

Water Task Force Status Summary

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Program	Status	Comments
DEEP Programs		
<p>Proposed change to the Pretreatment Program: DEEP will continue regulating all SIUs (including Individual Permits and SIU (Metal finishing wastewater and/or Process and non-process wastewater that is <u>not</u> subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards) GP) while Non-SIUs covered by the MISC GP will be regulated by the WPCAs. Feedback since Ozzie's recent outreach to the WPCAs indicate there will be significant interest/concern among the WPCAs given that they will not be able to rely on DEEP to review and administer registrations under the proposed MISC GP. The SIU GP and MISC GP were public noticed on January 14, 2019 to allow time for public participation and for WPCAs to prepare and budget for any potential changes. The Department held an informational meeting regarding the two proposed general permits on January 23, 2019. Written comments were due by February 14, 2019. A hearing has been requested regarding the above-noted general permits. General Statutes §22a-430b (b). The pre-hearing process will begin with a status conference on March 19, 2019 at 1:00 pm in the DEEP Russell Hearing Room, 79 Elm Street, 3rd floor, Hartford.</p>		
Program	Status	Comments
Wastewater Permits		
Comprehensive General Permit for Discharges to Surface Water and Groundwater	NO CHANGE Effective 3/30/18 Expires 3/29/2023	<p>The purpose of the Comprehensive General Permit is to provide a single general permit that will encompass discharges from the General Permit for the Discharge of Water Treatment Wastewater, General Permit for the Discharge of Minor Non-contact Cooling and Heat Pump Water, and the General Permit for the Discharge of Hydrostatic Pressure Testing Water. The Comprehensive General Permit will also include coverage for discharges of <i>fire suppression testing wastewater</i>, hydrant flushing wastewater, potable water system tank and pipeline draining wastewater, and boiler blowdown wastewater (to groundwater only).</p> <p>DEEP has included a renewal registration timeline in the GP. If your facility has an existing authorization under the GPs that expire in March 2018, you must file a registration (if a registration is required to be submitted) within 90 days (by 6/28/18).</p>
Misc. Wastewater General Permit	Reissued through October 2020. No renewal registration is necessary.	Reissued Without Modification the General Permit: The purpose of the general permit is to provide a legal means of discharging many common industrial and commercial wastewaters (e.g. contact and noncontact cooling water, boiler blowdown, tumbling and cleaning wastewater, water treatment wastewater, etc.) to the sanitary sewer. The Miscellaneous General Permit was first issued in 2001 and revised in 2013 and 2017. DEEP has public noticed a revised MISC GP.

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<p>General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewaters from Categorical Industrial Users to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)</p>	<p>NO CHANGE Reissued through October 2020. No renewal registration is necessary.</p>	<p>Reissued Without Modification the General Permit: The Categorical General Permit authorizes discharges of wastewater subject to the provisions of 40 CFR 413 (Electroplating Point Source Category) or 40 CFR 433 (Metal Finishing Point Source Category). The Environmental Protection Agency promulgated a streamlining rule, effective November 14, 2005, which allows the use of a general permit for these and other wastewaters subject to categorical provisions. The general permit requires all facilities seeking coverage to register and receive an Approval of Registration. The general permit also requires regular monitoring of discharges and submittal of monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports to demonstrate compliance with applicable effluent limitations. The general permit is a stream-lined approach to permitting through which DEEP has reduced the amount of resources necessary to apply for and obtain a wastewater discharge permit for the metal finishing industry while continuing to assure a high level of environmental protection.</p> <p>This GP will be modified and become the Significant Industrial User (SIU) GP. DEEP has public noticed the SIU GP.</p>
<p>Stormwater Permits</p>	<p>REMINDER to set up user accounts in ezFile and subscriber agreements for both ezFile and NetDMR.</p>	<p>Construction and Industrial Stormwater General Permits - Effective January 20, 2016, DEEP's ezFile on-line system should be used to submit stormwater construction and industrial general permit registration(s). Please refer to the Construction Stormwater web page or the Industrial Stormwater web page for details on using ezFile.</p>
<p>Industrial Stormwater General Permit</p>	<p>NO CHANGE Reissued without modifications through September 30, 2019</p>	<p>Early 2019 public notice of a draft GP is expected. Renewal registration is not necessary for permittees currently registered under this general permit DEEP is working on modifications to make the General Permit more closely aligned with EPA's multi-sector General Permit, with CT-specific requirements. The public notice for the proposed reissuance/modification of the Industrial GP is expected to follow later this year or early next year.</p>

