

**AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) GENERAL PERMIT FOR
NEW HAMPSHIRE MEDIUM WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq.; the "CWA"),

Town of Seabrook, New Hampshire

is authorized to discharge from the facility located at

**Seabrook Wastewater Treatment Facility
274 Route 286
Wright's Island
Seabrook, NH 03874**

to receiving water named

**Gulf of Maine
Atlantic Ocean**

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in this authorization and the NH Medium WWTF GP (General Permit No. NHG590000).

This authorization shall become effective on April 1, 2026.

The following documents are separate attachments to the NH Medium WWTF General Permit:

Part VII – Standard Conditions

Attachment A – Freshwater Acute Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, February 2011

Attachment B – Freshwater Chronic Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, March 2013

Attachment C – Marine Acute Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, July 2012

Attachment D – Marine Chronic Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol, November 2013

Attachment E – List of Eligible Facilities and Facility-Specific Requirements

Attachment F – Reassessment of Technically Based Industrial Discharge Limits

Attachment G – NPDES Permit Requirement for Industrial Pretreatment Annual Report

Attachment H – PFAS Analyte List

Attachment I – List for Pollutant Scans

I. Applicability and Coverage of the NH Medium WWTF General Permit

Supplementary information provided in the complete version of the Medium WWTF GP.

II. GENERAL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting through the expiration date, the Permittee is authorized to discharge treated effluent through Outfall 001 to the Gulf of Maine. The discharge shall be limited and monitored as specified below at the end of all treatment processes, including disinfection or dechlorination (if any), or at an alternative representative location approved by EPA and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), that provides a representative sample of the effluent. The receiving water and the influent shall be monitored as specified below.

Effluent Characteristic Parameter	Discharge Limitation ¹⁵			Monitoring Requirement ^{1,2,3}	
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type ⁴
Rolling Average Effluent Flow ⁵	1.8 MGD	---	---	Continuous	Recorder
Effluent Flow ⁵	Report MGD	---	Report MGD	Continuous	Recorder
BOD ₅	30 mg/L 451 lb/day	45 mg/L 676 lb/day	50 mg/L 751 lb/day	2/Week	Composite
BOD ₅ Removal	≥ 85 %	---	---	1/Month	Calculation
TSS	30 mg/L 451 lb/day	45 mg/L 676 lb/day	50 mg/L 751 lb/day	2/Week	Composite
TSS Removal	≥ 85 %	---	---	1/Month	Calculation
pH Range ⁸	6.5-8.0 S.U.			1/Day	Grab
<i>Enterococci</i> ⁹	35/100 mL	---	104/100 mL	1/Day	Grab
Fecal Coliform ^{9,10}	14/100 mL	---	---	1/Day	Grab
Fecal Coliform ^{9,10} (% of samples > 28/100 mL)	---	---	≤ 10%	1/Day	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine ¹¹	0.24 mg/L	---	0.42 mg/L	2/Day	Grab
PFAS Analytes ¹⁴	---	---	Report ng/L	1/Quarter	Grab
Adsorbable Organic Fluorine ¹⁵	---	---	Report µg/L	1/Quarter	Grab
Pollutant Scan ¹⁷	---	---	Report mg/L	1/Year	Composite

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitation ¹⁵			Monitoring Requirement ^{1,2,3}	
	Parameter	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing^{18,19}					
LC ₅₀	---	---	≥ 100%	4/Year	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Cadmium	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Copper	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Lead	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Nickel	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Zinc	---	---	Report mg/L		
Total Organic Carbon	---	---	Report mg/L		

Ambient Characteristic ²⁰	Reporting Requirements			Monitoring Requirements ^{1,2,3}	
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type ⁴
Salinity	---	---	Report ppt		Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Cadmium	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Copper	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Nickel	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Lead	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Zinc	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
Total Organic Carbon	---	---	Report mg/L		Grab
pH ²²	---	---	Report S.U.		Grab
Temperature ²²	---	---	Report °C	Grab	
Pollutant Scan ¹⁷	---	---	Report mg/L	1/Year	Grab
Aesthetics ²⁴ (DMR Attachment)	---	---	Report	1/Month	Observation

Influent Characteristic	Reporting Requirements			Monitoring Requirements ^{1,2,3}	
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type ⁴
BOD ₅	Report mg/L	---	---	2/Month	Composite
TSS	Report mg/L	---	---	2/Month	Composite
PFAS Analytes ¹⁴	---	---	Report ng/L	1/Quarter	Grab
Adsorbable Organic Fluorine ¹⁵	---	---	Report µg/L	1/Quarter	Grab

Sludge Characteristic	Reporting Requirements			Monitoring Requirements ^{1,2,3}	
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Maximum Daily	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type ⁴
PFAS Analytes ¹⁴	---	---	Report ng/g	1/Quarter	Grab ²⁵

Footnotes:

1. All samples shall be collected in a manner to yield representative data. A routine sampling program shall be developed in which samples are taken at the same location, same time and same days of the week each month. Occasional deviations from the routine sampling program are allowed, but the reason for the deviation shall be documented as an electronic attachment to the applicable discharge monitoring report. The Permittee shall report the results to the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 (EPA) and NHDES ("the State") of any additional testing above that required herein, if testing is in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136.
2. In accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(i)(1)(iv), the Permittee shall monitor according to sufficiently sensitive test procedures (i.e., methods) approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O, for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters (except WET). A method is "sufficiently sensitive" when: 1) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limitation established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 2) The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. The term "minimum level" refers to either the sample concentration equivalent to the lowest calibration point in a method or a multiple of the method detection limit (MDL), whichever is higher. Minimum levels may be obtained in several ways: They may be published in a method; they may be based on the lowest acceptable calibration point used by a laboratory; or they may be calculated by multiplying the MDL in a method, or the MDL determined by a laboratory, by a factor.

