NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) GENERAL
PERMITS
FOR DISCHARGES FROM POTABLE WATER TREATMENT
FACILITIES

MAG640000 AND NHG640000

NOTE: The General Permits for discharges from Potable Water Treatment Facilities (PWTFs) for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New Hampshire are combined and are referred to herein as the General Permit. Part 1 contains the General Permit provisions, including eligibility and coverage requirements. Part 2 contains the General Permit provisions for discharges in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Part 3 contains the General Permit provisions for discharges in the State of New Hampshire; and Parts 4 through 6 are General Permit provisions common to both General Permits.

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MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL PERMIT (No. MAG640000)

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended (M.G.L. Chap. 21, sections 26-53), the following General Permit authorizes discharges of wastewater from potable water treatment facilities (PWTFs) in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to all waters, unless otherwise restricted, in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

The General Permit shall become effective 30 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register.

This General Permit and the authorization to discharge supersedes the previous Potable Water Treatment Facility General Permit which expired on October 2, 2014. This General Permit will expire at midnight, 5 years from the last day of the month preceding the effective date.

Signed this day of .

Ken Moraff, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
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NEW HAMPSHIRE GENERAL PERMIT (No. NHG640000)

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the following General Permit authorizes discharges of wastewater from potable water treatment facilities (PWTFs) in New Hampshire to all waters, unless otherwise restricted, in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein. The State of New Hampshire does not allow discharges to Class A waters under this General Permit.

The General Permit shall become effective 30 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register.

This General Permit and the authorization to discharge supersedes the previous Potable Water Treatment Facility General Permit which expired on October 2, 2014. This General Permit will expire at midnight, 5 years from the last day of the month preceding the effective date.

Signed this day of .

Ken Moraff, Director
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Part 1 Applicability and Coverage

1.1 Eligible Discharges

Wastewater discharges from potable water treatment facilities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, that are less than or equal to 1.0 million gallons per day (MGD) and that use one or more of the following treatment processes:

- Clarification,
- Coagulation,
- Media Filtration,
- Membrane filtration (not including reverse osmosis), and
- Disinfection.

Effluent flow for each facility covered by the General Permit is limited to the design flow capacity of the facility (as reported in the NOI), up to a daily maximum flow limit of 1.0 million gallons per day (MGD). On a case-by-case basis, EPA will consider approval for facilities that discharge a volume greater than 1.0 million gallons per day (MGD).

Discharges from other potable drinking water treatment processes may be included if they are reported in the notice of intent (NOI) and attain the effluent limits and other conditions of this permit. Such discharges may include, but are not limited to: those necessary to complete regular reoccurring maintenance or non-reoccurring maintenance, repair, testing or construction which assures efficient operation and/or prevents loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage.

Those discharges authorized by this General Permit may be commingled with other discharges as long as the authorized discharge is monitored separately (prior to commingling) for compliance with the requirements of this General Permit and any non-authorized discharge is either covered by another NPDES permit or excluded from requiring an NPDES permit by EPA regulation or statute.

Only discharges which are *not* a significant cause of pollution are eligible under this General Permit. For pollutants (e.g., aluminum) without numerical effluent limits in Parts 2.1.1 or 3.1.1 of the permit, EPA will make this eligibility determination based on NOI information, receiving water quality criteria for the pollutant, and other information. An exception to this eligibility requirement is possible if EPA invokes conditions 2.1.2.10 or 3.1.2.10 of the General Permit.

1.2 Geographic Coverage Area

1. *Massachusetts:* Facilities authorized by the Massachusetts General Permit (permit number MAG640000) for discharges in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts may discharge into all waters of the Commonwealth, except as provided in Section 1.3, immediately below, unless otherwise restricted by the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards, 314 CMR 4.00 (or as revised).

2. *New Hampshire:* Facilities authorized by the New Hampshire General Permit (permit

number NHG640000) may discharge into Class B waters of the State, except as provided in Section 1.3, immediately below, unless otherwise restricted by the State Water Quality Standards, New Hampshire RSA 485-A:8 (or as revised) and the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Chapter Env-Wq 1700 (or as revised).

1.3 Limitations on Coverage

The following discharges are excluded from coverage under this General Permit:

1. *Discharges to Outstanding Resource Waters and/or High Quality Waters*
   a. *In Massachusetts*, as defined by 314 CMR 4.06(3), 314 CMR 4.06(1)(d)4, and 314 CMR 4.06(1)(d)2, including Public Water Supplies (314 CMR 4.06(1)(d)1), which have been designated by the state as Class A waters, *unless* the facility receives an authorization or has previously been granted an authorization by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) under 314 CMR 4.04(3)(b). In the event an applicant is proposing to discharge to an Outstanding Resource Water or High Quality Water for the first time, MassDEP should be contacted directly at the address listed in Appendix VI. Additional state requirements may be required in order to be covered under this General Permit.
   b. *In New Hampshire*, as defined in New Hampshire under Env-Wq 1708.05(a), *unless* allowed by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) under Env-Wq 1708.05(b).

2. *Discharges to Class A waters in New Hampshire*, in accordance with RSA 485-A:8 I. and Env-Wq 1708.06. To determine if the proposed receiving water is a Class A waterbody, contact the NHDES at the address listed in Appendix VI to this General Permit.

3. *Discharges that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) determines may adversely affect the continued existence of any federally-listed endangered or threatened species or may adversely impact or destroy critical habitat of such species are excluded for coverage* under this General Permit unless the requirements specified in Part 1.4 of this permit are fulfilled. Procedures for determining whether this exclusion applies to a PWTF and additional information on the ESA are found in Appendix III.

4. *Discharges of pollutants to receiving waters identified as a cause of impairment on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' or the State of New Hampshire's approved 303(d) lists*, unless the pollutant is discharged at or below a concentration that meets water quality standards for the listed pollutants. Permittees must include information in their NOI about impairments to receiving waterbodies. Upon review of the NOI, EPA may require the permittee to conduct additional effluent sampling and/or ambient receiving water sampling to determine if the PWTF discharge is contributing to the receiving waterbody impairment.

   The 2014 EPA-approved MA Integrated List of Waters is available at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/resources/07v5/14list2.pdf .

New Hampshire 2012 list of impaired waters is available at: http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/swqa/2012/documents/a08-303d-list.pdf

5. *Discharges to a Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW)* which is permitted under Section 402 of the CWA (NPDES).

6. *Discharges to Ocean Sanctuaries in Massachusetts,* as defined at 302 CMR 5.00.

7. *Discharges to territorial seas,* as defined by Section 502 of the CWA.

8. *Discharges which adversely affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Registry of Historic Places under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,* 16 USC Sections 470 et seq. Procedures for determining whether this exclusion applies to a PWTF and additional information on Historic Preservation are found in Appendix II**.**

9. *Discharges which are inconsistent with the State Coastal Zone Management Program*.

10. *Any facility whose new or increased discharge is not in compliance with the appropriate state's antidegradation policy* (or the New Hampshire Water Conservation Rules (Env-Wq 2101, or as amended.)

11. *"New Source" dischargers,* as defined in 40 CFR § 122.2. This is due to the site-specific nature of the environmental review required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 33 U.S.C. 4321 et seq. for those facilities. "New Sources" must comply with New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and are subject to the NEPA process in 40 CFR § 6.600. Consequently EPA has determined that it would be more appropriate to address "New Sources" through the individual permit process.

12. *Facilities which are designed to remove Radium or other radioactive substances* from raw water sources to comply with drinking water standards.

13. *Discharges for which the Director makes a determination that an individual permit is required* under 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(3). See Part 4.5 of this General Permit for more information.

14. *The construction of any water resources project that would have a direct, adverse effect on the values for which a national Wild and Scenic River was established,* in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.49. The Wildcat River and Lamprey River in New Hampshire and the Assabet, Concord, Sudbury, Taunton and Westfield Rivers in Massachusetts, have been designated as Wild and Scenic Rivers. (See http://www.rivers.gov/ for current National and/or State designations and additional information.)

15. *Discharges to designated areas under the Essential Fish Habitat Act (EFH)* unless the requirements specified in this permit are fulfilled. See Part IV.B. of the Fact Sheet for additional EFH information.

1.4 Special Eligibility Determinations

Facilities located in Massachusetts and New Hampshire that are seeking coverage under this General Permit must certify compliance with the requirements of this permit related to threatened and endangered species and critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act and to historic properties under the National Historical Preservation Act, where applicable.

1. *Endangered and Threatened Species and/or Critical Habitat:* PWTF discharges that are located in areas in which listed species may be present are not automatically covered under this General Permit. Prior to submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI), operators must demonstrate permit eligibility following the eligibility requirements described in Appendix III. This demonstration shall be included in the NOI as described in Appendix III.

2. *National Historic Preservation Act:* Facilities which adversely affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Registry of Historic Places under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 16 USC § 470 et seq. are not authorized to discharge under this General Permit. Applicants must determine whether their discharges have the potential to affect a property that is either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and, if the potential exists, the applicant must consult with the appropriate agencies prior to submittal of the NOI. Applicants are required to submit the results of any consultations with the NOI. Electronic listings of National and State Registers of Historic Places are maintained by the National Park Service (www.nps.gov/nr/), the Massachusetts Historical Commission (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhcidx.htm) and the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (www.nh.gov/nhdhr/).