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Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities	NO CHANGE Reissued without modifications through September 30, 2019	Renewal registration is not necessary for permittees currently registered under this general permit. The proposed reissuance/modification of the Construction GP is still being planned to go out to public notice this year, but will be done in phases over the coming months. NOTE: EPA's 2017 Construction General Permit (CGP), which provides coverage to eligible stormwater discharges from certain construction activities where EPA is the permitting authority. The CGP became effective on February 16, 2017. Shortly after EPA issued the 2017 CGP, both the National Association of Home Builders and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation filed petitions for review of the permit in the D.C. Circuit. EPA intends to pursue through notice and comment proceedings a permit modification to the 2017 CGP to provide clarification of certain permit conditions.
Water Diversion Program	NO CHANGE CTDEEP is revising applicable reporting forms and instructions	Any water diversions whether consumptive or non-consumptive in nature that are not exempt or registered require permitting if over applicable thresholds. Work group has been established on this topic. Meeting with stakeholder to gather feedback has been held on 10/04/2018. Another meeting was held on 01/24/2019 at DEEP. DEEP is moving forward with finalizing the annual reporting forms and instructions based on latest stakeholder feedback. For more information, goto https://www.ct.gov/deep/waterdiversion
Water Quality Standards	Public Meeting March 13, 2019 (*) 1:30 - 3:00 CT DEEP Office 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT Gina McCarthy Auditorium (*) Snow date: March 15, 2019 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.	Public Comment Opportunity: CT DEEP is seeking comments identifying any aspects of the CT Water Quality Standards which should be considered for revision. A Public Meeting will be held to discuss this triennial review process. Please submit your comments in writing to DEEP.WQS@ct.gov on or before April 5, 2019 . Topics under Consideration for Revision within the WQS Regulations include Updates to Numeric Water Quality Criteria, Revise the Low Flow Statistic Applicable to Fresh Waters, Extended Disinfection Period, Define Highest Attainable Use, Downstream Protection, and Water Quality Classification Maps. More information including the public comments can be found at https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=325618&deepNav_GID=1654 or by searching the DEEP website for "water quality standards".

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Stream Flow Standards and Regulations	<p>NO CHANGE Initial Reporting for Dams on Classified Streams in the Connecticut River Basin</p>	<p>Owners or operators of certain dams located in the Connecticut River Basin MAY BE required to submit an initial reporting form to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) under the Stream Flow Standards and Regulations (§26-141b-7(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies) by February 6, 2019.</p> <p>Extensive effort by DEEP and numerous stakeholder work groups culminated in adoption of the Stream Flow Standards and Regulations on December 12, 2011. The process of classifying the streams and rivers of the State began with the Southeast Coastal, Pawcatuck and Thames Major basins and the stream flow classifications were finalized on October 7, 2014. Stream flow classifications for the South Central Coastal River Basin were finalized on September 6, 2016. Stream flow classifications for the Connecticut River Basin were finalized on February 6, 2018. The remaining basins (Housatonic, Hudson and Southwestern Coastal Complex) are anticipated to be completed by the beginning of 2019. Once classified, owners of dams along the classified streams have ten years to begin making releases to support stream flow below the dam in accordance with the regulations.</p> <p>Classifications and response to public comments posted on DEEP website. The maps are available on-line at: www.ct.gov/deep/streamflow.</p>
CT State Water Plan (Public Act 14-163)	<p>NO CHANGE 02/06/2019 -- View the utility company acquisitions and mergers presentation from the February 5, 2019 WPC meeting. Download the plan at www.ct.gov/water</p>	<p>The draft plan recommends a framework for managing Connecticut's water into the future and for achieving balance with our many human and environmental needs as climate trends emerge and new needs develop. It addresses the quality and quantity of water for drinking, ecology, recreation, business, industry, agriculture, energy, and wastewater assimilation. The creation of the State Water Plan was required following the adoption of a new state law, Public Act 14-163, which directed the Water Planning Council (WPC) to formulate a plan that will help planners, regulators, and lawmakers make decisions about managing Connecticut's water in a manner that is consistent throughout the state. The group's draft plan reflects the input of various stakeholders, committee members and public participants. The public comment period on the draft State Water Plan closed on November 20, 2017. Comments have been reviewed and addressed by the Water Planning Council. The Water Planning Council voted on 1/23/2018 to approve the Final Draft State Water Plan for submission to the Connecticut General Assembly. They intend to present a final document to the Governor and various legislative committees in 2018.</p>

