
Storm Water Requirements for Industrial Facilities

Storm water discharges associated with industrial activities in Arizona are regulated by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

In accordance with the Clean Water Act and the Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) program, Pima County performs inspections of specific industrial facilities to verify compliance with storm water requirements.

There are 30 industrial sectors that fall into categories of storm water discharges associated with industrial activity. These industrial sectors must comply with AZPDES storm water requirements. The facilities in these sectors are defined by either the facility's Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code or a general description of the facility's industrial activities.

For a listing of the industrial categories of storm water discharges associated with industrial activity, visit the following ADEQ website:

<http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/download/sic.pdf>

Pollution from Industrial Facilities

Typical pollutants found in storm water runoff from industrial facilities include heavy metals, sediment, oil, solvents, and grease. These pollutants can be mobilized by rainfall and transported to storm drains or washes.

Although flowing streams are rare in southern Arizona, pollutant-laden storm water runoff from industrial facilities may adversely impact the desert environment and clog drainage systems.

Multi-Sector General Permit

To date, Arizona state rules required industrial facilities to obtain coverage under the *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities)* (MSGP-2000):

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/msgp2000-final.pdf>

Even though the MSGP-2000 expired in October of 2005, it has been administratively continued in the state of Arizona. A draft Arizona-specific industrial storm water discharge permit ([AZPDES MSGP-2009](#)) is currently being developed by ADEQ. Operators already covered under the MSGP-2000 must continue to implement their SWPPPs and comply with the requirements in the MSGP-2000 until the AZPDES MSGP-2009 is issued final.

Operators in Arizona that did not obtain coverage under the MSGP-2000 before it expired are not covered and will not obtain coverage until ADEQ issues the Arizona-specific MSGP. ADEQ recommends operators prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and implement the control measures as outlined in the MSGP-2008.

Facilities that meet the standards for a “condition of no exposure” may apply for an exclusion from storm water permitting. The ADEQ application form may be found at the following website:

<http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/download/2009/noexp.pdf>

A condition of no exposure exists at an industrial facility when all industrial materials and activities are protected by a storm-resistant shelter. A guidance manual for no exposure conditions may be found at:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/noxguide.pdf>

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

Operators must prepare and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP must:

- describe the activities at the facility;
- list the pollutants that could impact storm water quality;
- identify appropriate storm water pollution prevention measures, or best management practices (BMPs), to reduce the amount of pollutants in storm water discharges.

Information describing SWPPP requirements may be found at the following EPA website:

http://cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/msgp.cfm#msgp_revisions

A SWPPP identifies structural and non-structural controls or work practices that will be put in place to minimize impacts caused by offsite storm water discharges. The SWPPP must be implemented at the time a facility begins operations.

A copy of the SWPPP must be kept at the industrial facility. Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies have the authority to review the SWPPP at any time.