   Applicants must also comply with applicable State and local laws concerning the protection of historic properties and places. Applicants must coordinate with the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding effects of their discharges on historic properties. Prior to submitting the NOI, the applicant must meet the requirements of Appendix II.

Parts 2 & 3 Effluent Limitations and Monitoring

2.1 Facilities in Massachusetts (General Permit No. MAG640000)

2.1.1 Discharge Limits and Monitoring Requirements

During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting through expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge wastewaters from potable water treatment facilities to the state's receiving waters, unless the waters are restricted as noted in Section 1.3. Each outfall discharging such wastewaters shall be limited and monitored as specified below.

Effluent Characteristics		**Discharge Limitations**		**Monitoring Requirements**	
Parameter	**Units**	**Avg. Monthly**	**Max Daily**	**Monitoring Frequency**[3]	**Sample Type**[4]
Flow[1]	MGD	Report	1.0[2]	l/Day	Meter or Estimate
TSS	mg/1	30	50	1/Week	Composite
pH[5] (Class A and B)	S.U.	6.5-8.3 range[6,7]		1/Week	Grab
pH[5] (Class SA and SB)	S.U.	6.5-8.5 range[6,8]		1/Week	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine[9,10]	µg/1	See Part 2.1.2.4		1/Week	Grab
Aluminum, Total Recoverable[11,12,13]	µg/1	Report	Report	1/Month	Composite
See Footnote 13 regarding the monitoring of Aluminum from ambient water upstream of the discharge **as well as** effluent.					
Arsenic, Total Recoverable [14,15]	µg/1	----	Report	1/Month	Composite
Iron, Total Recoverable[16,17]	µg/1	----	Report	1/Month	Composite

Total Phosphorus, as P[18] (April 1 – Oct.31)	µg/1	----	Report	1/Month	Composite
Whole Effluent Toxicity[19, 20, 21,22]					
LC_{50} (Acute WET Testing)[23]	%	---	Report %	1/Year	Composite
C-NOEC (Chronic WET Testing)[23]	%	---	Report %	1/Year	Composite
Hardness	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Alkalinity	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
pH	S.U.	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Specific Conductance	umhos/ cm	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Solids	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen as N	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Organic Carbon	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Aluminum	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Cadmium	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Copper	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Lead	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite

Total Recoverable Nickel	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Zinc	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Diluent Whole Effluent Toxicity[24]					
Hardness	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Alkalinity	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
pH	S.U.	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Specific Conductance	umhos /cm	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen as N	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Organic Carbon	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Aluminum	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Cadmium	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Copper	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Lead	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Nickel	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Zinc	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab

Footnotes:

1. The operator shall not exceed the design flow capacity of the treatment system, determined by the component of the treatment train with the most restricted flow and as reported in the Notice of Intent, up to 1.0 MGD.

2. The daily maximum flow limit allowed by this General Permit shall be no greater than

1.0 MGD, unless EPA has provided approval for a higher flow rate in the facility's authorization letter. This may be done on a case-by-case basis.

3. Measurement frequency of 1/day is defined as the recording of one measurement for each 24 hour period. Measurement frequency of 1/week is defined as the sampling of one discharge event in each calendar week. Measurement frequency of 1/month is defined as the sampling of one discharge event in each calendar month. Measurement frequency of 1/year (aka-annually) is defined as the sampling of a discharge event once every calendar year. If no discharge occurs during the measurement frequencies defined above, the Permittee must report a No Data Indicator Code (e.g., "C" for "No Discharge") found in Attachment E of NPDES Permit Program Instructions for the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms (DMRs), available on the EPA Region 1 web site at https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/pdfs/2010-DMR-Instructions.pdf.

4. The composite samples shall consist of at least 4 grab samples collected at approximately equal intervals on a flow weighted basis during the time at which the discharge is entering the receiving water over an interval representative of the process (e.g. a backwash cycle). The timing of grab samples for pH and total residual chlorine shall correspond with the timing of composite sampling for the other parameters. When an analyte is not detected above the detection limit (DL), sampling results shall be reported as "<[detection limit]" on the Discharge Monitoring Report. (i.e., Report as <20 ug/L, if the DL for a parameter is 20 ug/L). For the purposes of this permit, the detection limit is the lowest concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of precision and accuracy for a specific laboratory analytical method during routine laboratory operating conditions (i.e., the level above which an actual value is reported for an analyte, and the level below which an analyte is reported as non-detect).

5. Requirement for State Certification.

6. There shall be no change from natural background conditions that would impair any uses assigned to the receiving water class. If addition of chemicals is required to achieve these pH limitations, such chemicals may be used, provided that they are identified either in the NOI or through subsequent communications with MassDEP and EPA. EPA, with MassDEP approval, may expand the pH range on a case-by-case basis when conditions warrant it (see Part 2.1.4.3).

7. The discharge shall not cause a change in pH of the receiving water more than 0.5 s.u. outside of the natural background conditions.

8. The discharge shall not cause a change in pH in the receiving water more than 0.2 s.u. outside of the natural background conditions.

9. Limits and monitoring for total residual chlorine are only required for discharges which has been previously chlorinated or which contains residual chlorine.

10. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) is defined as

20 µg/1 using EPA approved methods found in the most currently approved versions of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater: (1) Method 4500 CL-E; or (2) 4500 CL-G. One of these methods must be used to determine TRC. For effluent limitations less than 20 ug/l, the compliance level will be the ML. The ML is not the minimum level of detection, but rather the lowest level at which the test equipment produces a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point for a pollutant or pollutant parameter, representative of the lowest concentration at which a pollutant or pollutant parameter can be measured with a known level of confidence. If EPA approves a more sensitive method of analysis for TRC, the permit may be modified to require the use of the new method with a corresponding lower ML.

11. Monitoring for total recoverable aluminum is only required for PWTFs that use an aluminum based coagulant OR use an aluminum-based product for algae control.

12. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of Total Recoverable Aluminum shall be no greater than 50 µg/1. Analysis must be completed using an EPA-approved method with an equivalent or lower ML. Such methods include (but are not limited to) Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) Method 200.7, ICP-MS Method 200.8, and Graphite Furnace AA Method 200.9. For effluent limitations less than 50 ug/l, the compliance level will be the ML.

13. Permittees who monitor for total recoverable aluminum (TRA) must monitor both the effluent and the ambient receiving water unaffected by the discharge. See Section III.A.4.b of the Fact Sheet for additional information on monitoring for TRA in Massachusetts. The sampling locations must include a sample from *each* of the following representative locations, at a minimum:
    i. Ambient water at a point immediately *upstream* of the permitted discharge's zone of influence at a safe and reasonably accessible location; and
    ii. Effluent.

14. Monitoring for Arsenic is only required when the PWTF is providing treatment to remove arsenic from the raw water source.

15. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of Total Recoverable Arsenic shall be no greater than 1 µg/1. This can be achieved by using the ICP/MS (Inductively Coupled Plasmas/Mass Spectrometry), 200.8 Test Method.

16. Monitoring for Iron is only required for PWTF's that use an iron-based coagulant. This includes any facility that replaces an aluminum-based coagulant with an iron-based coagulant.

17. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of Total Recoverable Iron shall be no greater than 55 µg/1. This can be achieved by using the following test methods: ICP/MS (Inductively Coupled Plasmas/Mass Spectrometry), 200.8, 3010A/6020A or ICP/AES

(Inductively Coupled Plasmas/Atomic (optical) Emissions Spectrometry), 200.7, 3010A/6010C.

18. Monitoring for Total Phosphorus is only required for PWTF's that add a phosphorus-containing chemical to the treated water *and* discharge to a waterbody impaired for (total) phosphorus or nutrient/eutrophication biological indicators, as identified in Massachusetts 2014 Integrated List of Waters. (See http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/resources/07v5/14list2.pdf.) . Monitoring shall be conducted during the plant growing season of April 1 through Oct. 31st.

19. Facilities that discharge on an *intermittent* or *continuous* basis (Category II or Category III) are required to perform one *acute* Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test and one *chronic* Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test once every year during the permit term. In order to ensure that testing is representative of any seasonal or other variations, testing should be conducted in different calendar quarters for 4 successive years. The laboratory results of the test (C-NOEC and LC_{50}), as well as the following parameters (hardness, total residual chlorine, alkalinity, pH, specific conductance, total solids, total dissolved solids, ammonia nitrogen as N, total organic carbon, total recoverable cadmium, total recoverable lead, total recoverable copper, total recoverable zinc, total recoverable nickel, and total recoverable aluminum) shall be submitted to EPA and MassDEP in accordance with Part 5.1.1 of this General Permit. The permittee should also keep a copy of the results for their file.

20. Facilities who discharge on an emergency or infrequent basis (i.e., Category 1 facilities) are not subject to the WET testing requirement. However, acute and chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) test(s) shall be performed by any permittee (including Category I facilities) *upon request* by EPA and/or MassDEP. Any testing shall be performed in accordance with EPA's toxicity protocol, a copy of which will be provided at the time of the request. Toxicity test protocols may be viewed at http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html. The test shall be performed on a 24-hr. composite sample (defined in 2.1.1 Footnote 4) taken during normal facility operation. The results of the test (C-NOEC and LC_{50} and all WQ parameters mentioned in Section 2.1.1, Footnote 19) shall be forwarded to MassDEP and EPA in accordance with Part 5.1.1 of this General Permit.

