comments

A “Notice of Tentative Determination to Reissue the General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities” was published in six (6) newspapers with general circulation covering all areas of the state on June 26, 2025. The notice of tentative determination and draft copy of the permit and its fact sheet were concurrently posted on DEEP’s website. Comments were solicited on the proposed general permit for a period of thirty (30) days ending on July 26, 2025.

In response to public comments, the general permit has been revised. The Commissioners response to the comments are included in the ‘Response to Comments’ document.

The notice of tentative determination also allowed for submission of a request for public hearing during the comment period. No petition for public hearing was received.

### 13.2 Changes Made to the Permit After the Public Notice

- Grammatical errors, spelling errors and section references corrected throughout the permit.
- Minor language changes not affecting permit conditions made throughout the permit for clarity and ease of reading; language changes potentially affecting permit conditions listed separately.
- Section 2.1.1: Modifications to the descriptions of dewatering discharges and naturally occurring groundwater discharges as allowable non-stormwater discharges.
- Section 2.2.1: For discharges to publicly or privately owned storm sewer systems in the “prohibited discharges” section, changed the requirement for “consent” of the owner of the system to require “notification” to the owner of the system.
- Section 2.2.1.1: Clarified the description of concrete washout wastewater as a prohibited discharge to reference the permit requirements.
- Section 2.2.17.6: Modification here and in Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3 to allow projects undertaken by a state agency to be submitted as Locally Approvable projects.
- Section 2.5.4.1: Changed the term “Approval of Registration” to “Notice of Coverage” throughout the permit.
- Section 3.2.1.2: Modified Application Fees to state that new projects conducted by state agencies shall pay the same permit fee (\$1250) as Locally Approvable projects.
- Section 3.3.2: Added “Fisheries Consultation” to the review requirements for Locally Approvable projects.
- Section 3.4.1.3: Added “latitude/longitude” to site description requirements in the application form.
- Section 3.4.1.7.c.iv: Added reference to public water supply watersheds in application form requirements. Added link to Appendix C to the DPH Public Water Supply Mapping Application.

- Section 3.4.1.7.e: Added language to clarify that “for projects conducted by state agencies”, the requirement is to provide documentation of official interagency coordination for activities subject to Cold Water Stream Habitat requirements.
- Section 3.4.1.8: Clarified that only the stormwater outfalls must be identified on the site plan or map and not all internal conveyances or drainage features within the site.
- Section 3.5: References added to clarify that the provisions in Section 5.2.5 for keeping the SPCP updated still apply when a Notice of Change is submitted. Also, added requirement to submit a Notice of Change if the distance to endangered species habitat is reduced.
- Section 3.7: Additional requirements added in Section 4 of the permit to address termination requirements for projects for which there is a change of permittee under Section 3.7
- Section 3.8.1: The term “upon request” has been removed so that Permittees submit their application and all attachments to CTDOT when discharging to a CTDOT storm sewer system. This section is now Section 3.10.1.
- Section 3.11.2: Rejection or denial criteria updated to provide for a fifteen (15) day response time consistent with Section 3.8.
- Section 3.12: The permit has been modified to include provisions in Sections 3 and 4 to address the application and termination requirements of “design-build projects” conducted by state or federal entities. In addition to these sections, DEEP has included definitions in Section 10 for “design-build project”, “ERC”, “Final Design Phase”, and “Site Preparation Phase”.
- Section 4.1: Regarding the requirements for a Notice of Termination, the definition of final stabilization has been changed to “6 inches tall and a minimum of 100 plants per square foot” to remain consistent with the Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. The definition of “final stabilization” has also been changed accordingly.
- Section 4.2.1: The phrase “a description of the post-construction activities at the site” has been moved from Section 4.2.1.2 to Section 4.2.1.1.
- Section 5.1.7: This section has been modified to clarify that, for linear projects, the permittee shall post signs at publicly accessible locations along the project corridor, where feasible.
- Section 5.2.1.2.d: A requirement has been added to show “areas of existing vegetation” on the site plan in the SPCP.
- Section 5.2.2.3: A statement has been added addressing the application of pesticides and herbicides in accordance with applicable laws. Also, the use of pollinator-friendly plant species and integrated pest management practices are encouraged.
- Section 5.2.2.5: A statement has been added encouraging a one hundred (100) foot buffer from any wetland or watercourse.
- Section 5.2.2.8: A new subsection has been added to the requirements for dewatering operations to require turbidity monitoring at initiation and then once a week for dewatering discharges.
- Section 5.2.2.11.a: Language has been added to clarify the requirements for waste storage containers.

- Section 5.2.2.11.b: Clarification has been added to the requirements for the location of washout areas.
- Section 5.2.2.11.g: Clarification has been added that mitigation strategies for activities within a Cold Water Stream Habitat must be verified by the designing qualified professional.
- Section 5.2.5: Provisions have been added to allow routine inspections to proceed on a monthly, rather than weekly, basis once final stabilization of a site has been confirmed. Reference to subsection 5.2.5.2 has also been added for clarity.
- Section 8.24: A reference has been added to clarify that a Notice of Change may be required for certain changes to a permitted site.
- Section 10: The definition of “developer” has been amended to include state or federal agencies.
- Appendix C: A hyperlink has been added for the Public Water Supply Mapping Application.

### **13.3 Changes Made To The Fact Sheet After The Public Notice**

- Grammatical errors, spelling errors, section numbers, and section references corrected throughout the fact sheet.
- Minor language changes not affecting permit conditions made throughout the fact sheet for clarity and ease of reading; language changes potentially affecting permit conditions listed separately.
- Section 3.2: Expanded discussion of EPA regulations pertaining to small construction activities.
- Section 3.5.2: Modified to provide timelines for new applications and to allow state agencies to submit new applications as Locally Approvable.
- Section 4.2.1: Reflects updated language in permit Section 2.1.1 for allowable non-stormwater discharges.
- Section 4.3.2: Moved to Section 7.1.
- Section 4.4: Reflects updated language in permit Section 3.5 regarding conditions for requiring a Notice of Change.
- Section 4.5: Section added to clarify that projects increasing disturbed area by more than an acre will require a new application.
- Section 4.6: Provides details and permit references for permitting of design-build projects by a state or federal agency.
- Section 4.7: Provides details and requirements for turbidity monitoring of dewatering discharges.
- Section 5.3: Moved to Section 7.1.
- Section 5.4: Moved to Section 7.2.
- Section 5.5: Moved to Section 7.7.
- Section 5.6: Moved to Section 5.0.

- Section 6.9: Deleted due to redundancy.
- Section 7.3.5: Modified to reflect permit Section 5.2.2.8 regarding evaluation of existing groundwater quality for dewatering activities and requirements for turbidity monitoring of dewatering discharges.
- Section 7.4.1: Modified to include clarification of waste storage container requirements in permit Section 5.2.2.11.
- Section 7.6.2: Modified to allow routine inspections to be monthly, rather than weekly, following the establishment of final stabilization.
- Section 7.7: Language added to clarify that certain SPCP changes may require a Notice of Change.
- Appendix I: Language added to include provisions for changing the timeline for Notice of Termination submission and for solar arrays located on top of closed landfills.
- Section 13.1: Section added to address the results of the public notice and public comment period.