When a parameter is not detected above the ML, the Permittee must report the data qualifier signifying less than the ML for that parameter (e.g., < 50 µg/L, if the ML for a parameter is 50 µg/L). For reporting an average based on a mix of values detected and not detected, assign a value of "0" to all non-detects for that reporting period and report the average of all the results.

3. N/A
4. A "grab" sample is an individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

A "composite" sample is a composite of at least twenty-four (24) grab samples taken during one consecutive 24-hour period, either collected at equal intervals and combined proportional to flow or continuously collected proportional to flow.
5. The limit is a rolling annual average, reported in million gallons per day (MGD), which will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the monthly average flow for the reporting month and the monthly average flows of the previous eleven months. Also report monthly average and maximum daily flow in MGD.

6. N/A
7. N/A
8. The pH shall be within the specified range at all times. The minimum and maximum pH sample measurement values for the month shall be reported in standard units (S.U.).

See Part II.H.1 below for a provision to modify the pH range.

9. Bacteria monitoring shall be conducted concurrently with TRC monitoring, if TRC monitoring is required. The monthly average limits for bacteria are expressed as a geometric mean.

For samples tested using the Most Probable Number (MPN) method, the units may be expressed as MPN. The units may also be expressed as colony forming units (cfu) when using the Membrane Filtration method.

10. The average monthly values for fecal coliform shall be determined by calculating the geometric mean using daily sample results. As a daily maximum, not more than 10 percent of collected samples (over a monthly period) shall exceed a Most Probable Number (MPN) of 28 per 100 mL. Each month the percentage of collected samples that exceeds an MPN of 28 per 100 mL shall be reported at the Daily Maximum value. Furthermore, all Fecal Coliform data collected must be submitted with the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs).
11. The Permittee shall minimize the use of chlorine while maintaining adequate bacterial control. Monitoring for total residual chlorine (TRC) is only required for discharges which have been previously chlorinated or which contain residual chlorine. If chlorine is not utilized during a particular monitoring period, TRC monitoring is not necessary and the Permittee may enter "NODI" code 9 (i.e., conditional monitoring) in the relevant discharge monitoring report.

Chlorination and dechlorination systems shall include an alarm system for indicating system interruptions or malfunctions. Any interruption or malfunction of the chlorine dosing system that may have resulted in levels of chlorine that were inadequate for achieving effective disinfection, or interruptions or malfunctions of the dechlorination system that may have resulted in excessive levels of chlorine in the final effluent shall be reported with the monthly DMRs. The report shall include the date and time of the interruption or malfunction, the nature of the problem, and the estimated amount of time that the reduced levels of chlorine or dechlorination chemicals occurred.

12. N/A
13. N/A
14. Report in nanograms per liter (ng/L) for effluent and influent samples; report nanograms per gram (ng/g) for sludge samples. Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR

Part 136 for PFAS, monitoring shall be conducted using Method 1633A. Report in NetDMR the results of all PFAS analytes required to be tested in Method 1633A, as shown in Attachment H. This reporting requirement for the listed PFAS parameters takes effect the first full calendar quarter following six months after the effective date of the authorization.

15. Report in micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) for effluent and influent samples. Until there is an analytical method approved in 40 CFR Part 136 for Adsorbable Organic Fluorine, monitoring shall be conducted using Method 1621. This reporting requirement takes effect the first full calendar quarter following six months after the effective date of the authorization.
16. N/A
17. During the third calendar quarter of each year, the Permittee shall concurrently monitor both the effluent and the receiving water (immediately upstream/upgradient of the discharge) for all the pollutants listed in Attachment I. All effluent and ambient results shall be reported in NetDMR for the quarterly DMR report due by October 15 of each year.
18. The Permittee shall conduct acute toxicity tests (LC50) and chronic toxicity tests (C-NOEC) in accordance with test procedures and protocols specified in **Attachment C** of this permit. LC50 and C-NOEC are defined in Part VIII.E. of this permit. The Permittee shall test the mysid shrimp (*Mysidopsis bahia*) and the inland silverside (*Menidia beryllina*). Toxicity test samples shall be collected during the same weeks each time of calendar quarters ending March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st. The complete report for each toxicity test shall be submitted as an attachment to the DMR submittal which includes the results for that toxicity test.

If the results indicate a violation of any toxicity limit or if the Permittee identifies or is provided notice of a sudden and significant death of large numbers of fish and/or shellfish in the vicinity of the discharge, the Permittee shall follow the procedures described in Part II.H.5 below.

19. For Part II.A.1., Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing, the Permittee shall conduct the analyses specified in **Attachment C**, Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS for the effluent sample. If toxicity test(s) using the receiving water as diluent show the receiving water to be toxic or unreliable, the Permittee shall follow procedures outlined in **Attachment C**, Part IV., DILUTION WATER. Minimum levels and test methods are specified in **Attachment C**, Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.
20. For Part II.A.1., Ambient Characteristic, the Permittee shall conduct the analyses specified in **Attachment C**, Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS for the receiving water sample collected as part of the WET testing requirements. Such samples shall be taken from the receiving water at a point immediately outside of the permitted discharge's zone of influence at a reasonably accessible location, as specified in **Attachment C**. Minimum levels and test methods are specified in **Attachment C**, Part VI. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

21. N/A

22. A pH and temperature measurement shall be taken of each receiving water sample at the time of collection and the results reported on the appropriate DMR. These pH and temperature measurements are independent from any pH and temperature measurements required by the WET testing protocols.

23. N/A

24. Once per month, the Permittee shall conduct a visual inspection of the receiving water in the vicinity of the outfall and report any changes in the receiving water that may be caused by the discharge as follows:

- a) any observable change in odor,
- b) any visible change in color,
- c) any visible change in turbidity,
- d) the presence or absence of any visible floating materials, scum or foam,
- e) the presence or absence of any visible settleable solids,
- f) the presence or absence of any visible film or sheen on the surface of the water.

