

**FINAL FACT SHEET
AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR GENERAL PERMIT ARG670000**

For issuance of the new General Permit for discharge of Hydrostatic Testing, Permit Number ARG670000.

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1.1 Background

Under 40 CFR 122.28, general permits may be written to cover categories of point sources having common elements, such as facilities that involve the same or substantially similar types of operations, that discharge the same types of wastes, or that are more appropriately regulated by a general permit. Given the number of hydrostatic testing dischargers requiring NPDES permit coverage, the ADEQ has elected to renew the ARG670000 General Permit for Hydrostatic Testing Discharge.

The previous permit became effective on July 1, 2013 and will expire on June 30, 2018.

1.2 Proposed Changes for Modified Permit

1.2.1 Addition of a limit for Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)

The EPA considers concentrations at the edge of the mixing zone higher than 0.011 mg/l (Chronic Criteria) to be toxic to aquatic organisms. Therefore, a Total Residual Chlorine limit of less than 0.011 mg/l (No Measurable) is included in Part 2 of the permit based on Reg. 2, Sections 2.409 and 2.508.

1.2.2 Recertification Requirement to Continue Coverage

Part 1.3.1.1 has been added to the permit to address the procedure of renewing coverage under this general permit for existing dischargers.

1.2.3 ePortal Added as an Option for Application Submittal

ADEQ's electronic application system (ePortal) has been added to Part 1.3.4 as an optional submittal method for permittees to submit an application to the Department. As of December 21, 2020, all notices of intent must be submitted electronically by the discharger, as required by 40 CFR 127.16.

1.2.4 NOI Submission Deadline

Part 1.3.1.2 has been changed to require that an NOI be submitted to the Department at least 15 business days prior to the proposed discharge. This is to allow the Department sufficient processing and review time due to the large number of applications received by the Department.

1.2.5 TOC, Total BTEX, and Benzene monitoring for drinking water systems

Footnote 6 of Part 2.1 has been added to remove the requirement to monitor for TOC, Total BTEX, and Benzene from the requirements for drinking water systems. These limits were intended for discharges from pipelines used in the oil and gas industry. These pollutants are not expected to be in pipelines used to transport drinking water, or vessels used for the storage of drinking water.

1.3 Permit Coverage

This general permit authorizes facilities to discharge hydrostatic testing wastewater to the Waters of the State except facilities which are excluded in Part 1.2.2 of the general permit.

1.4 Notice of Intent (NOI)

Dischargers seeking to be covered by the general permit must submit a written Notice of Intent that meets the criteria in 40 CFR 122.21. All deadlines for submission have been established to provide staff with sufficient time to review and process all requests for coverage.

1.5 Individual Permits

The Director of ADEQ may consider the issuance of individual permits according to the criteria in 40 CFR 122.28(b)(3).

1.6 Water Quality Requirements

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(d) the permit is required to include any requirements necessary to achieve State Water Quality Standards as established under Section 303 of the Clean Water Act.

1.7 Permit Limits and Monitoring Basis

1.7.1 Permit Limits continued from the previous permit:

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>		<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
	Monthly Avg.	Daily Max		
Flow (MGD)	N/A	Report (MGD)	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Record
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	N/A	50	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	N/A	45	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab
Oil and Grease (O&G)	N/A	15	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab
Total BTEX	N/A	100 (µg/l)	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab
Benzene	N/A	50 (µg/l)	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab
pH	<u>Minimum</u> 6.0 s.u.	<u>Maximum</u> 9.0 s.u.	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab

1.7.2 New permit limit for TRC

The EPA considers concentrations at the edge of the mixing zone higher than 0.011 mg/l (Chronic Criteria) to be toxic to aquatic organisms. The previous permit excluded discharges of potable water that contained detectable levels of chlorine more than 0.1 mg/l, which was based on the Minimum Quantification Level for TRC. The MQL for TRC has since been revised to 0.033 mg/l in accordance with the EPA Memo, "Region 6 Minimum Quantification Level Guidance" dated February 8, 2008. Part 1.2.2.12 has been changed to state that this permit does not cover discharges of water containing detectable levels of chlorine, and a limit has been included in Part 2 for TRC. A TRC level of 0.1

mg/l cannot be continued in the renewal permit because that would allow for discharges of TRC in amounts that are toxic to aquatic life, according to the National Recommended Water Quality Criteria (EPA, 2009). Therefore, the Department has included updated TRC requirements in the permit to comply with APCEC Reg. 2.409, which forbids the discharge of toxic pollutants in amounts which are toxic.

