
Environmental Permitting Fact Sheet

General Permit for Discharges from Miscellaneous Industrial Users

Permit Overview

This general permit is issued under the authority of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance. DEEP uses both individual and general permits to regulate wastewater discharge activities. Individual permits are issued directly to an applicant, whereas general permits are issued to authorize similar activities by one or more applicants throughout a prescribed geographic area. A general permit sets terms and conditions for conducting an activity which, when complied with, are protective of the environment. General permits represent a streamlined process to permit specific activities and are more cost-effective for both the DEEP and the registrant.

The Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW, as defined by section 22a-430-3(a) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies) and the POTW Authority (as defined in the general permit) receiving the discharge of Miscellaneous Industrial User wastewater (MIU wastewater) from the Industrial User has the authority to receive and review discharge notifications and monitoring reports, and, in conjunction with DEEP, enforce effluent limits and permit conditions.

“Miscellaneous Industrial User wastewater” or *“MIU wastewater”* means any wastewater discharge that is NOT subject to Federal Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR 403.6 and 40 CFR chapter I, subchapter N as amended. Domestic sewage including septage or sewage from portable sources and groundwater remediation wastewater are excluded from this definition. MIU wastewater includes but is not limited to air compressor condensate & blowdown, boiler blowdown, building maintenance wastewater, commercial laundry wastewater, contact cooling & heating water, cutting & grinding wastewater, fire suppression system testwater, food processing wastewater, hydrostatic pressure testing wastewater, non-contact cooling water, non-destruct testing rinsewater, printing and photographic processing wastewater, tumbling or cleaning of parts wastewater, water treatment wastewater, and vehicle maintenance wastewater.

“Industrial User” or *“Miscellaneous Industrial User”* means a source of Indirect Discharge.

“Indirect Discharge” means the introduction of a discharge into a Publicly Owned Treatment Works from a non-domestic source.

Authorizing Statutes

Section 22a-430b of the General Statutes.

Discharges authorized by this general permit

The *General Permit for Discharges from Miscellaneous Industrial Users* (MIU GP) will authorize discharges of “Miscellaneous Industrial User wastewater” either discharged directly to a POTW or transported there by vehicle. The Industrial User initiating, creating, originating or maintaining the discharge cannot be a Significant Industrial User (as defined in the general permit).

Notification and Fees

This general permit will require notification and/or a fee at the discretion of the POTW Authority receiving the discharge.

Who Must Notify?

The wastewater discharge categories below and text following them characterize the notification requirements:

(A) Group I: Process Wastewater Discharges Cumulatively Less Than 25,000 Gallons per Day

- Commercial laundry wastewater
- Contact cooling and heating wastewater
- Cutting and grinding wastewater
- Food processing wastewater (including breweries and distilleries)
- Non-destruct testing rinsewater
- Printing and photographic processing wastewater
- Reverse osmosis reject water
- Tumbling or cleaning of parts wastewater
- Water treatment wastewater
- Other process wastewater, including other wastewaters determined by the Commissioner to be process wastewaters.

(B) Group II: Non-process Wastewater Discharges (All Flows)

- Air compressor condensate & blowdown
- Boiler blowdown wastewater
- Building maintenance wastewater
- Fire suppression system testing wastewater
- Hydrostatic pressure testing wastewater
- Non-contact cooling water
- Potable water system maintenance or sampling wastewaters
- Swimming pool wastewater
- Vehicle maintenance wastewater
- Other non-process wastewaters, including other wastewaters determined by the Commissioner to be non-process wastewaters.

Industrial Users that meet the criteria below who seek authorization to discharge wastewater under the MIU GP must submit a notification form to each applicable POTW Authority conveying or receiving the wastewater:

- (A) Industrial Users discharging Group I process wastewaters with a cumulative maximum daily flow greater than or equal to 1,000 gallons per day (gpd) and less than 25,000 gpd;
- (B) Except for vehicle maintenance wastewaters, Industrial Users discharging Group II non-process wastewaters with a cumulative maximum daily flow greater than or equal to 5,000 gpd ;