If the receiving water is frozen over during any visual inspection, the Permittee may simply note this in the annual summary for that month. If an oily sheen is observed, immediately test the effluent for oil & grease. The Permittee shall also report any complaints it receives from the public regarding the taste and/or odor of the receiving water and document what remedial actions, if any, it took to address such complaints.

The results do not need to be submitted each month. Rather, an annual summary of all 12 monthly results shall be submitted as an electronic attachment to the December DMR by each January 15th for the previous calendar year.

25. Sludge sampling shall be as representative as possible based on guidance found at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-11/documents/potw-sludge-sampling-guidance-document.pdf>.

Part II.A., continued.

2. The Permittee must provide adequate notice to EPA-Region 1 and the State of the following:
 - a. Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW or facility from an indirect discharger which would be subject to Part 301 or Part 306 of the Clean Water Act if it were directly discharging those pollutants or in a primary industry category (see 40 CFR Part 122 Appendix A as amended) discharging process water; and
 - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW or facility by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW or facility at the time of issuance of the permit.
 - c. For purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on:
 - (1) The quantity and quality of effluent introduced into the POTW or facility; and
 - (2) Any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW or facility.
3. Pollutants introduced into the POTW or facility by a non-domestic source (user) shall not pass through the POTW or facility or interfere with the operation or performance of the works.

B. UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

1. This permit authorizes discharges only from the outfall listed in the authorization in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit. For any pollutant without an effluent limitation in this permit, any pollutant loading greater than the proposed discharge (the “proposed discharge” is based on the chemical-specific data and the facility’s design flow as described in the permit application, or any other information provided to EPA during the permitting process) must be reevaluated, and the permit must be modified or reissued if the need for any new effluent limitations is identified. See notification requirements in Part II.A.2 (if applicable) and Part VII.D.1.a. Discharges of wastewater from any other point sources, including sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), are not authorized by this permit. The Permittee and Co-permittee(s) must provide verbal notification to EPA and the State within 24 hours of becoming aware of any unauthorized discharge and a report within 5 days, in accordance with Part V.D.1.e (24-hour reporting). See Part II.J below for reporting requirements.
2. The Permittee and Co-permittee(s) must provide notification to the public within 24 hours of becoming aware of any unauthorized discharge, except SSOs that do not impact a surface water or the public, on a publicly available website, and it shall remain on the website for a minimum of 12 months. Such notification shall include the location

(including latitude and longitude) and description of the discharge; estimated volume; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and, if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue.

C. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE TREATMENT AND CONTROL FACILITIES

1. Sewer System

Operation and maintenance (O&M) of the sewer system shall be in compliance with 40 CFR § 122.41 (d) and (e) and the terms and conditions of the Part VII Standard Conditions, B. Operation and Maintenance of Pollution Controls which is attached to this Permit. The Permittee shall complete the following activities for the collection system which it owns:

a. Maintenance Staff

The Permittee shall provide an adequate staff to carry out the operation, maintenance, repair, and testing functions required to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Provisions to meet this requirement shall be described in the Sewer System O&M Plan required pursuant to Part II.C.1.e. below.

b. Preventive Maintenance Program

The Permittee shall maintain an ongoing preventive maintenance program to prevent overflows and bypasses caused by malfunctions or failures of the sewer system infrastructure. The program shall include an inspection program designed to identify all potential and actual unauthorized discharges. Plans and programs to meet this requirement shall be described in the Sewer System O&M Plan required pursuant to Part II.C.1.e. below.

c. Infiltration/Inflow

The Permittee shall control infiltration and inflow (I/I) into the sewer system as necessary to prevent high flow related unauthorized discharges from their collection systems and high flow related violations of the wastewater treatment plant's effluent limitations. Plans and programs to control I/I shall be described in the Sewer System O&M Plan required pursuant to Part II.C.1.e. below.

d. Sewer System Mapping

The Permittee shall continue to maintain a map of the sewer collection system they own. The map shall be on a street map of the community, with sufficient detail and at a scale to allow easy interpretation. The collection system information shown on the map shall be based on current conditions and shall be kept up-to-date and

available for review by federal, state, or local agencies upon request. Such map(s) shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (1) All sanitary sewer lines and related manholes;
- (2) All combined sewer lines, related manholes, and catch basins;
- (3) All combined sewer regulators and any known or suspected connections between the sanitary sewer and storm drain systems (*e.g.*, combination manholes);
- (4) All outfalls, including the treatment plant outfall(s), CSOs, and any known or suspected SSOs, including stormwater outfalls that are connected to combination manholes;
- (5) All pump stations and force mains;
- (6) The wastewater treatment facility(ies);
- (7) All surface waters (labeled);
- (8) Other major appurtenances such as inverted siphons and air release valves;
- (9) A numbering system which uniquely identifies manholes, catch basins, overflow points, regulators and outfalls;
- (10) Interconnections with collection systems owned by other entities;
- (11) The scale and a north arrow; and
- (12) To the extent feasible, the pipe diameter, date of installation, type of material, distance between manholes, and the direction of flow.

e. Sewer System Operation and Maintenance Plan

- (1) N/A
- (2) N/A

The Permittee shall update and implement a Sewer System O&M Plan in accordance with Part (3) below. The plan shall be kept up-to-date and available for review by federal, state, or local agencies upon request.