The effluent limitation for TRC is the instantaneous maximum and cannot be averaged for reporting purposes. TRC shall be measured within fifteen minutes of sampling. To demonstrate compliance with the TRC limit, the permittee must determine the effluent concentration by using any EPA approved test method established in 40 CFR Part 136 capable of meeting a detection level of 0.033 or lower. If TRC is not detected at the required detection level (i.e., lab result is “ND”), the permittee may report a value of “0”, thereby demonstrating compliance with the limit of 0.011 mg/l. Please note that if the required detection level is not met, TRC must be reported at the detection level achieved.

<u>Effluent Characteristics</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>		<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	Concentration (mg/l, unless otherwise specified)		Frequency	Sample Type
	Monthly Avg.	Daily Max		
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)	N/A	0.011 (Inst. Max.)	Once Per Continuous Discharge	Grab

1.7.3 Basis for Permit Limits

Parameter	Water Quality or Technology	Justification
TOC	Technology	EPA Region VI storm water guidance document, Louisiana hydrostatic testing and groundwater remediation general permits, 40 CFR 122.44(l), previous permit
TSS	Technology	40 CFR 122.44(l), and previous permit
O&G	Water Quality	Reg. 2.510, CWA §402(o), and previous permit
Total BTEX	Technology	ARG790000, 40 CFR 122.44(l), and previous permit
Benzene	Technology	40 CFR 122.44(l), previous permit
TRC	Water Quality	Regs. 2.409 and 2.508.
pH	Water Quality	Reg. 2.504, CWA §402(o), and previous permit

1.7.4 Monitoring

The monitoring requirements for all pollutants except flow have been set as grab samples.

The grab sample should reflect the worst case scenario of the discharge. Either the First In, Last Out method or the First In, First out method should be used for filling and discharging the hydrostatic test water from the pipeline segment(s) being tested. If the First In, Last Out method is used, the grab sample should be taken at the end of each batch discharge. If the First In, First Out method is used, the grab sample should be taken at the beginning of each batch discharge.

1.8 Other Conditions

1.8.1 Covered Facilities

The general permit, when issued, will authorize discharges hydrostatic testing wastewater to receiving waters throughout the State of Arkansas. The permit will be applicable only to facilities which have discharges to Waters of the State as defined in 40 CFR 122.2 and are therefore subject to the requirements of Sections 301 and 402 of the Clean Water Act.

1.8.2 Timing of Request

All deadlines for requests to be covered under the general permit were designed in accordance with 40 CFR 122.28 (b) (2).

1.8.3 Expiration Date

In accordance with 40 CFR 122.46 (a), the general permit will expire 5 years from the effective date of the permit.

1.8.4 Standard Conditions

The conditions applicable to all NPDES permits under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.41 have been included in this general permit, as appropriate.

1.9 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

Each permittee shall be responsible for submitting monitoring information in accordance with Part 5.5 of the permit. The sampling frequency has been set at once per discharge. The Department considers this frequency to be adequate in order to make sure that the discharge will meet the limits set by the permit.

1.10 Public Notice

The public notice describes the procedures for the formulation of the draft decision and shall provide for a public comment period of 30 days. During this period, any interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit and may request a public hearing to clarify issues involved in the permitting decision.

The public comment period began on the date of publication, June 21, 2017, and ended on July 21, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

1.11 Economic Impact

This permit does not place any additional undue burden on any private business entity, large or small. It does not restrict any opportunities that are available to any small businesses. The inspection and control requirements are set at a level to protect water quality while minimizing the resources required for compliance.

The permit fee of \$200 is allowed by Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Regulation No. 9.

There may be minimal additional cost to obtain a Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State of any State other than Arkansas.

1.12 Sources

- 1.12.1** 40 CFR 122
- 1.12.2** 40 CFR 124
- 1.12.3** 40 CFR 127
- 1.12.4** 40 CFR 136
- 1.12.5** APCEC Reg. No. 2
- 1.12.6** APCEC Reg. No. 6
- 1.12.7** APCEC Reg. No. 8
- 1.12.8** APCEC Reg. No. 9
- 1.12.9** ARG670000 existing permit
- 1.12.10** Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-203(m)
- 1.12.11** Clean Water Act
- 1.12.12** Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs)
- 1.12.13** EPA. 1986. Quality Criteria for Water 1986. EPA 440/5-86-001

1.13 Contact Information

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