- (C) Industrial Users discharging any flow of vehicle maintenance wastewater;
- (D) Industrial Users discharging Group I Process wastewaters with a cumulative maximum daily flow greater than or equal to 1,000 gallons per day (gpd) and less than 25,000 gpd, or Group II Non-process wastewater with a cumulative maximum daily flow greater than or equal to 5,000 gpd, whose discharge:
 - (i) has an increase in flow or change in chemistry since the effective date of this general permit;
 - (ii) has had an ownership change since the effective date of this general permit;
 - (iii) notification requires correction of inaccurate or misleading information previously submitted to the POTW Authority, in accordance with Section 6(g) of this general permit;
 - (iv) will be undergoing any significant facility modifications, as described in Section 5(e)(3)(A) of this general permit;
- (E) Industrial Users whose discharge will be transported to the receiving POTW;
- (F) Industrial Users whose discharge requires a variance to meet the effluent limits and conditions of Section 5(a) of this general permit, or
- (G) Industrial Users that are required to notify by an applicable POTW Authority.

Who Must Submit Additional Information Beyond Notification

Industrial Users discharging any flow of vehicle maintenance wastewater, or Group I process wastewaters that meet any one of the following criteria must complete a Detailed Discharge Information attachment. If required by the applicable POTW Authority, the attachment must be submitted with the notification.

- (A) the cumulative maximum daily flow of the Group I process wastewater discharges is greater than or equal to 1,000 gpd and less than 25,000 gpd;
- (B) the discharge comprises greater than 2% but less than 5% of the average, dry weather, hydraulic or organic capacity of each applicable POTW;
- (C) the discharge is transported to the receiving POTW;
- (D) the discharge has an increase in flow or change in chemistry since the most recent registration/notification;
- (E) requires a variance to meet the applicable POTW Authority's limits or the limits and conditions of Section 5(a) of the MIU GP;
- (F) requires treatment prior to discharge to meet the effluent limits in Table 5-1 of the MIU GP or limits imposed by the applicable POTW Authority; [or](#)
- (G) if required by an applicable POTW Authority.

Discharge Analysis

For existing discharges of all Group I process wastewaters and Group II "**Other** non-process wastewaters" only, results of one screening analysis from the testing of a sample taken within 90 days of notification for pollutants specified by Section 5(b) of the MIU GP shall be submitted with the notification form.

Effluent Limits

Industrial Users discharging under the authority of the MIU GP are reminded that they must abide by each applicable POTW Authority's local ordinances and regulations and that Industrial Users shall not violate the prohibitions specified in subsection 5(a)(2) of the MIU GP. If a pollutant limit has **not** been established by the applicable POTW Authority(s), the limit for such pollutant identified in Table 5-1 of the MIU GP shall apply:

Table 5-1 Effluent Limits¹

| Pollutant | Maximum Instantaneous Concentration | Pollutant | Maximum Instantaneous Concentration |
|---|--|---|--|
| <i>Conventional Pollutants</i> | mg/l | <i>Metals and Other Pollutants</i> | mg/l |
| Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5) | 600.0 ² | Lead, Total | 0.5 |
| Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) | 1200.0 | | |
| Total Suspended Solids (TSS) | 600.0 ² | Nickel, Total | 2.0 |
| Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) | 40.0 ³ | Silver, Total | 0.5 ⁵ |
| Nitrate-Nitrite (as N) | 40.0 ³ | Tin, Total | 4.0 |
| Total Fats, Oils and Grease ⁴ | 100.0 | Zinc, Total | 2.0 |
| <i>Organic Pollutants</i> | mg/l | | |
| Total Volatile Organics | 5.0 | Antimony, Total | 4.0 |
| Formaldehyde | 10.0 ³ | Arsenic, Total | 0.10 |
| Methylene Chloride | 1.0 | Beryllium, Total | 2.0 |
| Phenols, Total | 10.0 | Cobalt, Total | 4.0 |
| Phthalate Esters | 2.0 | Molybdenum, Total | 4.0 |
| Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons | 0.5 | Selenium, Total | 0.5 |
| Ethylene Glycol | 300.0 ³ | Strontium, Total | 2.0 |
| Propylene Glycol | 300.0 ³ | Thallium, Total | 2.0 |
| <i>Metals and Other Pollutants</i> | mg/l | Titanium, Total | 4.0 |
| Cadmium, Total | 0.5 | Vanadium, Total | 2.0 |
| Chromium, Total | 2.0 | Zirconium, Total | 2.0 |
| Copper, Total | 2.0 | pH value range can be found at Section 5(a)(2)(B)(ii) of the MIU GP | |

¹These effluent limits do not apply to residuals generated by water treatment facilities that are transported to the solids handling portion of a POTW.

