

## **PROPOSED REISSUANCE OF AZPDES DE MINIMIS GENERAL PERMIT**

Notice of Public Information No. M15-116

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- 1. Name of the agency:** Department of Environmental Quality
- 2. Type of notice filed:** Reissuance of AZPDES De Minimis General Permit
- 3. A brief description of the proposed general permit:**

Pursuant to 18 A.A.C. 9, Article 9, R18-9-C901 and -C903, the Department is proposing to reissue a general permit under the Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES), authorizing De Minimis discharges to surface waters. Under the federal Clean Water Act and associated regulations (40 CFR 122), and under ARS §49-255 *et seq.* for Arizona, all point source discharges to surface waters require some type of discharge permit coverage. As an alternative to obtaining individual AZPDES permits, the proposed general permit provides coverage for qualifying discharges that have the potential to enter surface waters, whether directly or via a storm sewer system or other conveyance.

The proposed permit is intended to replace the AZPDES De Minimis General Permit (DMGP) No. AZG2010-001, which was issued on April 27, 2010, and expired on April 26, 2015. Proposed changes from the 2010 permit are listed in a fact sheet accompanying the draft 2015 permit (see item 5, below).

De Minimis discharges are point source discharges that meet the applicable surface water quality standards (18 A.A.C. 11, Article 1); are generally infrequent, of low volume, and/or short in duration; and are conducted with appropriate best management practices to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permit. De Minimis discharges include discharges from the following: potable water system installation and maintenance activities; subterranean dewatering; well development and maintenance; aquifer testing; hydrostatic testing of pipes and vessels; reclaimed water system repair and pressure releases; uncontaminated air conditioning condensate; overflow from residential evaporative coolers; charitable car washes; exterior building washing and street wash water; dechlorinated drainage from swimming pools; and other discharges specifically determined to be De Minimis by the Department. The proposed permit contains certain limitations and exclusions that apply to the above categories.

In general, to obtain coverage under this permit, an eligible party must prepare and implement a Best Management Practices Plan (BMPP) and submit a completed Notice of Intent (NOI) form to the Department. The BMPP and NOI requirements do not apply to certain types of discharge activities such as charitable car washes and dechlorinated swimming pool drainage. As proposed in the 2015 DMGP, discharges that were authorized and not terminated under the 2010 DMGP would transfer to coverage under the new permit without submittal of a new NOI, subject to certain conditions. Where required, the BMPP must identify measures that will be implemented to ensure compliance with the conditions of the permit. For new NOIs for discharges within ¼ mile of impaired or Outstanding Arizona Waters, and for new Areawide, Projectwide, and Facilitywide coverage, the BMPP must be submitted to the Department for review along with the NOI.

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With certain exceptions, the permittee must conduct discharge monitoring in accordance with permit conditions. After the covered discharges have permanently ceased, or responsibility for the discharge activity has been transferred to another entity, the permittee must terminate coverage by completing and submitting a Notice of Termination form to the Department.

**4. A description of the permit area:**

The proposed general permit covers discharges from the specified activities in Arizona, except for Indian Country as defined in 18 U.S.C.1151. US EPA Region 9 is the permitting authority for Indian lands in Arizona.

**5. How to obtain copies of the draft permit documents:**

Copies of the proposed general permit and accompanying fact sheet are available upon request from the agency personnel listed in item 7, below, and on the Department's website at <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/gen.html#demi>

The proposed general permit and fact sheet are also available at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona and may be reviewed any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

**6. The time during which the agency will accept written comments:**

Comments on the proposed general permit must be submitted c/o Lavinia Wright at the address, fax number, or e-mail address provided below, and received or postmarked no later than **July 13, 2015**. No formal public hearing is currently scheduled. However, within the comment period, interested persons may also request a public hearing under A.A.C. R18-9-A908 concerning the proposed permit.

If the Department decides to hold a public hearing, the time and place of the public hearing will be announced on the ADEQ web site at <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/gen.html#demi>. Interested persons may also request email notification of a public hearing by subscribing to the "De Minimis General Permit" topic at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDEQ/subscriber/new>. Alternatively, interested persons may request such notification by contacting Lavinia Wright at the email address, postal address, or phone number below.

**7. The name, address, and telephone number of agency personnel to whom questions and comments on the general permit may be addressed:**

Name: Lavinia Wright  
Address: Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division, Surface Water Section  
1110 West Washington, 5415A-1  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Telephone: (602) 771-4585  
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To request an auxiliary aid or service for accessible communication, please contact Alicia Pollard at (602) 771-4791 or at [aap@azdeq.gov](mailto:aap@azdeq.gov) or dial 7-1-1 for TTY/TTD Services.