

Executive Officer's Summary Report
8:30 a.m., January 19, 2012
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
David C. Joseph Hearing Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, California

ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: Municipal Storm Water Phase II Update

DISCUSSION

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the regional water quality control boards are responsible for implementing storm water permitting requirements in the federal Clean Water Act. Individual and general storm water permits are issued under the authority of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. The storm water permit program contains three types of permits – industrial storm water, construction storm water, and municipal storm water. Today staff is providing an update on one aspect of the municipal storm water program, the Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permitting program.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) promulgated the Phase I MS4 rule requiring storm water pollution reduction programs for medium and large MS4s, (those that generally serve populations of 100,000 or more), and interconnected MS4s. Following implementation of the Phase I rule, the Phase II MS4 rule was promulgated to create a program to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff in MS4s not covered under the Phase I rule. Small MS4s in urbanized areas are generally designated for Phase II permit coverage, and small MS4s outside of urbanized areas can be designated by the NPDES permitting authority on a case-by-case basis.

On April 30, 2003, the State Water Board adopted a general permit to provide coverage for municipalities designated under the Phase II program in the State of California. The permit contains six minimum control measures that each permittee needs to implement to reduce the discharge of pollutants from MS4s:

- Public Education and Outreach,
- Public Participation/Involvement,
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination,
- Construction Site Runoff Control,
- Post-Construction Runoff Control, and

- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping.

In the North Coast Region, we currently have twelve Phase II MS4 permittees: Arcata, Cotati, Eureka, Fort Bragg, Fortuna, Healdsburg, Humboldt County, Mendocino County, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Ukiah, and Windsor.

The State Water Board is in the process of updating the 2003 Phase II MS4 permit and plans to adopt a new permit in 2012. Christine Sotelo, State Water Board staff, will be speaking today to update the Regional Water Board on this permit renewal effort.

The following attachment provides concise information developed by USEPA on the Phase II Municipal Storm Water Program.

PRELIMINARY

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational item.

Attachment:

USEPA Stormwater Phase II Final Rule, Small MS4 Stormwater Program
Overview Fact Sheet