²This pollutant concentration may be exceeded provided that the total mass loading (flow x concentration) of such pollutant discharged to the POTW does not exceed 100.0 lbs/day or 2% of the POTW's design loading, whichever is less. This limit does not apply to discharges of Food Processing Wastewater that have implemented the practices specified in Appendix H(3) of the MIU GP or Water Treatment Wastewater.

³The pollutant concentration may be exceeded provided that the total mass loading (flow x concentration) of each pollutant discharged to the POTW does not exceed 8.0 lbs/day for total Kjeldahl nitrogen or nitrate-nitrite (as N) and 10.0 lbs/day for formaldehyde, ethylene glycol, or propylene glycol

⁴For Food Processing Wastewaters only, report as Total Oil & Grease. For all other wastewaters, report as Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons.

⁵For photographic processing wastewaters only, if maximum daily flow is less than 100 gallons per day, the silver effluent limit is 5.0 mg/l. For flows greater than 100 gpd, the silver limit is 2.0 mg/l.

POTW-Specific Pollutant Limits—Because pollutant loading at a POTW varies across the state and some POTWs have greater capacities to handle problem pollutants, some POTW specific pollutant limits were established for some of the most common problem pollutants and are found in Appendix D1 of the general permit. These POTW Specific Pollutant Limits only apply to registrants with total maximum daily flows greater than 5000 gpd.

Prohibited Chemical Additives—Wastewater discharged under the authority of this general permit shall not contain any chemical additive containing any substance listed in Appendix B, Table II, III, or V or Appendix D of Section 22a-430-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, other than a substance for which an effluent limit is specified in Table 5-1 of the MIU GP or as otherwise approved by the POTW Authority in accordance with Section 7(a) of the MIU GP.

Other Conditions

Wastewater discharged under the authority of this general permit shall not:

- (1) cause or threaten interference or adverse effect upon the operation of the POTW;
- (2) cause or threaten interference or adverse effect upon the POTW's sludge handling, use or disposal, including but not limited to noncompliance with any federal, state, local laws, regulations or ordinances;
- (3) cause or threaten the POTW to exceed its influent design loading parameters;
- (4) cause or threaten the POTW to violate its permit, including but not limited to exceeding its permit limits;
- (5) cause or threaten a worsening of any condition which is causing the POTW to exceed its influent design loading parameters or violate its permit; or
- (6) cause or threaten pass through of any substance into the receiving waters which then causes or threatens pollution;
- (7) contain pollutants which causes or threatens a fire or explosion hazard in the receiving POTW;
- (8) cause or threaten corrosive structural damage to the sanitary sewer or receiving POTW and shall not have a pH of less than 5.0 or more than 12.0 Standard Units, unless local ordinances have a more limited pH range.
- (9) contain solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction of flow in the sanitary sewer system or receiving POTW;
- (10) contain heat in amounts which will inhibit biological activity in the receiving POTW, nor contain heat in such quantities that the influent temperature at the POTW exceeds 104°F (40°C);
- (11) contain pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors or fumes within the POTW in a quantity that may cause acute worker health or safety problems; and
- (12) contain either singly or in combination with other discharges any pollutant in sufficient amounts to cause acute worker health and safety problems, problems in the collection system or pass through or interference with the receiving POTW;
- (13) cause or contribute to foaming at the receiving POTW or within its effluent; and
- (14) contain either singly or in combination with other discharges flow in excess of the hydraulic capacity of the receiving POTW's conveyance system.

Treatment

Treatment shall be required for any discharge that cannot comply with the limits and conditions of Section 5(a) of the MIU GP.

For any photographic processing discharge where silver is a known or suspected pollutant, a silver recovery system must be installed.

Professional Certification

For any discharge of Group I process wastewater with a maximum daily flow \geq 1000 gpd but less than 25,000 gpd where the discharge requires treatment to meet effluent limitations or any flow of vehicle maintenance wastewater (excluding discharges previously permitted by DEEP, discharges from small volume autobody repair facilities, or discharges from small volume detailing facilities), either a Qualified Professional Engineer licensed in the state of Connecticut, or a Qualified Certified Hazardous Manager for certain pre-engineered treatment systems, must certify that the treatment system has been designed and properly installed and that proper operation and maintenance will ensure that all effluent limits specified in the general permit are met.