(3) The Sewer System O&M Plan shall include:

- i. A description of the collection system management goals, staffing, information management, and legal authorities;
- ii. A description of the collection system and the overall condition of the collection system including a list of all pump stations and a description of recent studies and construction activities;
- iii. A preventive maintenance and monitoring program for the collection system;
- iv. Description of sufficient staffing necessary to properly operate and maintain the sanitary sewer collection system and how the operation and maintenance program is staffed;
- v. Description of funding, the source(s) of funding and provisions for funding sufficient for implementing the plan;
- vi. Identification of known and suspected overflows and back-ups, including manholes. A description of the cause of the identified overflows and back-ups, corrective actions taken, and a plan for addressing the overflows and back-ups consistent with the requirements of this permit;
- vii. A description of the Permittee's programs for preventing I/I related effluent violations and all unauthorized discharges of wastewater, including overflows and by-passes and the ongoing program to identify and remove sources of I/I. The program shall include an inflow identification and control program that focuses on the disconnection and redirection of illegal sump pumps and roof down spouts;
- viii. An educational public outreach program for all aspects of I/I control, particularly private inflow; and
- ix. An Overflow Emergency Response Plan to protect public health from overflows and unanticipated bypasses or upsets that exceed any effluent limitation in the permit.

2. Annual Reporting Requirement

The Permittee shall submit a summary report of activities related to the implementation of its O&M Plans during the previous calendar year. The report shall be submitted to EPA and the State annually by March 31 (as an electronic attachment to the DMR). The summary report shall, at a minimum, include:

- a. A description of the staffing levels maintained during the year;
- b. A map and a description of inspection and maintenance activities conducted and corrective actions taken during the previous year;
- c. Expenditures for any collection system maintenance activities and corrective actions taken during the previous year;
- d. A map with areas identified for investigation/action in the coming year;
- e. A summary of unauthorized discharges during the past year and their causes and a report of any corrective actions taken as a result of the unauthorized discharges reported pursuant to the Unauthorized Discharges section of this permit;
- f. If the monthly average flow exceeded 80 percent of the facility's design flow for three consecutive months in the previous calendar year, or there have been capacity related overflows, the report shall include:
 - (1) Plans for further potential flow increases describing how the Permittee will maintain compliance with the flow limit and all other effluent limitations and conditions; and
 - (2) A calculation of the maximum daily, weekly, and monthly infiltration and the maximum daily, weekly, and monthly inflow for the reporting year.

D. ALTERNATE POWER SOURCE

In order to maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit, the Permittee and Co-permittee shall provide an alternative power source(s) sufficient to operate the portion of the publicly owned treatment works it owns and operates, as defined in Part V.E.1 of this permit.

E. INDUSTRIAL USERS

1. The Permittee shall submit to EPA and the State the name of any Industrial User (IU) subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR § 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N (Parts 405-415, 417-430, 432-447, 449-451, 454, 455, 457-461, 463-469, and 471 as amended) who commences discharge to the facility after the effective date of this permit.

This reporting requirement also applies to any other IU who is classified as a Significant Industrial User which discharges an average of 25,000 gallons per day or more of process wastewater into the facility (excluding sanitary, noncontact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater); contributes a process wastewater which makes up five (5)

percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the facility; or is designated as such by the Control Authority as defined in 40 CFR § 403.3(f) on the basis that the industrial user has a reasonable potential to adversely affect the wastewater treatment facility's operation, or for violating any pretreatment standard or requirement (in accordance with 40 CFR § 403.8(f)(6)).

2. In the event that the Permittee receives originals of reports (baseline monitoring reports, 90-day compliance reports, periodic reports on continued compliance, etc.) from industrial users subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR § 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N (Parts 405-415, 417-430, 432-447, 449-451, 454, 455, 457-461, 463-469, and 471 as amended), or from a Significant Industrial User, the Permittee shall forward the originals of these reports within ninety (90) days of their receipt to EPA, and copy the State.
3. In accordance with 40 CFR § 122.44(j)(1) the Permittee must identify, in terms of character and volume, any SIUs discharging into the POTW or facility subject to Pretreatment Standards under section 307(b) of CWA and 40 CFR Part 403. SIUs information shall be updated at a minimum of once per year or at that frequency necessary to ensure that all SIUs are properly permitted and/or controlled. The records shall be maintained and updated as necessary.
4. Beginning the first full calendar year after the effective date of the authorization, the Permittee shall conduct or require annual sampling of the following types of industrial discharges into the POTW:
 - Commercial Car Washes
 - Platers/Metal Finishers
 - Paper and Packaging Manufacturers
 - Tanneries and Leather/Fabric/Carpet Treaters
 - Manufacturers of Parts with Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or teflon type coatings (i.e. bearings)
 - Landfill Leachate
 - Centralized Waste Treaters
 - Known or Suspected PFAS Contaminated Sites
 - Fire Fighting Training Facilities
 - Airports
 - Any Other Known or Expected Sources of PFAS

Sampling shall be conducted using Method 1633A for the PFAS analytes listed in Attachment H. The industrial discharges sampled and the sampling results shall be summarized and submitted to EPA and the State as an electronic attachment to the March discharge monitoring report due **April 15** of the calendar year following the testing.

F. N/A

G. SLUDGE CONDITIONS

1. The Permittee shall comply with all existing federal and state laws and regulations that apply to sewage sludge use and disposal practices, including EPA regulations promulgated at 40 CFR § 503, which prescribe “Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge” pursuant to § 405(d) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1345(d).
2. If both state and federal requirements apply to the Permittee’s sludge use and/or disposal practices, the Permittee shall comply with the more stringent of the applicable requirements.
3. The requirements and technical standards of 40 CFR Part 503 apply to the following sludge use or disposal practices:
 - a. Land application - the use of sewage sludge to condition or fertilize the soil
 - b. Surface disposal - the placement of sewage sludge in a sludge only landfill
 - c. Sewage sludge incineration in a sludge only incinerator
4. The requirements of 40 CFR Part 503 do not apply to facilities which dispose of sludge in a municipal solid waste landfill. 40 CFR § 503.4. These requirements also do not apply to facilities which do not use or dispose of sewage sludge during the life of the permit but rather treat the sludge (e.g., lagoons, reed beds), or are otherwise excluded under 40 CFR § 503.6.
5. The 40 CFR Part 503 requirements include the following elements:
 - a. General requirements
 - b. Pollutant limitations
 - c. Operational Standards (pathogen reduction requirements and vector attraction reduction requirements)
 - d. Management practices
 - e. Record keeping
 - f. Monitoring
 - g. Reporting

Which of the 40 CFR Part 503 requirements apply to the Permittee will depend upon the use or disposal practice followed and upon the quality of material produced by a facility. The EPA Region 1 guidance document, "EPA Region 1 - NPDES Permit Sludge Compliance Guidance" (November 4, 1999), may be used by the Permittee to assist it in determining the applicable requirements.