21. Permittees that discharge into freshwater shall test the daphnid, *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, for both acute and chronic WET tests. If a facility discharges into a coastal/marine area, one acute and one chronic saltwater WET test must be conducted using Inland Silverside *(Menidia beryllina).*

22. These tests should use receiving water (at a point immediately upstream of the outfall's zone of influence, at a reasonably accessible location) as diluent. This location should be the same sampling location as described in Footnote 13.i. The WET tests shall also be performed on a representative sample, taken during normal facility operation, and be

performed in accordance with EPA's toxicity protocol. These toxicity test protocols may be viewed at http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html. All of the chemical parameters shall be determined to at least the minimum quantification level shown in the aforementioned EPA toxicity protocol.

23. The LC_{50} and C-NOEC (chronic-no observed effect concentration) are defined in Appendix I.

24. The Permittee must collect a dilution water sample of the receiving water as diluent. However if toxicity test(s) using receiving water as diluent show the receiving water to be toxic or unreliable, the permittee shall either follow procedures outlined in **Section IV. DILUTION WATER** of the **Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol** (available at http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html) in order to obtain an individual approval for use of an alternate dilution water, or the permittee shall follow the Self-Implementing Alternative Dilution Water Guidance, http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html which may be used to obtain automatic approval of an alternate dilution water, including the appropriate species for use with that water. This guidance is found in Attachment G of *NPDES Program Instructions for the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms (DMRs)*, which may be found on the EPA Region I web site at https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/pdfs/2010-DMR-Instructions.pdf. If this guidance is revoked, the permittee shall revert to obtaining individual approval as outlined in **Section IV** of the **Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol**. Any modification or revocation to this guidance will be transmitted to the permittees. However, at any time, the permittee may choose to contact EPA-Region I directly using the approach outlined in the **Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol**. The same requirements denoted in Footnote 19 shall also be followed.

2.1.2. Other Requirements

1. Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at a location, and at consistent times of the month and during normal business hours, that provide for representative analyses of the effluent just prior to discharge to the receiving water or, if the effluent is commingled with another discharge, prior to such commingling.

2. Any change in sampling locations provided in the NOI shall be reviewed in writing by EPA and MassDEP.

3. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(i)(1)(iv), the Permittee shall use sufficiently sensitive test procedures (i.e., methods) approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. Chapter I, Subchapter N or O, for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters limited in this permit (except WET limits). A method is considered "sufficiently sensitive" when either (1) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limit established in this permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or (2) The method has the lowest

ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. Chapter I, Subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter.

The ML is not the minimum level of detection, but rather the lowest level at which the test equipment produces a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point for a pollutant or pollutant parameter, representative of the lowest concentration at which a pollutant or pollutant parameter can be measured with a known level of confidence. For the purposes of this permit, the detection limit is the lowest concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of precision and accuracy for a specific laboratory analytical method during routine laboratory operating conditions (i.e., the level above which an actual value is reported for an analyte, and the level below which an analyte is reported as non-detect).

4. The total residual chlorine (TRC) monitoring and limits only apply to discharges of water which have been previously chlorinated or which contain residual chlorine. The maximum daily and average monthly concentrations of Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) allowed in the effluent are based on the appropriate water-quality criterion, which are listed below:

- Freshwater acute (Class A or B) = 19 µg/l (0.019 mg/1); use for daily maximum
- Freshwater chronic (Class A or B) = 11 µg/1 (0.011 mg/1); use for average monthly
- Marine acute (Class SA or SB) = 13 µg/1 (0.013 mg/1); use for daily maximum
- Marine chronic (Class SA or SB) = 7.5 µg/1 (0.0075 mg/1); use for average monthly

Effluent limits are calculated using the appropriate water quality criteria (listed above) and the available dilution in the receiving water according to the following equation:

Effluent Limit= (Dilution Factor) x (Water Quality Criteria)

The daily maximum TRC limit shall be calculated using the appropriate dilution factor and the appropriate daily maximum water quality criteria listed above while the average monthly TRC limit shall be calculated using the appropriate dilution factor and the average monthly water quality criteria listed above. Dilution factor and mixing zone calculations must meet the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards Implementation Policy for Mixing Zones (see Part III.C of the Fact Sheet.) For discharges to freshwater streams, the dilution factor shall be calculated using the 7Q10 and the appropriate discharge rate from the facility. (See Appendix VII) For discharges to freshwater lakes and reservoirs and marine waters, the permittee may provide to EPA in the NOI a study or calculations in support of the applicable dilution factor. Prior to completing the NOI requirements for the PWTF GP, the State permitting authority must be contacted at the address listed in Appendix VI of the PWTF GP to determine and/or confirm the 7Q10 of the receiving water, dilution factor, other appropriate hydrologic conditions, or to request consideration of diffuser dilution. EPA will provide the permittee with the appropriately determined limits when notified of permit coverage.

If the receiving water provides no available dilution, the acute and chronic criteria listed above shall be applied as the daily maximum and monthly average limits, respectively. If the appropriate water quality-based TRC limits are greater than 1.0 mg/1, a daily maximum

limit of **1.0 mg/1** (1000 µg/l) shall be applied to the discharge.

5. Any discharge that causes a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving waters is prohibited.

6. Discharges shall have no adverse impact on the intake of an existing or proposed Public Water Supply. This is in accordance with Massachusetts SWQs at 314 CMR 4.03(1)(a) that states, "[d]ischarges shall be limited or prohibited to protect existing uses and not interfere with the attainment of designated uses in downstream and adjacent segments".

7. Any discharge of floating solids, foam, visible oil sheen, or settleable solids is prohibited.

8. The discharge shall not cause objectionable discoloration of the receiving water.

9. This permit does not allow the discharge of any water additives or chemicals unless they are listed in the NOI. An exception to this requirement is allowed for additives not anticipated when the NOI was submitted, provided that the permittee notifies EPA and MassDEP within five (5) days of its use of the new additive. If a new additive is used, EPA and/or MassDEP reserves the right to require additional monitoring, effluent limits, or other requirements. All water additives used by the facility, including those listed in the NOI, shall be listed in the BMP Plan as required by 2.1.3.a. of this General Permit. Examples of water additives include chemicals (e.g., surfactants, disinfectant agents, detergents, emulsifier, etc.) used for coagulation, pH neutralization, dechlorination, control of biological growth, and control of corrosion and scale in water pipes.

10. EPA may include required effluent limits for aluminum or other parameters as a written condition of authorization upon review of the NOI and/or other information.

2.1.3 Special Conditions

1. Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan

a. The permittee shall develop, implement, and maintain a Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan designed to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants in wastewater to waters of the United States. The BMP Plan shall be a written document that is consistent with the terms of the permit and identifies and describes the BMPs employed by the facility in operating wastewater controls. The Plan must be developed at least once a permit term (i.e., five years) and re-evaluated if any significant changes to the facility's operations occurs.

b. The BMP Plan shall be completed (or updated) and certified by the permittee within **90 days after the date of signature on the EPA authorization letter for coverage under this General Permit.** The permittee shall certify the BMP Plan has been prepared, that it meets the requirements of this permit, and that it is expected to reduce

the pollutants discharged in wastewater to the extent practicable. The BMP Plan and certification shall be signed in accordance with the requirements identified in 40 CFR §122.22. A copy of the BMP Plan and certification shall be maintained at the facility and made available to EPA and MassDEP upon request.

c. The permittee shall amend and update the BMP Plan **within 14 days** after any changes at the facility affecting the BMP Plan. Such changes may include, but are not limited to changes in the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of the facility, which have a significant effect on the potential for the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the United States. The amended BMP Plan shall be certified as described in Part 2.1.3.1.b above.

d. The permittee shall **certify annually** that the facility is in compliance with the requirements of the BMP Plan. If the facility is not in compliance with any aspect of the BMP Plan, the annual certification shall state the non-compliance (e.g., a selected BMP is not achieving the control necessary to meet a numeric or non-numeric effluent limitation) and the remedies which are being undertaken (e.g., the selection, design and implementation of an alternate BMP.) Such annual certifications also shall be signed in accordance with the requirements identified in 40 CFR §122.22. The permittee shall keep a copy of the current BMP Plan and all BMP Plan certifications (the initial certification, re- certifications, and annual certifications) signed during the effective period of this permit at the facility and shall make it available for inspection by EPA and MassDEP.

e. The BMP Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following items:

(1) Selection, design, installation, implementation and maintenance of control measures necessary to meet the effluent limitations in this permit, including non-numeric technology-based effluent limitations. Any control measures shall be used in accordance with good engineering practices and manufacturer's specifications.

(2) A description of the pollution control equipment and procedures used to minimize the discharge of suspended solids, floating solids, foam, visible oil sheen, and settleable solids to surface waters.

(3) Preventative maintenance procedures for the pollution control equipment to ensure that equipment failures are avoided.

(4) A description of the water treatment and intake water residuals generated at the Plant and how these residuals are generated, controlled, and disposed.

(5) Procedures for handling facility wastes, including schedules for removal, handling and disposal of materials, a description of where solids removed from the pollution control equipment or appurtenances, including sludge, are stored and/or disposed of, and the control measures used to prevent the removed solids from reentering the receiving water. If facility wastes are to be removed from the site, describe the destination and the method of disposal and/or reuse.