However, the Professional Certification is *not* required for a pre-engineered treatment system(s) that:

- (a) has been supplied with documentation from the manufacturer(s) demonstrating that such pre-engineered treatment system is designed to treat the pollutant levels in the wastewater discharge at the maximum discharge flow rate, and that such discharge will comply with the effluent limits and conditions of Section 5(a) of the MIU GP;
- (b) has been supplied with an Operation and Maintenance Plan from the manufacturer for such pre-engineered treatment system and supplemented as may be required by the Industrial User to meet the requirements of section 5(e)(2) and Appendix B of the MIU GP; and
- (c) has an integrated spill prevention and control system which, at a minimum, is capable of containing at least 110% of the volume of the largest system component, or is installed in an area that provides such containment.

Parameter Monitoring

Table 5-2 in the general permit indicates monitoring parameters for various categories of flow, the most common being pH, total suspended solids, oil & grease, copper, lead, and zinc. Registrants must also monitor for any parameters specified in Section 5(a)(1) that are known or suspected to be present in the discharge.

The monitoring and reporting frequencies, based on discharge group and maximum daily flows, are shown in Table 5-3 below:

Table 5-3 Monitoring and Reporting Frequencies

| Discharge Group | Total Maximum Daily Flow Thresholds per Category of Wastewater | Minimum Frequency of Pollutant Monitoring^{1,2} |
|--|---|--|
| Group I – Process Wastewaters (except as noted below) | Flow < 1,000 gpd | None |
| | 1,000gpd ≤ Flow < 10,000gpd | Quarterly |
| | 10,000gpd ≤ Flow < 25,000gpd | Monthly |
| Group I -- Food Processing, Commercial Laundry, Reverse Osmosis Reject Water | Flow < 5,000 gpd | None |
| | 5,000 gpd ≤ Flow < 25,00 gpd | Annual |
| Group II – Non-process Wastewaters | All Flows | None |

¹Discharges that do not have a prescribed monitoring frequency must comply with the effluent limits and conditions of Section 5(a) of this general permit. The permittee should maintain records of monitoring data that are representative of the current discharge.

²For water treatment wastewaters associated with annual or semi-annual maintenance cleaning of clarifier tank, settling lagoon, or other large tanks which may discharge greater than 50,000 gallons per day, samples shall be taken from the first 10% and last 10% of the discharge and analyzed separately. Such discharges shall not be counted toward the total maximum daily flow when determining monitoring frequency.

Flow Monitoring

Flow monitoring will be required for discharges greater than 1000 gpd according to the frequency in Table 5-3. Discharge flows of greater than 5000 gpd will be measured by means of a flow meter system and associated recording device which measures, visually indicates, and records instantaneous and total daily flow.

pH Monitoring

pH monitoring will be required for discharges according to the category and frequency in Table 5-3. If pH adjustment is necessary, registrant must comply with section 22a-430-3(q) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies which requires continuous pH monitoring.

Recordkeeping

Registrants must keep records for all parameters monitored which include total daily flow, a description of the process or activity which generated the discharge, analytical results and sample chain of custody.

Reporting Requirements

All analytical results and other information required under the MIU GP shall be submitted upon request of the POTW Authority or the Commissioner.

If the permittee monitors any discharge more frequently than required by the MIU GP using test procedures approved under 40 CFR 136 or specified in the permit, the results shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data in any monitoring report requested by the POTW Authority or the Commissioner.

General Conditions

The general permit also contains general operating conditions that:

- requires that discharges are in conformance with the sewer use ordinance of the municipality receiving the discharge
- the discharge shall be totally enclosed in piping from the source to a POTW unless operating conditions require otherwise. Best management practices shall be used for chemical and fuel storage to prevent spillage that could be received by floor drains, trenches, etc.
- any spill or release or leakage of any chemical liquid shall be immediately cleaned up and disposed of in accordance with all applicable state and federal law.

Collection and Transport of Wastewater from Unsewered Areas

The general permit contains requirements for the proper storage and transport of wastewaters from areas that do not have direct access to a sanitary sewer.

Permit Duration

This general permit shall expire on October 30, 2025.

Transfer

An authorization under this general permit is transferrable only in accordance with the requirements of Section 6(h) of the MIU GP and the applicable POTW Authority.

Contact Address

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This overview is designed to answer general questions and provide basic information. You should refer to the appropriate statutes and regulations for the specific regulatory language of the different permit programs. This document should not be relied upon to determine whether or not an environmental permit is required. It is *your* responsibility to ensure that all required permits have been obtained.