6. The sludge shall be monitored for pollutant concentrations (all Part 503 methods) and pathogen reduction and vector attraction reduction (land application and surface disposal) at the following frequency. This frequency is based upon the volume of sewage sludge generated at the facility in dry metric tons per year, as follows:

less than 290	1/ year
290 to less than 1,500	1 /quarter
1,500 to less than 15,000	6 /year
15,000 +	1 /month

Sampling of the sewage sludge shall use the procedures detailed in 40 CFR § 503.8.

7. Under 40 CFR § 503.9(r), the Permittee is a "person who prepares sewage sludge" because it "is ... the person who generates sewage sludge during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works" If the Permittee contracts with another "person who prepares sewage sludge" under 40 CFR § 503.9(r) – i.e., with "a person who derives a material from sewage sludge" – for use or disposal of the sludge, then compliance with Part 503 requirements is the responsibility of the contractor engaged for that purpose. If the Permittee does not engage a "person who prepares sewage sludge," as defined in 40 CFR § 503.9(r), for use or disposal, then the Permittee remains responsible to ensure that the applicable requirements in Part 503 are met. 40 CFR § 503.7. If the ultimate use or disposal method is land application, the Permittee is responsible for providing the person receiving the sludge with notice and necessary information to comply with the requirements of 40 CFR § 503 Subpart B.
8. The Permittee shall submit an annual report containing the information specified in the 40 CFR Part 503 requirements (§ 503.18 (land application), § 503.28 (surface disposal), or § 503.48 (incineration)) by February 19 (see also "EPA Region 1 - NPDES Permit Sludge Compliance Guidance"). Reports shall be submitted electronically using EPA's Electronic Reporting tool ("NeT") (see "Reporting Requirements" section below).
9. Compliance with the requirements of this permit or 40 CFR Part 503 shall not eliminate or modify the need to comply with applicable requirements under RSA 485-A and Env-Wq 800, New Hampshire Sludge Management Rules.

H. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Provision to Modify pH Range

The pH range may be modified if the Permittee satisfies conditions set forth in Part II.K.10 below. Upon notification of an approval by NHDES, EPA will review and, if acceptable, will submit written notice to the Permittee of the permit change. The modified pH range will not be in effect until the Permittee receives written notice from EPA.

2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. Toxicity Violation Procedures

- a. Accelerated WET Testing

The Permittee shall conduct at least two accelerated re-tests at 14-day intervals which must be started within 14 days and 28 days of receiving the results below, or as soon as possible thereafter based on factors outside the Permittee's control (*e.g.*, limited lab availability). The Permittee must document the justification for any re-tests conducted after these timeframes and include the justification with the re-test results.

- any WET test results in a violation of any WET limit and the test acceptability criteria were met (only re-test for the species that failed); or
- the Permittee identifies or is provided notice of a sudden and significant death of large numbers of fish and/or shellfish in the vicinity of the discharge that may have been due to the discharge (test for all species identified in permit).

The Permittee shall develop a Toxicity Response Plan with a list of local/state fish and wildlife officials and/or environmental emergency responders. If the Permittee identifies a sudden and significant death of large numbers of fish and/or shellfish in the receiving water that is not likely caused by the discharge, the Permittee should notify the appropriate officials who can investigate and address the environmental concern most expeditiously.

If the receiving water was used as the dilution water and is suspected to be toxic (*e.g.*, based on results from the initial test), the Permittee shall conduct the accelerated WET tests using laboratory water as the dilution water with a similar pH and hardness as the receiving water. If the WET tests using laboratory water do not violate any WET limits, the Permittee shall return to a normal monitoring frequency but should request to continue to use laboratory water as the dilution water based on these results. If either accelerated WET test violates any WET limits (and the test acceptability criteria were met), the discharge is considered to have persistent toxicity and the Permittee must

immediately initiate a Toxicity Identification Evaluation and Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TIE/TRE) in accordance with subpart b below to resolve any toxic impacts on the receiving water.

b. TIE/TRE

- (1) If the WET re-test described above results in a violation of the WET limits, the Permittee must immediately initiate a TIE/TRE designed to identify and reduce toxicity in the discharge. Notice of TIE/TRE study implementation is to be submitted to EPA (via email: R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov) and NHDES within 10 days of receiving notification of WET re-test failure.
- (2) A TIE/TRE schedule and action plan must be submitted to EPA and NHDES as an electronic attachment to the DMR within 60 days of receipt of WET re-test failure.

The TIE/TRE schedule (from the initiation date to the termination date) should be as short as possible, and no longer than 24 months as follows: The “TIE/TRE initiation date” is the date of the receipt of results for the toxicity test that confirms persistent toxicity and the “TIE/TRE termination date” is the date corrective actions to resolve toxicity are identified and a schedule for completing these corrective actions is proposed.

The objective of the action plan is to identify the source(s) of toxicity by analyzing toxicity testing samples for any toxicant identified as being a potential source of toxicity and ascertaining whether the same level of toxicity occurs when any suspected toxicant level varies. This information might lead to finding one or more toxicants or confirming or eliminating suspected toxicants and possibly their source(s).