(6) A record of the following information for all water additives used at the facility, including, but not limited to, chemicals used for coagulation, pH neutralization,

dechlorination, control of biological growth, control of corrosion and scale in water pipes, etc.):

- Product name, chemical formula, and manufacturer of the additive;
- Purpose or use of the additive;
- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry number for each additive;
- The frequency (e.g., hourly, daily, etc.), duration (e.g., hours, days), quantity (e.g., maximum and average), and method of application for the additive;
- If available, the vendor's reported aquatic toxicity (NOAEL and/or LC_{50} in percent for aquatic organism(s)).

(7) If a phosphorus-containing chemical is used during the water treatment process (e.g. to control corrosion and scale in water pipes) *and* the facility discharges into a water body impaired for (total) phosphorus or nutrient/eutrophication biological indicators, the permittee shall also evaluate possible means and measures that will reduce and/or eliminate the discharge of this chemical into the receiving water.

(8) A description of the training to be provided for employees to assure they understand the goals, objectives, and procedures of the BMP Plan, the requirements of the NPDES Permit, and their individual responsibilities for complying with the goals and objectives of the BMP Plan and the NPDES permit. Training should be conducted on an annual basis. Certification of such training should be recorded and kept on site, along with the BMP Plan certifications.

(9) Minimum documentation requirements are as follows:

i. Records of operational and preventive maintenance activities, evaluations, equipment inspections, procedure audits, and personnel training.

ii. Records of the collection and analysis of samples, including, but not limited to, sample location, any calculations done at the time of sampling, any sampling or analytical methods used for samples analyzed on site, and sample results so that an inspector may verify that the sampling was properly conducted.

iii. All documentation of BMP Plan activities shall be kept at the facility for at least three years from the date the document was generated and provided to EPA or MassDEP upon request.

f. If aluminum is used during the water treatment process (e.g., as a coagulant), evaluation (or re-evaluation for previously covered facilities) of control measures that minimize the discharge of aluminum to the receiving water, which must include, at a minimum:

i. Examination of control measures used to minimize the discharge of aluminum to surface waters (e.g., use of baffles, filter press, etc. to remove contaminants during treatment of raw water for drinking);

ii. Evaluation of other materials (e.g., coagulants) which could reduce or eliminate the use of coagulants which contain aluminum. If a new

material is used to replace the aluminum-based coagulant, the permittee will inform EPA and MassDEP of the change; If a facility switches to an iron-based coagulant, see the monitoring requirement in Section 2.1.1.

iii. Evaluation of the procedures for handling Facility Wastes (Part 5.10.2) outlined in the most current issuance of Chapter 5 of the MassDEP Guidelines for Public Water Systems[1].

iv. Unless already included in BMP Plan (Part 2.1.3.1.e.5), the procedures and schedules for removal of accumulated sludge from the filter backwash sedimentation basin or sludge treatment facility in order to maintain effective removal of solids prior to the wastewater discharge to surface waters.

v. Identification of any other design standards and operational changes that can be incorporated into the design and/or operation of the Plant to further reduce or eliminate the discharge of aluminum.

2.1.4 State Permit Conditions

1. This NPDES permit is issued jointly by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the MassDEP under federal and state law, respectively. As such, all the terms and conditions of this permit are hereby incorporated into and constitute a discharge permit issued by the Commissioner of the MassDEP pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. 21, Section 43. Each agency shall have the independent right to enforce the terms and conditions of this permit. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this permit shall be effective only with respect to the agency taking such action, and shall not affect the validity or status of this permit as issued by the other agency, unless and until each agency has concurred in writing with such modification, suspension or revocation. In the event any portion of this permit is declared invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of state law such permit shall remain in full force and effect under federal law as an NPDES permit issued by the U.S. EPA. In the event this permit is declared invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of federal law, this permit shall remain in full force and effect under state law as a permit issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

2. At any time MassDEP determines that additional water quality certification requirements are necessary to protect water quality and in lieu of requiring a discharger covered under a General Permit to obtain an individual permit (314 CMR 3.06(8)), MassDEP may require an individual discharger to undertake additional control measures, BMPs, or other actions. MassDEP may exercise its authority to require the discharger to take these actions by imposing a condition in the General Permit to that effect, or by taking an enforcement action against the discharger, or by any other means. Any such conditions shall be supplied to the permittee in writing.

[1] The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Resource Protection, Drinking Water Program's Guidelines for Public Water System, Chapter 5: Treatment; <available online at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/regulations/guidelines-for-public-water-systems.html >.

3. Applicants may request a waiver from the pH limits listed in Part 2.1.1 by conducting a study to show that the pH of the discharge will not cause or contribute to a violation of the pH range listed in the state water quality standards (see 314 CMR 4.05). After receiving approval from MassDEP, the permittee may submit a written request to the EPA requesting a change in the permitted pH limit range. Upon receipt of this information EPA may modify the pH limit range(s) via a certified letter to be sent to the permittee. Until written notice is received by certified mail from the EPA indicating the pH limit range has been changed, the permittee is required to meet the appropriate pH limit range listed in Part 2.1.1.

3.1 Facilities in New Hampshire (General Permit No. NHG640000)

3.1.1 Discharge Limits and Monitoring Requirements

During the period beginning on the effective date and lasting through expiration, the permittee is authorized to discharge wastewaters from potable water treatment facilities to the state's Class B receiving waters. Discharges to Class A waters are not authorized by this General Permit. Each outfall discharging wastewaters shall be limited and monitored as specified below.

Effluent Characteristics		**Discharge Limitations**		**Monitoring Requirements**	
Parameter	**Units**	**Avg. Monthly**	**Max Daily**	**Monitoring Frequency[3]**	**Sample Type[4]**
Flow[1]	MGD	Report	1.0[2]	1/Day	Meter or Estimate
TSS	mg/1	30	50	1/Week	Composite
pH[5]	S.U.	6.5-8.0 range[6]		1/Week	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine[7,8]	µg/1	See Part 3.1.2.4		1/Week	Grab
Aluminum, Total Recoverable[9,10,11,12]	µg/1	Report	Report	1/Month	Composite
See Footnote 11 regarding the monitoring of Aluminum from ambient water upstream of the discharge **as well as** effluent.					
Arsenic, Total Recoverable[13,14]	µg/1	----	Report	1/Month	Composite
Iron, Total Recoverable[15,16]	µg/1	----	Report	1/Month	Composite

Total Phosphorus, as P[17] (April 1 – Oct.31)	µg/1	---	Report	1/Month	Composite
Whole Effluent Toxicity[18,19,20,21]					
LC_{50} (Acute WET Testing)[22]	%	---	Report %	1/Year	Composite
C-NOEC (Chronic WET Testing)[22]	%	---	Report %	1/Year	Composite
Hardness	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Residual Chlorine	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Alkalinity	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
pH	S.U.	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Specific Conductance	umhos/ cm	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Solids	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Ammonia Nitrogen as N	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Organic Carbon	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Aluminum	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Cadmium	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite

Total Recoverable Copper	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Lead	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Nickel	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Total Recoverable Zinc	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Composite
Diluent Whole Effluent Toxicity[23]					
Hardness	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Alkalinity	mg/L	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
pH	S.U.	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Specific Conductance	umhos/ cm	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Ammonia Nitrogen as N	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Organic Carbon	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Aluminum	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Cadmium	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Copper	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab

Total Recoverable Lead	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Nickel	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab
Total Recoverable Zinc	mg/l	---	Report	1/Year	Grab

Footnotes:

1. The operator shall not exceed the design flow capacity of the treatment system, determined by the component of the treatment train with the most restricted flow and as reported in the Notice of Intent, up to 1.0 MGD.

2. The daily maximum flow limit allowed by this General Permit shall be no greater than 1.0 MGD, unless EPA has provided approval for a higher flow rate in a facility's authorization letter. This may be done on a case-by-case basis.

3. Measurement frequency of 1/day is defined as the recording of one measurement for each 24 hour period. Measurement frequency of 1/week is defined as the sampling of one discharge event in each calendar week. Measurement frequency of 1/month is defined as the sampling of one discharge event in each calendar month. Measurement frequency of 1/year (aka-annually) is defined as the sampling of a discharge event once every calendar year. If no discharge occurs during the measurement frequencies defined above, the Permittee must report a No Data Indicator Code (e.g., "C" for "No Discharge") found in Attachment E of NPDES Permit Program Instructions for the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms (DMRs), available on the EPA Region 1 web site at https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/pdfs/2010-DMR-Instructions.pdf.

4. The composite samples shall consist of at least 4 grab samples collected at approximately equal intervals on a flow weighted basis during the time at which the discharge is entering the receiving water over an interval representative of the process (e.g. a backwash cycle). The timing of grab samples for pH and total residual chlorine shall correspond with the timing of composite sampling for the other parameters. When an analyte is not detected above the detection limit (DL), sampling results shall be reported as "<[detection limit]" on the Discharge Monitoring Report (i.e., Report as <20 ug/L, if the DL for a parameter is 20 ug/L). For the purposes of this permit, the detection limit is the lowest concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of precision and accuracy for a specific laboratory analytical method during routine laboratory operating conditions (i.e., the level above which an actual value is reported for an analyte, and the level below which an analyte is reported as non-detect).