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LIS Blue Plan	The completed draft of the Long Island Sound Blue Plan is now available for public review and comment; The formal 90-day public comment period will commence mid-March 2019.	The first draft of the policies proposed to be included in the Long Island Sound Blue Plan is available on the Blue Plan Policy webpage. The LIS Blue Plan is a State of Connecticut initiative to protect the ecological resources and traditional human uses of Long Island Sound while allowing for compatible future uses. The policies of the Blue Plan will provide greater clarity and enforceable guidance for how future permitting decisions are to be made in relation to Ecologically Significant Areas as well as Significant Human Use Areas, under existing state regulatory programs. Public meetings were held in December 2018 and January 2019. More can be found on the Blue Plan at www.ct.gov/deep/lisblueplan .
Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Management	2019 DEEP Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant Request for Proposals	The DEEP is accepting proposals for Clean Water Section 319 grants focused on addressing Nonpoint Source impacts in water bodies. Proposals may be submitted by any interested public or private organization. Proposals submitted in response to this FY2019 Request for Proposals must be received electronically by April 3, 2019. For more information, goto https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=325588&deepNav_GID=1654
<i>EPA Programs</i>		
PFOA, PFOS and Other PFASs	CT-specific update	The EPA released the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Action Plan on February 14, 2019. The Connecticut Dept. of Public Health (DPH) Drinking Water Section (DWS) is currently reviewing the Action Plan to identify impacts to public drinking water systems and adjust the DWS Strategy as needed. The DWS continues to implement a multi-faceted strategy (DPH DWS PFAS Strategy Summary) to protect public health from potential contamination of public drinking water supplies by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The DWS sent Circular Letter 2019-03 as a reminder to all public water systems that serve over 1,000 individuals to complete their source water vulnerability assessment. The Circular Letter was sent with standardized spreadsheets (Source Water PFAS Vul. Assmt. Form) developed by the CT Section of the American Water Works Source Protection Committee for use by all PWS subject to this requirement.

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Waters of the United States (WOTUS) Rulemaking	Move to delay effectiveness of WOTUS rule had been invalidated by lower court; Trump administration signals regulation to repeal rule may be imminent	<p>The U.S. EPA proposed new definition of Waters of the U.S. has been published in the federal register and is now open for public comment. Much of the definition remains unchanged from the 2015 rule, with a few notable exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new rule combines "Traditional Navigable Waters" and territorial seas into a single category. - It excludes ephemeral flows (ones that only flow in response to precipitation) from the "tributaries" category. - It defines the term "ditch" as an artificial channel used to convey water and it excludes ditches from WOTUS unless they meet the specific criteria for a jurisdictional water. <p>The new rule also excludes groundwater -- even when channelized through drainage -- as well as stormwater runoff, such as sheet flow over upland.</p> <p>The public comment period is open until April 15. Please visit epa.gov/wotus-rule for more information.</p>
EPA's 2017 Construction General Permit (CGP)	NO CHANGE EPA Revisiting Stormwater Permit for Construction Sites	EPA will address question of liability and shared responsibilities in stormwater permit redo. The current permit will remain in effect until EPA finalizes changes. The EPA will clarify whether multiple builders working at a single construction site should be held liable for the actions of one as it revisits a nationwide permit to prevent erosion and pollutants from running off work sites. Specifically, the Environmental Protection Agency said it will look at the question of operator liability and clarify responsibilities of multiple operators at a single construction site, among other changes to a general stormwater permit originally issued in 2017.