

The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Bulletin is prepared by the Storm Water Compliance Review Task Force to aid all projects and operations in maintaining compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements.

Water Pollution Control Requirements of Completed Construction Sites

Once the final inspection of a construction project (or portion of a project) is completed, the contract (or portion of the contract) is formally accepted and upkeep of the newly constructed areas is turned over to the Maintenance Department. Among other important responsibilities, the maintenance program must continue erosion control, and manage drainage facilities and water pollution control devices.

Maintenance, Construction and Environmental personnel should work together to make certain water pollution control requirements are identified and managed appropriately.

Hints to assure a smooth transition of the construction project to maintenance are presented below. These hints have been developed through experience and respond to requirements set forth in the *Construction Manual*, and *Caltrans Storm Water Quality Handbooks*, *Construction Staff Guide*.

Construction Staff should be Aware of NPDES Permit Termination requirements:

Once a project covered under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Permit is completed, a Notice of Termination (N.O.T.) is filed with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) when the following conditions are met:

- Construction activity is completed.
- All appropriate elements of the SWPPP have been completed.
- Construction and equipment maintenance waste has been properly disposed.
- Site is in compliance with local storm water management requirements, including erosion and sediment control requirements, policies, and guidelines.

It is important to note that the conditions stated above for permit termination may not be met simultaneously with Relief of Maintenance and Responsibility (SSP 7-1.15), Acceptance of Contract (SSP 7-1.17) or Temporary Suspension of Work (SSP 8-1.05).

Construction Staff Should Review the Site with Stakeholders Prior to Contract Acceptance:

A joint review with involved parties, such as the Contractor, Landscape and Design staff, and particularly Environmental and Maintenance staff is recommended prior to Acceptance of Contract. Storm water review requirements described in the *Construction Staff Guide Table 4-1* include verifying that the following have been accomplished:

- Compliance with the NPDES Permit requirements.
- Compliance with local storm water management requirements.
- Permanent BMPs are properly constructed.
- Disturbed soils are stabilized against erosion.
- Construction materials and waste are properly disposed.

Construction Staff Should Discuss Specific Maintenance Issues:

- Review and discuss operation of the facility and features requiring special attention.
- Discuss work that may be required after contract acceptance.



Evaluate newly stabilized areas for continued need for sediment controls; wherever possible remove temporary controls at the end of construction.

SOME COMMON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN FINAL INSPECTIONS:

Evaluate vegetated areas that are not fully established for continued sediment control protection; identify the responsible party for maintaining the controls – Maintenance or Contractor. Future contracts may include special provisions for water pollution control establishment periods that require the Contractor to inspect and maintain erosion control measures during the establishment period.

Assure that temporary BMPs that cannot be removed because they are still needed for sediment and erosion control **are left in good condition.** Maintenance personnel should be fully informed of maintenance responsibilities for these temporary BMPs.

Assure that drainage facilities and structural controls are in good working order and clear of excess sediment and debris that could potentially inhibit flow or pollute downstream waters.

Review permanent drainage systems (e.g. riprap, down drains, inlets, ditches) for future maintenance needs.

Additional information is available in the Caltrans Storm Water Quality Handbooks. Questions or comments may be directed to:

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