

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF DRAFT NPDES GENERAL PERMIT  
FOR ONCE-THROUGH NON-CONTACT COOLING WATER  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO: 2014 – 12G - RD  
DATE OF NOTICE: DECEMBER 15, 2014  
RESPONSE DATE DUE: FEBRUARY 6, 2015

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) proposes to issue a new NPDES General Permit for Once-Through Non-Contact Cooling Water discharges to surface waters of the state. The purpose of this permit is to establish requirements for point source discharges of cooling water that:

- 1) is used for the sole purpose of removing unwanted heat from a process;
- 2) only makes one (1) pass through a unit that exchanges heat between the process and the cooling water (generally a heat exchanger); and
- 3) does not come into contact with any raw material or manufactured product.

The NPDES general permit will supersede and replace the requirements for these discharges which are currently outlined in Article 15 of Title 327 of the Indiana Administrative Code.

**Applicability:** This NPDES general permit shall be applicable to all persons discharging once-through non-contact cooling water within the boundary of Indiana. In addition any facility which obtains cooling water from a surface water intake source must satisfy the conditions regarding impingement and entrainment of fish, threatened and endangered species, flow velocity, and quantities withdrawn, outlined in Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act in order to qualify for coverage under this general permit. Discharges not covered by this permit include the following:

- 1) direct discharges into waters that are designated as an Outstanding National Resource Water defined at IC 13-11-2-149.5 or an Outstanding State Resource Water defined at IC 13-11-2-149.6 and listed at 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(d);
- 2) discharges to a receiving stream when the discharge results in an increase in the ambient concentration of a pollutant which contributes to the impairment of the receiving stream for that pollutant as identified on the 303(d) list of impaired waters,
- 3) discharges containing water treatment additives which have not received prior written approval from IDEM for the specific additive, use, and dosage at the particular facility for which the Notice of Intent (NOI) is submitted (for more information;
- 4) discharges from a facility that is not in compliance with section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act.

- 5) discharges to salmonid waters (as defined in 327 IAC 2-1.5-5(a)(3)) or to the St. Joseph River (tributary to Lake Michigan) upstream of the Twin Branch Dam;
- 6) discharges from steam electric power generation facilities, as defined under 40 CFR 423; and
- 7) new discharges of once through noncontact cooling water where the discharge would be greater than 1/10 of the stream flow of the receiving water body. A minimum dilution ratio of 10:1 (ten parts stream water to one part effluent) must exist at the discharge location.

Each general permit contains specific eligibility requirements. Ineligible discharges will require an individual NPDES permit or an alternate general permit (if available). Only facilities existing within the boundary of Indiana may obtain NPDES general permit coverage.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the draft NPDES general permit. All comments or requests should be sent to: IDEM Office of Water Quality, Attn: General NPDES Permits, IGCN Room 1255, 100 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251 and must be received by IDEM no later than February 6, 2015. Any request for a public hearing shall be made in writing and shall include: the name and address of the person making the request, the interest of the person making the request, persons represented by the person making the request, the reason for the request and the issues proposed for consideration at the hearing. The department will determine whether to hold a public hearing based upon the comments and the rationale for the request. All written comments received during the Public Notice period will be considered in the formulation of the final NPDES general permit. Please direct any comments submitted by email to: [owqwwper@idem.in.gov](mailto:owqwwper@idem.in.gov).

Additional Information: The draft NPDES general permit and related documents are posted on IDEM's web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/5338.htm>. The draft NPDES general permit documents are available for review at the IDEM Central Office, Indiana Government Center North, Room 1255, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., M - F, excluding state holidays (copies 10¢ per page). Copies of the draft permit documents are also available at the local health departments and at IDEM's Regional Offices. The documents are also available via email request. Please tell others whom you think would be interested in this matter. See these sites for information concerning your rights and responsibilities: <http://www.IN.gov/idem/5474.htm> and <http://www.IN.gov/idem.5903.htm>.

Questions may be directed to any of the following IDEM staff: C. Anne Burget at (317) 234-8745, Sheri Jordan at (317) 232-8703, or Catherine Hess at (317) 232-8704. Please send any email inquiries to [owqwwper@idem.in.gov](mailto:owqwwper@idem.in.gov).

Notice of Final Permit Determination: IDEM will provide notice of the final determination on this permit to all persons who submit written comments or who submit a written request for notification to [owqwwper@idem.in.gov](mailto:owqwwper@idem.in.gov).