

Winter Inspection Requirements for NPDES Construction Stormwater Permit

Condition 1

All construction work suspended for winter, project closed down, and

1. All exposed areas are in stabilization timeframe compliance,
2. All sediment control devices in full operational condition or removed for documented safety reasons,
3. All chemicals properly stored and not exposed to storm events,
4. All documents current and up-to-date.

Inspections may be suspended due to frozen ground conditions, and resumed within 24 hours of a snow melt or rain runoff event.

Condition 2

All construction work suspended for winter, project closed down, but

- 1) Exposed soil areas still exist, and/or,
- 2) Sediment control devices in unknown or uncorrected operational condition, and/or,
- 3) Chemicals not properly stored, corrective actions not performed, or unknown condition, and/or,
- 4) Documents not up-to-date or missing

Inspections and corrective actions must still be performed every 7 days until Condition 1 is achieved or within 24 hours of a storm event greater than 0.5 inches of rainfall.

Condition 3

Work not suspended for winter

- a) Work continues on some portion of the project (including but not limited to inside buildings, coffer, shafts, or structures) during winter
- b) Soils not permanently vegetated to a minimum of 70% cover of expected background

Inspections and corrective actions must still be performed every seven days until Condition 1 is achieved, or within 24 hours of a storm event greater than 0.5 inches of rainfall.

Condition 4

Minor winter work remains

- a) Work remains on some portion of the project site (e.g cleaning, rock crushing, lights, signage), and
- b) some parts of the project site have permanent, perennial 70% expected background cover,

Inspection reduction timeframe of the areas with permanent cover to once per month. All other areas without 70% perennial plant cover must still be performed every 7 days until Condition 1 is achieved or within 24 hours of a storm event greater than 0.5 inches of rainfall.

Condition 5

All work completed, but some or all perennial vegetation has not reached 70 percent of expected background

- 1) no active erosion known
- 2) all unnecessary synthetics have been removed (may still have SC BMPs above water resources)
- 3) all chemicals, trash, debris no longer on site

Inspections may be suspended due to frozen ground conditions, and resumed within 24 hours of a snow melt or rain runoff event and continue every 7 days until the remaining sediment control synthetics have been removed and the NOT is filed.

Condition 6

- 1) All work is complete, no construction activity anywhere on the site, but permit still open (could be a phased common plan of development)
- 2) Entire construction site has documented permanent 70% expected background cover on all exposed soil areas, no known active erosion

The site must have been inspected during non-frozen ground conditions at least once per month for a period of twelve (12) months. Following the twelfth month of permanent cover and no construction activity, inspections may be terminated until construction activity is once again initiated unless the Permittee(s) is/are notified in writing by the MPCA or the owner that erosion issues have been detected at the site and inspections need to resume.

*For more information contact the
Erosion and Stormwater Management Unit*

*Ken Graeve – 651-366-3613
Dwayne Stenlund – 651-366-3625
Lori Belz – 651-366-3607*