5. This is a requirement for state certification.

6. If addition of chemicals is required to achieve these pH limitations, such chemicals maybe used, provided that they are identified either in the NOI or through subsequent communications with EPA and NHDES. The permittee may submit a written request to EPA requesting a change in the permitted pH range as described in Part 3.1.4.3 of this general permit.

7. Limits and monitoring for total residual chlorine are only required for discharges of water which has been previously chlorinated or which contains residual chlorine.

8. The minimum level (ML) for Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) is defined as 20 µg/L using EPA approved methods found in the most currently approved versions of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater: (1) Method 4500 CL-E; or (2) Method 4500 CL- G. One of these methods must be used to determine TRC. For effluent limitations less than 20 ug/l, the compliance level will be the ML. The ML is not the minimum level of detection, but rather the lowest level at which the test equipment produces a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point for a pollutant or pollutant parameter, representative of the lowest concentration at which a pollutant or pollutant parameter can be measured with a known level of confidence. If EPA approves a more sensitive method of analysis for TRC, the permit may be modified to require the use of the new method with a corresponding lower ML.

9. Monitoring for total recoverable aluminum is only required for PWTFs that use an aluminum based coagulant OR use an aluminum-based product for algae control.

10. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of aluminum shall be no greater than 50 µg/1. Analysis must be completed using an EPA-approved method with an equivalent or lower ML. Such methods include (but are not limited to) Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) Method 200.7, ICP-MS Method 200.8, and Graphite Furnace AA Method 200.9. For effluent limitations less than 50 µg/l, the compliance level will be the ML.

11. Permittees who monitor for aluminum must monitor both the effluent and the ambient receiving water unaffected by the discharge. The sampling locations must include a sample from each of the following representative locations, at a minimum:
    i. Ambient water at a point immediately upstream of the permitted discharge's zone of influence at a safe and reasonably accessible location; and
    ii. Effluent.

12. For PWTFs in New Hampshire who monitor for total recoverable aluminum, the conservative assumption will be made that the entire fraction of measured total recoverable aluminum is in the acid soluble form. If desired, individual facilities can establish a site-specific ratio of acid soluble to total aluminum by contacting NHDES and EPA.

13. Monitoring for Arsenic is only required when the PWTF is providing treatment to remove arsenic from the raw water source.

14. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of Total Recoverable Arsenic shall be no greater than 1 µg/1. This can be achieved by using the ICP/MS (Inductively Coupled Plasmas/Mass Spectrometry), 200.8 Test Method.

15. Monitoring for Iron is only required for PWTF's that use an iron-based coagulant. This includes any facility that replaces an aluminum-based coagulant with an iron-based coagulant.

16. The minimum level (ML) for analysis of Total Recoverable Iron shall be no greater than 55 µg/1. This can be achieved by using the following test methods: ICP/MS (Inductively Coupled Plasmas/Mass Spectrometry), 200.8, 3010A/6020A or ICP/AES (Inductively Coupled Plasmas/Atomic (optical) Emissions Spectrometry), 200.7, 3010A/6010C.

17. Monitoring for Total Phosphorus is only required for PWTF's that add a phosphorus-containing chemical to the treated water *and* discharge to a waterbody impaired for the following pollutants: (total) phosphorus, invasive aquatic algae, excess algal growth, cyanobacteria hepatotoxic microsystins, dissolved oxygen (saturation), or chlorophyll-a, as listed on the New Hampshire 2012 Section 305(b) and 303(d) Surface Water Quality Report. (See http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/swqa/2012/index.htm). Monitoring shall be conducted during the plant growing season of April 1 through Oct. 31st.

18. Facilities that discharge on an *intermittent* or *continuous* basis (Category II or Category III) are required to perform one *acute* Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test and one *chronic* Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) test once every year during the permit term. In order to ensure that testing is representative of any seasonal or other variations, testing should be conducted in different calendar quarters for 4 successive years. The laboratory results of the test (C-NOEC and LC_{50}), as well as the following parameters (hardness, total residual chlorine, alkalinity, pH, specific conductance, total solids, total dissolved solids, ammonia nitrogen as N, total organic carbon, total recoverable cadmium, total recoverable lead, total recoverable copper, total recoverable zinc, total recoverable nickel, and total recoverable aluminum) shall be submitted to EPA and NHDES in accordance with Part 5.1.1 of this General Permit. The permittee should also keep a copy of the results for their file.

19. Facilities who discharge on an emergency or infrequent basis (i.e., Category 1 facilities) are not subject to this requirement. However, acute and chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) test(s) shall be performed by any permittee (including Category I facilities) *upon request* by EPA and/or NHDES. Any testing shall be performed in accordance with EPA's toxicity protocol, a copy of which will be provided at the time of the request. Toxicity test protocols may be viewed at

http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html. The test shall be performed on a 24-hr. composite sample (defined in 3.1.1 Footnote 4) taken during normal facility operation. The results of the test (C-NOEC and LC_{50} and all WQ parameters mentioned in Section 3.1.1, Footnote 18) shall be forwarded to NHDES and EPA in accordance with Part 5.1.1 of this General Permit.

20. Permittees that discharge into freshwater shall test the daphnid, *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, for both acute and chronic WET tests. If a facility discharges into a coastal/marine area, one acute and one chronic saltwater WET test must be conducted using Inland Silverside *(Menidia beryllina).*

21. These tests should use receiving water (at a point immediately upstream of the outfall's zone of influence, at a reasonably accessible location) as diluent. This location should be the same sampling location as described in Footnote 11.i. The WET tests shall also be performed on a representative sample, taken during normal facility operation, and be performed in accordance with EPA's toxicity protocol. These toxicity test protocols may be viewed at http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html. All of the chemical parameters shall be determined to at least the minimum quantification level shown in the aforementioned EPA toxicity protocol.

22. The LC_{50} and C-NOEC (chronic-no observed effect concentration) are defined in Appendix I.

23. The Permittee must collect a dilution water sample of the receiving water as diluent. However if toxicity test(s) using receiving water as diluent show the receiving water to be toxic or unreliable, the permittee shall either follow procedures outlined in **Section IV. DILUTION WATER** of the **Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol** (http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html) in order to obtain an individual approval for use of an alternate dilution water, or the permittee shall follow the Self-Implementing Alternative Dilution Water Guidance, http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/epa_attach.html which may be used to obtain automatic approval of an alternate dilution water, including the appropriate species for use with that water. This guidance is found in Attachment G of *NPDES Program Instructions for the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms (DMRs)*, which may be found on the EPA Region I web site at https://www3.epa.gov/region1/npdes/pdfs/2010-DMR-Instructions.pdf. If this guidance is revoked, the permittee shall revert to obtaining individual approval as outlined in **Section IV** of the **Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol**. Any modification or revocation to this guidance will be transmitted to the permittees. However, at any time, the permittee may choose to contact EPA-Region I directly using the approach outlined in the **Toxicity Test Procedure and Protocol**. The same requirements denoted in Footnote 18 shall also be followed.

3.1.2. Other Requirements

1. Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at a location, and at consistent times of the month and during normal business hours, that provide for representative analyses of the effluent just prior to discharge to the receiving water or, if the effluent is commingled with another discharge, prior to such commingling.

2. Any change in sampling locations provided in the NOI shall be reviewed in writing by EPA and NHDES.

3. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(i)(1)(iv), the Permittee shall use sufficiently sensitive test procedures (i.e., methods) approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. Chapter I, Subchapter N or O, for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters limited in this permit (except WET limits). A method is considered "sufficiently sensitive" when either (1) The method minimum level (ML) is at or below the level of the effluent limit established in this permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or (2) The method has the lowest ML of the analytical methods approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 or required under 40 C.F.R. Chapter I, Subchapter N or O for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter.

   The ML is not the minimum level of detection, but rather the lowest level at which the test equipment produces a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point for a pollutant or pollutant parameter, representative of the lowest concentration at which a pollutant or pollutant parameter can be measured with a known level of confidence. For the purposes of this permit, the detection limit (DL) is the lowest concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of precision and accuracy for a specific laboratory analytical method during routine laboratory operating conditions (i.e., the level above which an actual value is reported for an analyte, and the level below which an analyte is reported as non-detect).

4. The total residual chlorine (TRC) monitoring and limits only apply to discharges of water which have been previously chlorinated or which contain residual chlorine. The maximum daily and average monthly concentrations of Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) allowed in the effluent are based on the appropriate water-quality criterion, which are listed below:

   - Freshwater acute= 19 µg/1 (0.019 mg/1); use for daily maximum
   - Freshwater chronic= 11 µg/1 (0.011 mg/1); use for average monthly
   - Marine acute= 13 µg/1 (0.013 mg/1); use for daily maximum
   - Marine chronic= 7.5 µg/1 (0.0075 mg/1); use for average monthly

   Effluent limits are calculated using the appropriate water quality criteria (listed above) and the available dilution in the receiving water according to the following equation:

   Effluent Limit= (Dilution Factor) x (Water Quality Criteria)

   The daily maximum TRC limit shall be calculated using the appropriate dilution factor and

the appropriate daily maximum water quality criteria listed above while the average monthly TRC limit shall be calculated using the appropriate dilution factor and the appropriate average monthly water quality criteria listed above. Dilution factor and mixing zone calculations must meet the New Hampshire State Water Quality Standards for Flow Standards and Mixing Zones at Env-Wq 1705 and 1707. (See Part III.C. of the Fact Sheet.) Specifically, New Hampshire requires a 10% reserve of the river's assimilative capacity according to Env-Wq 1705.01. For discharges to freshwater streams, the dilution factor shall be calculated using the 7Q10 and the discharge rate from the facility. (See Appendix VII.) For discharges to freshwater lakes and reservoirs and marine waters, the permittee may provide to EPA in the NOI a study or calculations, which meets the state standards, in support of the applicable dilution factor. Prior to completing the NOI requirements for the PWTF GP, the State permitting authority must be contacted at the address listed in Appendix VI of the PWTF GP to determine and/or confirm the 7Q10 of the receiving water, dilution factor, other appropriate hydrologic conditions, or to request consideration of diffuser dilution. EPA will provide the permittee with the appropriately determined limits when notified of permit coverage.