- (3) Quarterly “TIE/TRE Progress Reports” should be submitted to EPA and NHDES as an electronic attachment to the DMR at the end of each quarter after the TIE/TRE initiation date. The progress report should list all activities and findings related to resolving toxicity, including all WET and chemical test data. The data summaries of the TIE/TRE also should be provided in a tabulated format with explanations of the procedures used and the recorded findings from the study.
- (4) A “Final TIE/TRE Report” should be submitted to EPA and NHDES within 45 days of the TIE/TRE termination date (as an electronic attachment to the DMR) and should summarize the TIE/TRE activities and findings, propose the corrective action(s) to be taken, and propose a schedule to complete any

identified corrective action(s).

- (5) After submission of the "Final TIE/TRE Report," the Permittee shall continue to submit quarterly "Toxicity Reduction Progress Reports" (as an electronic attachment to the DMR) documenting progress on the corrective actions being taken to reduce toxicity in accordance with the proposed schedule.
- (6) Upon completion of all corrective actions identified in the "Final TIE/TRE Report," the Permittee shall submit a "Toxicity Reduction Completion Report" (as an electronic attachment to the DMR) summarizing the corrective actions taken based on the TIE/TRE and shall include all information necessary to demonstrate that the discharge is no longer toxic and consistently complies with all WET limits.

6. Benthic Survey

If notified in writing by NHDES or EPA that benthic deposits from the discharge are known or suspected to have a detrimental impact on downstream benthic communities, the Permittee shall conduct a benthic survey within one year of the notification to assess potential impacts from the discharge on aquatic life in the benthic environment. Visual observations, benthic sample results, or long-term permit limit exceedances could indicate a potential change in either the sediments or settleable solids downstream of the outfall as compared to upstream of the outfall. Such a change could indicate that the facility's effluent is having a detrimental impact on the downstream benthic community health.

Benthic grab samples shall be taken at three locations sited along each of two transects (one immediately upstream/upgradient of the discharge at a location considered to be unimpacted by the discharge, and one downstream/downgradient of the discharge immediately outside of the estimated zone of initial dilution). Along each transect, duplicate samples shall be taken in the thalweg along with sites near each shoreline, for a total of six samples along each transect and 12 samples total. Organisms shall be sorted and identified to the lowest possible taxonomic level. Counts shall be standardized to densities per square meter of bottom. To characterize the bottom, grain size samples shall be collected at each grab site.

Taxonomy must be performed by a professional freshwater macroinvertebrate taxonomist who, at a minimum, holds and maintains for the duration of the contract a certification from the Society of Freshwater Science for eastern genera in group 1 (Crustacea and Arthropods other than EPT and Chironomidae), group 2 (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera nymphs and larvae only) and group 3 (Chironomidae larvae only).

For discharges to freshwater receiving waters, the permittees shall conduct the benthic survey described in the permit as consistently as possible with the applicable portions of the *NHDES Protocols for Macroinvertebrate Collection, Identification and Enumeration* available at <https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/2020-01/1macroinverts-sop.pdf>.

For discharges to marine receiving waters, the permittees shall conduct the benthic survey described in the permit as consistently as possible with the applicable portions of the *NHDES Evaluation Of Sediment Quality Guidance Document* available at: <https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/2020-01/wd-04-9.pdf>. See particularly section I.C – *Conduct an assessment of community integrity*.

A report summarizing the results, comparing the upstream and downstream benthic populations, and comparing findings with NH water quality standards for the benthic environment (*i.e.*, Env-Wq 1703.03(c)(1) and Env-Wq 1703.08(b)) shall be submitted by the following January 15 as an electronic attachment to the DMR.

I. Submittal of Facility-Specific Information

The Permittee shall submit the following facility-specific information which EPA has deemed necessary for development of the next reissuance of this General Permit. This information shall be submitted as electronic attachments in NetDMR for the final full calendar quarter before the expiration date of the General Permit (in accordance with reporting requirements in Part II.J.2 below).

1. Provide the current (most recent calendar year) average daily volume of inflow and infiltration (I/I) and the steps the facility is taking to minimize inflow and infiltration.
2. Provide an updated Flow Diagram or Schematic for the WWTF showing the processes of the treatment plant, including all bypass piping (if any) and all backup power sources or redundancy in the system. This includes a water balance showing all treatment units, including disinfection (*e.g.*, chlorination and dechlorination), and showing daily average flow rates at influent and discharge points, and approximate daily flow rates between treatment units. Also provide a narrative description of the diagram/schematic.
3. Provide a summary and schedule for any ongoing or planned facility upgrades, including specific details such as affected outfalls, construction start date, construction end date, discharge start date, and attainment of operational level date. Also indicate, if appropriate, whether permits/clearances concerning other federal/state requirements have been obtained.
4. Provide a list of Significant Industrial Users and Categorical Industrial Users contributing flow to the system, including name, mailing address, description of all industrial processes that affect or contribute to the discharge, the principal products and raw materials that affect or contribute to the discharge, average flow vs. average flow attributable to process flow, categories and subcategories for the SIU, and information on upsets/interferences attributable to the SIU.

5. Indicate if the POTW receives or has been notified that it will receive by truck, rail, or dedicated pipe any wastes that are regulated as RCRA hazardous wastes pursuant to 40 CFR 261. For each hazardous waste received, provide the hazardous waste number, the method by which the waste is received (*e.g.*, by truck, dedicated pipe, rail, etc.), the amount of waste received annually (specify units), and the extent of treatment, if any, the wastewater receives or will receive before entering the POTW.
6. Provide a summary of sewage sludge treatment and disposal practices (including disposal method, disposal amount in dry metric tons, name and address of any third-party contractor, etc.).

J. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the Permittee shall submit reports, requests, and information and provide notices in the manner described in this section.

1. Submittal of DMRs Using NetDMR

The Permittee shall continue to submit its monthly monitoring data in discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to EPA and the State electronically using NetDMR no later than the 15th day of the month. When the Permittee submits DMRs using NetDMR, it is not required to submit hard copies of DMRs to EPA or the State. NetDMR is accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.

2. Submittal of Reports as NetDMR Attachments

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the Permittee shall electronically submit all reports to EPA as NetDMR attachments rather than as hard copies. This includes the NHDES Monthly Operating Reports (MORs). See Part II.J.7. for more information on State reporting. Because the due dates for reports described in this permit may not coincide with the due date for submitting DMRs (which is no later than the 15th day of the month), a report submitted electronically as a NetDMR attachment shall be considered timely if it is electronically submitted to EPA using NetDMR with the next DMR due following the report due date specified in this permit.

3. Submittal of Industrial User and Pretreatment Related Reports

- a. All reports and information required of the Permittee in the Industrial Users and Pretreatment Program section of this permit shall be submitted electronically as NetDMR attachments and/or using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), or another approved EPA system, which will be accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>. These requests, reports and notices include:

- (1) Annual Pretreatment Reports,

- (2) Pretreatment Reports Reassessment of Technically Based Industrial Discharge Limits Form,
 - (3) Revisions to Industrial Discharge Limits,
 - (4) Report describing Pretreatment Program activities, and
 - (5) Proposed changes to a Pretreatment Program
- b. This information shall be submitted to EPA WD as a hard copy at the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Division
Regional Pretreatment Coordinator
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100 (06-03)
Boston, MA 02109-3912

4. Submittal of Biosolids/Sewage Sludge Reports

By February 19 of each year, the Permittee must electronically report their annual Biosolids/Sewage Sludge Report for the previous calendar year using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), or another approved EPA system, which is accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.

5. Submittal of Requests and Reports to EPA Water Division (WD)

- a. The following requests, reports, and information described in this permit shall be submitted to the NPDES Applications Coordinator in EPA Water Division (WD):
- (1) Transfer of permit notice;
 - (2) Request for changes in sampling location;
 - (3) Request for reduction in testing frequency;
 - (4) Report on unacceptable dilution water / request for alternative dilution water for WET testing;
 - (5) Report of new industrial user commencing discharge; and

(6) Report received from existing industrial user.

- b. These reports, information, and requests shall be submitted to EPA WD electronically at R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov.

6. Submittal of Sewer Overflow and Bypass Reports and Notifications

The Permittee shall submit required reports and notifications under Part V.B.4.c, for bypasses, and Part V.D.1.e, for sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) electronically using EPA's NPDES Electronic Reporting Tool ("NeT"), which will be accessible through EPA's Central Data Exchange at <https://cdx.epa.gov/>.

7. State Reporting

Unless otherwise specified in this permit or by the State, duplicate signed copies of all reports, information, requests or notifications described in this permit, including the reports, information, requests or notifications described in Parts II.J.3 through II.J.6 shall also be submitted to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Water Division (NHDES-WD) electronically to the Permittee's assigned NPDES inspector at NHDES-WD or as a hardcopy to the following addresses:

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Water Division
Wastewater Engineering Bureau
29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

8. Verbal Reports and Verbal Notifications

- a. Any verbal reports or verbal notifications, if required in Parts II and/or V of this permit, shall be made to both EPA and to the State. This includes verbal reports and notifications which require reporting within 24 hours (e.g., Part V.B.4.c.(2), Part V.B.5.c.(3), and Part V.D.1.e).
- b. Verbal reports and verbal notifications shall be made to:

EPA ECAD at 617-918-1510
and
NHDES Assigned NPDES Inspector listed below:
Central/South NH: 603-271-2985
North/West NH: 603-271-1494
NH Seacoast: 603-271-1493

K. STATE 401 CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS

1. The Permittee shall not at any time, either alone or in conjunction with any person or persons, cause directly or indirectly the discharge of waste into the said receiving water unless it has been treated in such a manner as will not lower the legislated water quality classification of, or interfere with the uses assigned to, said water by the New Hampshire Legislature.
2. Any person responsible for a bypass or upset at a wastewater facility shall give immediate notice of the bypass or upset to all public or privately owned water systems drawing water within 20 miles downstream of the point of discharge, regardless of whether or not the water systems are on the same receiving water or on another surface water to which the receiving water is tributary. The Permittee shall maintain a list of all persons, including their telephone numbers, who are to be notified immediately by telephone. In addition, written notification, which shall be postmarked within three days of the bypass or upset, shall be sent to such persons.

Note that per RSA 485-A:2XIX, "wastewater facility" is defined as the structures, equipment, and processes required to collect, convey, and treat domestic and industrial wastes, and dispose of the effluent and sludge.

3. Any person proposing to construct or modify any of the following shall submit an application for a sewer connection permit to NHDES:
 - a. Any extension of a collector or interceptor, whether public or private, regardless of flow
 - b. Any wastewater connection or other discharge in excess of 5,000 gallons per day
 - c. Any wastewater connection or other discharge to a WWTF operating in excess of 80 percent design flow capacity or design loading capacity, based on actual average flow or loadings for three consecutive months
 - d. Any industrial wastewater connection or change in existing discharge of industrial wastewater, regardless of quality or quantity
 - e. Any sewage pumping station greater than 50 gallons per minute or serving more than one building
 - f. Any proposed sewer that serves more than one building or that requires a manhole at the connection
4. Permittees without an EPA approved Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) shall submit an "Industrial Wastewater Discharge Request" to NHDES in accordance with Env-Wq

305.10(a) prior to discharging any industrial waste, increasing the volume of the industrial wastewater flow, or changing any characteristics of the discharge.

