

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Water Protection Branch

NonPoint Source Program

Storm Water Unit

August 2002

PHASE II STORM WATER REGULATIONS

Municipal Separate
Storm Sewer Systems
(MS4s)

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

- Clean Water Act, 1972
- Phase I, Storm Water, 1990
 - Large and Medium MS4s (>100,000 pop.)
 - Specific Industrial Operations
 - Construction (> 5 acres)

REGULATORY BACKGROUND (continued)

- Phase II Storm Water, 1999
 - Any small MS4 (<100,000 pop.) located in an "Urbanized Area" (UA) or specifically designated by the State.
 - Construction (> 1 acres)

"Urbanized Area"

"UA": As defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, an "Urbanized Area" is the core census block groups or blocks that have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile.

Urbanized Area (continued)

- 2000 Census data created revised boundaries of former 1990 UAs and created newly defined 2000 UAs.
- The Census Bureau announced the Census 2000 urbanized areas in a Federal Register notice published in May 2002.

Urbanized Area (continued)

- In Georgia, based on Urbanized Areas, a total of 56 cities and 29 counties will need to apply for coverage under a Phase II MS4 general NPDES permit.

Urbanized Area (continued)

- The Urbanized Area maps for Georgia will soon be available at the following website:

<http://planning.rdis.org/mapviews2/client.asp>

Urbanized Area (continued)

- If a Georgia city has any "Urbanized Area" within its borders, the entire city is regulated by the Phase II storm water regulations.
 - For Georgia counties, they will only be regulated for that portion of the county which is designated as an "Urbanized Area."

Georgia was also required to develop a process and criteria to designate small MS4s for permit coverage, other than those automatically designated based on Urbanized Area

EPA's Suggested Designation Criteria

- Discharge to Sensitive Waters
- High Growth or growth Potential
 - High Population Density
 - Contiguity to an Urbanized Area
- Significant Contributor of Pollutants to the Water of the State
- Ineffective Control of Water Quality by Other Programs

Georgia's Designation Criteria

- Primarily based on growth rate and the presence of impaired waters identified on Georgia's 303(d) list
- Cordele is the only Georgia city required to obtain permit coverage based on Designation Criteria

Storm Water Phase II Implementation Schedule:

- Georgia EPD will issue a General Permit for small MS4s by December 9, 2002.
- Designated MS4s must apply for permit coverage by no later than March 10, 2003.
- Storm Water Management Programs must be fully implemented by the end of the 4th year of the Permit term, December 9, 2006.

Phase II Stormwater Permit

- General Permit
 - No effluent limits; use “Best Management Practices” (BMPs)
 - No monitoring requirement

Six Minimum Control Measures

- Public education and Outreach
- Public Participation / Involvement
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Runoff Control
- Pollution Prevention / Good Housekeeping

The fourth Minimum Control Measure deals with Construction Site Runoff Control

Phase II Summary

- Phase II applies to small MS4s within UA or designated by EPD according to Georgia Designation Criteria
- File the Georgia Notice of Intent (GaNOI) by March, 2003, to obtain coverage under the general MS4 permit.
- NOI addresses each of the six minimum control measures.
- Minimum control measures collectively form a “Stormwater Management Plan.”
 - Stormwater Management Plan to be fully implemented by no later than December 2006.

Where to Get More Information

<http://www.cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/swphase2>.

Good general site for Phase II information.

<http://www.cfpub1.epa.gov/npdes/pubs>.

A useful web page that includes: 14 fact sheets covering the Small MS4 Program, the Six Minimum Measures, Permitting and Reporting, the Construction Program, and the Industrial “No Exposure” Waiver.

EPA’s *Stormwater Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide*, March 2000.

EPA's final Menu of BMPs:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/menuofbmps/>

EPA's guidance on measurable goals:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/measurablegoals/index.htm>

More information can be obtained by calling EPA's Storm Water Phase II Rule Hotline at (202) 260-7786, or by sending an e-mail to sw2@epa.gov.

<http://www.cwp.org>

Center for Watershed Protection: The Center provides information on techniques to protect and restore urban watersheds. Workshops, journals, publications and links are available.

<http://www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/>

National Resource Defense Council (NRDC) Stormwater Strategies: Report available for download from the net on community responses to runoff pollution, including 100 case studies

<http://www.stormwater-resources.com>

Stormwater News – A good source of technical information on stormwater. Includes a large library of technical papers.

For more information, you can contact the EPD's Storm Water Unit at 404- 675-6240

Questions?