If the receiving water provides no available dilution, the acute and chronic criteria listed above shall be applied as the daily maximum and average monthly limits, respectively. If the appropriate water quality-based TRC limits are greater than 1.0 mg/1, a daily maximum limit of **1.0 mg/1** (or 1000 µg/l) shall be applied to the discharge.

5. Any discharge that causes a violation of the water quality standards of the receiving waters is prohibited.

6. Any discharge of floating solids, scum, foam, visible oil sheen, or settleable solids is prohibited.

7. The discharge shall not cause objectionable odor, taste, turbidity, or discoloration in the receiving water.

8. This permit does not allow the discharge of any water additives or chemicals unless they are listed in the NOI. An exception to this requirement is allowed for additives not anticipated when the NOI was submitted, provided that the permittee notifies EPA and NHDES within five (5) days of its use of the new additive. If a new additive is used, EPA and/or NHDES reserves the right to require additional monitoring, effluent limits, or other requirements. All water additives used by the facility, including those listed in the NOI, shall be listed in the BMP Plan as required by 3.1.3.1 of this General Permit. Examples of water additives include chemicals (e.g., surfactants, disinfectant agents, detergents, emulsifier, etc.) used for coagulation, pH neutralization, dechlorination, control of biological growth, and control of corrosion and scale in water pipes.

9. EPA may include required effluent limits for aluminum or other parameters as a written condition of authorization upon review of the NOI and/or other information.

3.1.3 Special Conditions

1. Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan

a. The permittee shall develop, implement, and maintain a Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan designed to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants in wastewater to waters of the United States. The BMP Plan shall be a written document that is consistent with the terms of the permit and identifies and describes the BMPs employed by the facility in operating wastewater controls. The Plan must be developed at least once a permit term (i.e., five years) and re-evaluated if any significant changes to the facility's operations occur.

b. The BMP Plan shall be completed (or updated) and certified by the permittee within **90 days after the date of signature on the EPA authorization letter for coverage under this General Permit.** The permittee shall certify the BMP Plan has been prepared, that it meets the requirements of this permit, and that it reduces the pollutants discharged in wastewater to the extent practicable. The BMP Plan and certification shall be signed in accordance with the requirements identified in 40 CFR §122.22. A copy of the BMP Plan and certification shall be maintained at the facility and made available to EPA and NHDES upon request.

c. The permittee shall amend and update the BMP Plan **within 14 days** after any changes at the facility affecting the BMP Plan. Such changes may include, but are not limited to changes in the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of the facility, which have a significant effect on the potential for the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the United States. The amended BMP Plan shall be certified as described in Part 3.1.3.1.b above.

d. The permittee shall **certify annually** that the facility is in compliance with the requirements of the BMP Plan. If the facility is not in compliance with any aspect of the BMP Plan, the annual certification shall state the non-compliance (e.g., a selected BMP is not achieving the control necessary to meet a numeric or non-numeric effluent limitation) and the remedies which are being undertaken (e.g., the selection, design and implementation of an alternate BMP). Such annual certifications also shall be signed in accordance with the requirements identified in 40 CFR §122.22. The permittee shall keep a copy of the current BMP Plan and all BMP Plan certifications (e.g., the initial certification, re- certifications, and annual certifications) signed during the effective period of this permit at the facility and shall make it available for inspection by EPA and NHDES.

e. The BMP Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following items:

(1) Selection, design, installation, implementation and maintenance of control measures necessary to meet the effluent limitations in this permit, including non-numeric technology-based effluent limitations. Any control measures shall be used in accordance with good engineering practices and manufacturer's specifications.

(2) A description of the pollution control equipment and procedures used to minimize the discharge of suspended solids, floating solids, foam, visible oil sheen, and settleable solids to surface waters.

(3) Preventative maintenance procedures for the pollution control equipment to ensure that equipment failures are avoided.

(4) A description of the water treatment and intake water residuals generated at the Plant and how these residuals are generated, controlled, and disposed.

(5) Procedures for handling facility wastes, including schedules for removal, handling and disposal of materials, a description of where solids removed from the pollution control equipment or appurtenances, including sludge, are stored and/or disposed of, and the control measures used to prevent the removed solids from reentering the receiving water. If facility wastes are to be removed from the site, describe the destination and the method of disposal and/or reuse.

(6) A record of the following information for all water additives used at the facility, including, but not limited to, chemicals used for coagulation, pH neutralization, dechlorination, control of biological growth, control of corrosion and scale in water pipes, etc.):

- Product name, chemical formula, and manufacturer of the additive;
- Purpose or use of the additive;
- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry number for each additive;
- The frequency (e.g., hourly, daily, etc.), duration (e.g., hours, days), quantity (e.g., maximum and average), and method of application for the additive;
- If available, the vendor's reported aquatic toxicity (NOAEL and/or LC_{50} in percent for aquatic organism(s)).

(7) If a phosphorus-containing chemical is used during the water treatment process (e.g. to control corrosion and scale in water pipes) *and* the facility discharges into a water body impaired for (total) phosphorus, invasive aquatic algae, excess algal growth, cyanobacteria hepatotoxic microsystins, dissolved oxygen (saturation), or chlorophyll-a, the permittee shall also evaluate possible means and measures that will reduce and/or eliminate the discharge of this chemical into the receiving water.

(8) A description of the training to be provided for employees to assure they understand the goals, objectives, and procedures of the BMP Plan, the requirements of the NPDES Permit, and their individual responsibilities for complying with the goals and objectives of the BMP Plan and the NPDES permit. Training should be conducted on an annual basis. Certification of such training should be recorded and kept on site, along with the BMP Plan certifications.

(9) Minimum documentation requirements are as follows:

i. Records of operational and preventive maintenance activities, evaluations, equipment inspections, procedure audits, and personnel training.

ii. Records of the collection and analysis of samples, including, but not limited to, sample location, any calculations done at the time of sampling, any sampling or analytical methods used for samples analyzed on site, and sample results so that an inspector may verify that the sampling was properly conducted.

iii. All documentation of BMP Plan activities shall be kept at the facility for at least three years from the date the document was generated and provided to EPA or NHDES upon request.

f. If aluminum is used during the water treatment process (e.g., as a coagulant), evaluation (or re-evaluation for previously covered facilities) of control measures that minimize the discharge of aluminum to the receiving water, which must include, at a minimum:

i. Examination of control measures used to minimize the discharge of aluminum to surface waters (e.g., use of baffles, filter press, etc. to remove contaminants during treatment of raw water for drinking);

ii. Evaluation of other materials (e.g., coagulants) which could reduce or eliminate the use of coagulants which contain aluminum; If a new material is used to replace the aluminum-based coagulant, the permittee will inform EPA and NHDES of the change; If a facility switches to an iron-based coagulant, see the monitoring requirement in Section 3.1.1.

iii. The procedures for handling facility wastes and the proper design for devices used to treat residuals. The New Hampshire Administrative Rules contain the proper design standards for Large Public Water Systems at Env-Dw 404 (formerly Env-Ws 374.)[2] This regulation adopts by reference the most current edition of "Recommended Standards for Water Works," committee report of the Great Lakes-Upper Mississippi River Board of State and Provincial Public Health and Environmental Managers.

iv. Unless already included in BMP Plan (Part 3.1.3.1.e.5), the procedures and schedules for removal of accumulated sludge from the filter backwash sedimentation basin or sludge treatment facility in order to maintain effective removal of solids prior to the wastewater discharge to surface waters.

v. Identification of any other design standards and operational changes that can be incorporated into the design and/or operation of the Plant to further reduce or eliminate the discharge of aluminum.

3.1.4 State Permit Conditions

1. This NPDES permit is issued by the EPA under Federal law. Upon final issuance by the EPA, the NHDES may adopt this permit, including all terms and conditions, as a State permit pursuant to RSA 485-A:13. Each agency shall have the independent right to enforce

[2] New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Env-Dw 404, Design Standards for Large Public Water Systems, <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rules/documents/env-dw404.pdf >

the terms and conditions of this permit. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this permit shall be effective only with respect to the agency taking such action, and shall not affect the validity or status of the permit as issued by the other agency, unless and until each agency has concurred in writing with such modification, suspension or revocation.

2. The permittee shall not at any time, either alone or in conjunction with any person or persons, cause directly or indirectly the discharge of waste into the said receiving water unless it has been treated in such a manner as will not lower the legislated water quality classification or interfere with the uses assigned to said water by the New Hampshire Legislature (RSA 485- A:12).