5. Permittees without an EPA approved IPP shall not allocate or accept for treatment more than 90 percent of the headworks loading limits of the facility.
6. At a frequency no less than once every five years, the Permittee shall submit to NHDES:
 - a. A copy of its current sewer use ordinance, if it has been revised without department approval subsequent to any previous submittal to the department, or a certification that no changes have been made.
 - b. A current list of all significant indirect dischargers to the POTW. At a minimum, the list shall include for each significant indirect discharger: its name and address, the name and daytime telephone number of a contact person, products manufactured, industrial processes used, existing pretreatment processes, and discharge permit status.
 - c. A list of all permitted indirect dischargers.
 - d. A certification that the municipality is strictly enforcing its sewer use ordinance and all discharge permits it has issued.
7. When the effluent discharged for a period of three consecutive months exceeds 80 percent of the design flow or design loading capacity of the facility, the Permittee shall submit to NHDES a projection of flows and loadings up to the time when the design capacity of the facility will be reached, and a program for maintaining satisfactory treatment levels consistent with approved water quality management plans. Before the design flow will be reached, or whenever treatment necessary to achieve permit limits cannot be assured, the Permittee may be required to submit plans for facility improvements.
8. For Permittees with effluent diffusers located in marine waters for which the dilution factors were determined using modeling software, the effluent diffusers shall be maintained as necessary to ensure proper operation. Proper operation means that the plumes from each port will be balanced relative to each other and that they all have unobstructed flow. Maintenance may include dredging in the vicinity of the diffuser, clean out of solids in the diffuser header pipe, removal of debris, and repair/replacement of riser ports and duckbill valves. Any necessary maintenance dredging must be performed only after receiving all necessary permits from the NHDES Wetlands Bureau and other appropriate agencies.
 - a. To determine if maintenance will be required, the Permittee shall have a licensed diver or licensed marine contractor inspect and videotape the operation of the

diffuser. The inspections and videotaping shall be performed in accordance with the following schedule:

- i. Every year if no duckbill valves have been installed on the riser ports
 - ii. Every two years if duckbill valves have been installed on the riser ports
 - b. The video of the diffuser inspection and a copy of a report summarizing the results of the inspection shall be submitted to EPA and NHDES on a USB drive within 60 days of each inspection. A schedule for cleaning, repairs, or other necessary maintenance shall be included in the report if the inspection indicates that it is necessary. Necessary cleaning, repairs, or other maintenance should be documented with a photo or video taken after the action is completed.
9. The Permittee shall immediately notify the NHDES Shellfish Program of possible high bacteria/virus loading events from the facility or its collection infrastructure. Such events include:
- a. Any lapse or interruption in the normal operation of the disinfection system or other event that results in a discharge of sewage from the facility or collection infrastructure (pump stations, sewer lines, manholes, etc.) that has not undergone full disinfection as specified in this permit.
 - b. Total daily flows in excess of the facility's average daily design flow.
 - c. Daily post-disinfection effluent sample results of 43 fecal coliform/100 mL or greater.
 - d. Occurrences when bacteria sampling required by this permit are not completed, or when the results of such sampling are invalid.

Notification shall be made using the Shellfish Program's cell phone number. If Shellfish Program staff are not available to answer the phone, the Permittee shall leave a message describing the issue or situation and provide their contact information, including phone number. Then, the Permittee shall call the Shellfish Program's pager and enter a call back number. Upon initial notification of a possible high bacteria/virus loading event, Shellfish Program staff will determine the most suitable interval for continued notification and updates on an event-by-event basis.

NHDES Shellfish Program
Cell Phone: 603-568-6741
Pager: 603-771-9826

10. An allowance for a revision to the pH limits:

The pH range of 6.5 to 8.0 Standard Units (S.U.) must be achieved in the final effluent unless the Permittee can demonstrate to NHDES: 1) that the range should be widened due to naturally occurring conditions in the receiving water; or 2) that the naturally occurring receiving water pH is not significantly altered by the Permittee's discharge. The scope of any demonstration project must receive prior approval from NHDES. In no case, shall the above procedure result in pH limits outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 S.U., which is the federal effluent limitation guideline regulation for pH for secondary treatment and is found in 40 CFR § 133.102(c).

III. N/A

IV. Administrative Requirements

A. Notice of Termination (NOT) of Discharge or Change of Owner/Operator

The Permittee shall notify EPA and the appropriate State agency in writing upon the termination of any discharge(s) authorized by this General Permit. The NOT shall include the name, mailing address, phone number, and the location of the facility for which the notification is being submitted, the NPDES permit number of the discharge identified by the notice, and an indication of whether the discharge has been eliminated or if the owner/operator of the discharge has changed. The NOT shall be signed in accordance with the signatory requirements of 40 CFR § 122.22. Completed and signed NOTs shall be submitted to EPA at R1NPDESReporting@epa.gov and to NHDES.

B. Continuation of this General Permit After Expiration

If this General Permit is not reissued prior to its expiration date, it will be administratively continued in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (5 U.S.C. 558(c)) and 40 CFR § 122.6 and remain in full force and in effect for discharges covered prior to its expiration.

Coverage under this permit will not be available to any facility that is not authorized to discharge under the General Permit before the expiration date.

Any Permittee whose authorization to discharge under this General Permit was administratively continued will automatically remain covered by the continued General Permit until the earlier of:

1. Authorization to discharge under a reissued permit or a replacement of this permit; or
2. The Permittee's submittal of a Notice of Termination; or
3. Issuance of an individual permit for the Permittee's discharge; or
4. A formal permit decision by EPA not to reissue this General Permit, at which time EPA will

identify a reasonable time period for covered dischargers to seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit. Coverage under this permit will cease at the end of this time period.