3. The pH range of 6.5-8.0 standard units (s.u.) must be achieved in the final effluent unless the permittee can demonstrate to NHDES-WD: (1) that the range should be widened due to naturally occurring conditions in the receiving water or (2) that the naturally occurring receiving water pH is not significantly altered by the permittee's discharge. The scope of any demonstration project must receive prior approval from NHDES-WD. In no case, shall the above procedure result in pH limits outside of the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u.

   After receiving approval from NHDES-WD, the permittee may submit a written request to the EPA requesting a change in the permitted pH limit range for this facility. The permittee's written request must include a copy of the State's approval letter for such a change. The State's letter shall state that the permittee has demonstrated to the State's satisfaction that as long as discharges to the receiving water from a specific outfall are within a specific numeric pH range the naturally occurring receiving water pH will be unaltered. That letter must specify the associated numeric pH limit range. Upon receipt of this information, EPA may modify the pH limit range(s) via a certified letter to be sent to the permittee. Until written notice is received by certified mail from the EPA indicating the pH limit range has been changed, the permittee is required to meet the appropriate pH limit range listed in Part 3.1.1.

4. At any time NHDES determines that additional water quality certification requirements are necessary to protect water quality and in lieu of requiring a discharger covered under a General Permit to obtain an individual permit, NHDES may require an individual discharger to undertake additional control measures, BMPs, or other actions. NHDES may exercise its authority to require the discharger to take these actions by imposing a condition in the General Permit to that effect, or by taking an enforcement action against the discharger, or by any other means. Any such conditions shall be supplied to the permittee in writing.

Part 4 Notice of Intent (NOI)

4.1 Obtaining Authorization to Discharge

To be covered by this General Permit, applicants must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to both EPA and the appropriate State (e.g., NHDES for **all** facilities in that state; MassDEP **only** if a

previously unpermitted facility is discharging into an Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) or High Quality Water and has been instructed by MassDEP to send an NOI.) The NOI must state that the discharge meets the applicable requirements of this General Permit and that the applicant is requesting coverage under this General Permit. The NOI must contain all of the information required in Appendix IV. The facility's discharge will not be covered under the 2016 PWTF GP until the facility receives written authorization to discharge from EPA.

Facility owners/operators must submit a NOI if they are seeking coverage under this General Permit for the first time or if the facility was covered under the PWTF GP which expired on October 2, 2014.

Any facility operating under an effective (unexpired) individual NPDES permit may request that the individual permit be revoked and that coverage under the General Permit be granted, as outlined in 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(3)(v). If EPA determines that the facility is eligible under this General Permit, then EPA will revoke the individual permit and the General Permit would apply to the discharge. Facilities with expired individual permits that have been administratively continued in accordance with 40 CFR § 122.6 may also apply for coverage under this General Permit. If coverage is granted, the expired individual permit will cease to be in effect.

4.2 NOI Options

The owner and/or operator of the facility is responsible for applying for the General Permit as required by 40 CFR § 122.21(b). To be covered by this General Permit, operators of facilities whose discharge or discharges are identified in Part 1.1 of this permit must submit a complete, accurate, and signed NOI to EPA and to NHDES, if the facility is located in New Hampshire. Only select facilities, as described below, must submit an NOI to MassDEP. For purposes of this General Permit, the NOI consists of either the suggested NOI form in Appendix IV of this General Permit or another format of official correspondence containing all of the information required in the NOI instructions in Appendix IV. All NOIs submitted after December 21, 2020 must be submitted electronically.

Only Massachusetts facilities that are seeking coverage under the PWTF General Permit for the first time and discharge to Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW) or High Quality Waters must forward the suggested NOI form in Appendix IV of this General Permit or another format of official correspondence containing all of the information required in the NOI instructions in Appendix IV of this permit to: MassDEP, Division of Watershed Management, 8 New Bond Street, Worcester, MA 01606. All Massachusetts applicants are highly encouraged to contact MassDEP first regarding 7Q10, Dilution Factors, Outstanding Resource Waters and High Quality Water designation before submitting a copy of the NOI. All official ORWs are listed in 314 CMR 4.06. An authorization must be granted by MassDEP before such a facility is eligible for coverage under the PWTF General Permit.

Since the State of New Hampshire does not have a state application form, facilities located in New Hampshire must submit a copy of the completed EPA-Suggested NOI Form found at Appendix IV or another format of official correspondence containing the information required in the NOI instructions in Appendix IV to: NHDES, Water Division – Wastewater Engineering Bureau, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095.

4.3 NOI Timeframes

1. *Proposed New Discharges:* Facilities with proposed new discharges that are seeking coverage under this General Permit must submit an NOI to EPA and MassDEP or NHDES, if applicable, post-marked at least 60 days prior to the commencement of discharge. In the case of a proposed new discharge to New Hampshire waters, additional lead time may be necessary (contact the NHDES at the addresses listed in Part 5.1.2 to determine whether additional lead time (i.e., six months) is necessary).

2. *Existing Permitted Discharges Authorized Under Last PWTF GP:* Facilities with existing coverage under the PWTF General Permit that expired on October 2, 2014, and that wish to seek coverage under this General Permit, must file an NOI to EPA and NHDES, if applicable, for coverage under this General Permit within 90 days of the effective date of this permit. For enforcement purposes, failure to submit an NOI within 90 days of the effective date of this General Permit for an existing permitted PWTF discharge will be considered to be discharging without a permit. An NOI is not required if the permittee submits a Notice of Termination (NOT-see Part 5.A. and Appendix V) of discharge before the 90-day time frame expires.

3. *Facilities with Existing Discharges Not Authorized Under Last PWTF GP and which Use Aluminum in Treatment Process:* Facilities that use aluminum in their treatment process but were not authorized under the PWTF General Permit that expired on October 2, 2014 (and submitted an application for an Individual Permit instead) are eligible to seek coverage under this General Permit. Such facilities must file an NOI to EPA and NHDES, if applicable, for coverage under this General Permit within 6 months of the effective date of this permit. Since facilities under this category are required to submit more extensive water quality sampling data (i.e., aluminum) than the other categories, additional time to submit the NOI has been granted. See Appendix IV, particularly Section C.12, for additional details regarding the required water quality sampling.

4.4 NOI Requirements

1. For each individual site, the request for coverage under this General Permit must include all of the information indicated on the suggested Notice of Intent (NOI) and follow the instructions included in Appendix IV. This information includes:

    a. General facility information;
    b. Discharge information;
    c. Effluent Characteristics;
    d. Determination of Endangered Species Act Eligibility;
    e. Documentation of National Historic Preservation Act Eligibility;
    f. Supplemental Information;
    g. Signature requirements;
    h. "Opt-Out" Request

2. The NOI must be signed by the owner and/or operator of the facility in accordance with the signatory requirements of 40 CFR § 122.22.

3. Each applicant must submit a copy of the NOI to EPA and to MassDEP or NHDES (according to the conditions highlighted in Section 4.2 of this permit.) The addresses are listed in Appendix VI of this permit. All NOIs submitted after December 21, 2020 must be submitted electronically.

4. Any applicant seeking an "opt-out request" from using NetDMR (to submit DMRs and reports electronically) must submit this request in the NOI. See Part 5.1 of this permit and Appendix IV for additional details.

5. EPA may request additional information or analytical data from the permittee when it is necessary to adequately review the NOI and evaluate the discharge.

6. Analysis of effluent and/or ambient water samples must use the 40 CFR Part 136 approved analytical test methods that will achieve the lowest available minimum levels or must be conducted using a sufficiently sensitive method, as described in Section 2.1.2.3 and 3.1.2.3 of this permit, whichever achieves the lower criteria level.

7. The effluent sample shall be taken at a location that provides a representative analysis of the proposed discharge. For the effluent sample, to the extent practicable, the sample shall be taken just prior to discharge to the receiving water or, if the effluent is commingled with another permitted discharge, prior to such commingling. The ambient sample should be taken at a point immediately upstream of the permitted discharge's zone of influence at a safe and reasonably accessible location.

4.5 When the Director May Require Application for an Individual NPDES Permit

1. The Director may require any person authorized by this General Permit to apply for and obtain an individual NPDES permit. Any interested person may petition the Director to take such action. Instances where an individual permit may be required include, but are not limited to, the following:

   a. A determination under 40 CFR §122.28(b)(3);

   b. The discharge(s) is a significant contributor of pollution or may cause or contribute to a violation of State Water Quality Standards for the receiving water;

   c. The discharger is not in compliance with the conditions of this permit;

   d. A change has occurred in the availability of the demonstrated technology of practices for the control or abatement of pollutants applicable to the point source(s);

   e. Effluent limitation guidelines are promulgated for the point source(s) covered by this permit;

   f. A Water Quality Management Plan or Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) containing

requirements applicable to such point source(s) is approved and inconsistent with this permit or with the conditions of EPA's authorization to discharge;

g. The point source(s) covered by this permit no longer:

   i. Involves the same or substantially similar types of operations;
   ii. Discharges the same types of wastes;
   iii. Requires the same effluent limitations or operating conditions;
   iv. Requires the same or similar monitoring; and/or

h. In the opinion of the Director, the discharge is more appropriately controlled under an individual or alternate General Permit.

2. If the Director requires that an individual permit be issued, the permittee will be notified in writing that an individual permit is required, and will be given a brief explanation of the reasons for this decision.

3. When an individual NPDES permit is issued to an operator otherwise subject to this General Permit, the applicability of this General Permit to that owner or operator is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit.

4.6 When an Individual NPDES Permit May be Requested

Any operator may request to be excluded from the coverage of this General Permit by applying for an individual permit. When an individual NPDES permit is issued to an operator otherwise subject to this General Permit, the applicability of this General Permit to that owner or operator is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit.

Any facility operating under an effective (unexpired or an administratively continued) individual PWTF NPDES permit may request that the individual permit be revoked and that coverage under this General Permit be granted, as outlined in 40 CFR § 122.28(b)(3)(v). If EPA revokes the individual permit, the General Permit would apply to the discharge. When coverage under the General Permit is granted, the individual permit is automatically terminated.

4.7 EPA Determination of Coverage

Any applicant may request to be included under this General Permit but the final authority rests with the EPA. Coverage under the PWTF GP will not be effective until EPA and NHDES (if the facility is located in New Hampshire) or MassDEP (under the limited conditions specified in Part 4.2) have reviewed the NOI, made a determination that coverage under the PWTF GP is authorized, and provided the operator with a written notification of authorization. The effective date of coverage will be the date of signature of the authorization letter by the EPA.

Any applicant who is denied coverage, who fails to submit an NOI to EPA and NHDES or MassDEP (when applicable) and/or who fails to receive written notification of permit coverage from EPA is not authorized to discharge to receiving waters under the PWTF GP.

4.8 NOIs on the EPA NPDES PWTF GP website:

All NOIs received by EPA that EPA proposed to authorize will be posted on the EPA NPDES PWTF GP website: http://www.epa.gov/region1/npdes/pwtfgp.html, for a minimum of 30 days. Following the 30 day period, EPA will either grant authorization, request additional information, or deny authorization under this permit and require submission of an application for an individual NPDES permit. A facility will be authorized to discharge under the terms and conditions of this permit upon receipt of the written notice of authorization from EPA.

Part 5 Monitoring, Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements

The monitoring program in the permit specifies sampling and analysis, which will provide continuous information on compliance and the reliability and effectiveness of the installed pollution abatement equipment. The approved analytical procedures found in 40 CFR Part 136 are required unless other procedures are explicitly required in the permit. The Permittee is obligated to monitor and report sampling results to EPA, MassDEP, and NHDES within the time specified within the permit.

Unless otherwise specified in this permit, the permittee shall submit reports, requests, and information and provide notices in the manner described in this section.

5.1 Submittal of DMRs and the Use of NetDMR

Until December 21, 2016, permittees may either submit monitoring data and other reports to EPA in hard copy form or report electronically using NetDMR, a web-based tool that allows permittees to electronically submit discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) and other required reports via a secure internet connection. **However permittees who already use NetDMR shall continue to use the electronic system** to submit monthly monitoring data no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period. Also, facilities that do not discharge during a given month are required to record no discharge for that month on the DMR/NetDMR. (See Footnote 3 in Section 2.1.1 and Section 3.1.1.)

Beginning no later than December 21, 2016, a permittee shall report DMRs electronically using NetDMR, unless the facility is able to demonstrate a reasonable basis that precludes the use of NetDMR for submitting DMRs and reports. See "Opt-Out Request" discussion in Part 5.1.2 of this permit. Specific requirements regarding submittal of data and reports in hard copy form and for submittal using NetDMR are described below.

5.1.1. Submittal of Reports Using NetDMR

NetDMR is accessed from: http://www.epa.gov/netdmr. By December 21, 2016, permittees shall submit DMRs and reports required under this permit electronically to EPA using NetDMR, unless the facility has applied for an "opt-out request" and received written approval by EPA.

Monitoring results shall be summarized for each calendar month and reported electronically using NetDMR no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period. Facilities are now required to submit monitoring results on a monthly, **not quarterly**, basis. Since the due dates for reports described in this permit may not coincide with the due date for submitting DMRs (which is no later than the 15th day of the month), a

report submitted electronically as a NetDMR attachment shall be considered timely if it is electronically submitted to EPA using NetDMR with the next DMR due following the particular report due date specified in this permit.

Once a permittee begins using NetDMR, it will no longer be required to submit hard copies of DMRs to EPA and the appropriate state. The exception to the NetDMR reporting requirement is that **permittees in Massachusetts must send hard copies of toxicity reports to MassDEP (at their Worcester address).**

5.1.2. Submittal of NetDMR Opt-Out Requests

A facility may ask for an "opt-out request," which would preclude the use of NetDMR for submitting DMRs and reports, only if they are able to demonstrate a reasonable basis for their request. This would include limiting factors like technical or administrative infeasibility. Opt-out requests must be submitted in writing to EPA for written approval as part of the NOI. See Section 4.3 for NOI timeframes & Appendix IV (NOI) for additional details. This demonstration shall be valid for twelve (12) months from the date of EPA approval and shall thereupon expire. At such time, DMRs and reports shall be submitted electronically to EPA unless the permittee submits a renewed opt-out request and the request is approved again by EPA. All opt-out requests should be sent to EPA and the appropriate State authority listed in Section II of Appendix IV (NOI).

5.2 Submittal of Reports in Hard Copy Form

For those permittees transitioning to the use of NetDMR or who have approved opt-out requests, monitoring results shall be summarized for each calendar month and reported on separate hard copy DMRs postmarked no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period. Any reports shall be submitted as an attachment to the DMRs. Operators of facilities that discharge intermittently and do not discharge wastewater during a particular month must submit a hardcopy DMR form to EPA for that month indicating no discharge occurred. Signed and dated originals of the DMRs, and all other reports or notifications required shall be submitted at the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region I
Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES)
Water Technical Unit (OES04-SMR)
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Duplicate signed copies of all reports or notifications required above shall be submitted to the appropriate state office pursuant to Sections 5.3 and 5.4, below.

Copies of **toxicity tests** (when required) for facilities in Massachusetts shall only be sent to:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Surface Water Discharge Permit Program
8 New Bond Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01606

5.3 Hard Copy Reports for Facilities in Massachusetts

Facilities approved to submit hard copy monitoring results must send copies of all reports to MassDEP. Monitoring results obtained during the previous month must be summarized for each month and reported on separate DMRs, postmarked no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period. Operators of facilities that discharge intermittently and do not discharge wastewater during a particular month must submit a DMR for that month indicating no discharge occurred.

Facilities in Massachusetts shall submit toxicity reports required herein to the State at:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Surface Water Discharge Permit Program
8 New Bond Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01606

Facilities in Massachusetts shall submit a signed copy of all reports, except toxicity reports, required herein to the appropriate region at:

MA Department of Environmental Protection
Western Regional Office
436 Dwight Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Main telephone: 413-784-1100

MA Department of Environmental Protection
Southeast Region Main Office
20 Riverside Drive
Lakeville, MA 02347
Main telephone: 508-946-2700

MA Department of Environmental Protection
Northeast Region
205B Lowell Street
Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887
Main Phone: 978-694-3200

MA Department of Environmental Protection
Central Region
8 New Bond Street

Worcester, Massachusetts 01606
Main Phone: 508-792-7650

Facilities in Massachusetts shall **also** submit a signed copy of **all** reports, except toxicity reports, required herein to:

MA Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Resources, NPDES
1 Winter St, 5th Floor
Boston MA 02108

5.4 Hard Copy Reports for Facilities in New Hampshire

Facilities approved to submit hard copy monitoring results must send duplicate copies of all reports to NHDES. Monitoring results obtained during the previous month must be summarized for each month and reported on separate DMRs, postmarked no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period. Operators of facilities that discharge intermittently and do not discharge wastewater during a particular month must submit a DMR for that month indicating no discharge occurred.

New Hampshire facilities shall submit duplicate signed copies of all reports required herein to the State at:

Attn: Compliance Supervisor
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Water Division, Wastewater Engineering Bureau
29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

Part 6 Administrative Requirements

6.1 Termination of Operations

Permittees shall notify EPA and the appropriate State agency in writing within 30 days of the termination of the discharge(s) authorized under this General Permit. The Notice of Termination (NOT) may be either the suggested NOT form in Appendix V**,** or any other format of official correspondence that incorporates all of the information required in Appendix V. Instructions for completing the NOT are also contained in Appendix V. Signed and completed NOT forms and attachments must be submitted to EPA and the appropriate State agency at the addresses listed in Appendix V.

6.2 Continuation of this General Permit after its Expiration

If the PWTF GP is not reissued or replaced prior to the expiration date, it will be administratively continued in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 558(c)) and 40 CFR §122.6) and remain in force and in effect for discharges that were

authorized prior to expiration. However once this General Permit expires, EPA cannot provide written authorization of coverage under this General Permit to any permittee who submits an NOI to EPA after the General Permit's expiration date. Any permittee who was granted permit coverage prior to the expiration date will automatically remain covered by the continued permit until the earliest of:

a. Authorization under a reissuance of this General Permit following timely and appropriate submittal of a complete and accurate NOI request to discharge under the reissued permit; or
b. The permittee's submittal of a Notice of Termination; or
c. Issuance or denial of an individual permit for the permittee's discharges; or
d. A formal permit decision by EPA not to reissue this General Permit, at which time the permittee must seek coverage under an alternative General Permit or an individual permit.

If a facility does not submit a timely, appropriate, complete, and accurate NOI requesting authorization to discharge under the reissued permit, or a timely request for authorization under an individual or alternative General Permit, authorization under this permit will terminate on the due date for the NOI under the reissued permit unless otherwise specified in the reissued permit.