



**City of Santa Barbara**  
Airport Department

**DATE:** August 19, 2015  
**TO:** Airport Commission  
**FROM:** Hazel Johns, Airport Director  
**SUBJECT:** Industrial Stormwater Discharges

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Airport Commission receive a staff presentation regarding the new General Industrial Stormwater Discharge Permit.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1997, the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued the first General Industrial Stormwater Discharge Permit for facilities engaged in industrial activities in California. Transportation facilities, including airports, are specifically identified as industrial facilities by the permit, due to the operation of maintenance facilities, equipment cleaning and deicing. The Airport and tenants performing industrial activities at the Airport are subject to the conditions of the permit.

The permit established conditions to protect the quality of stormwater leaving an industrial facility and a general framework for compliance. Industrial dischargers were required to provide a "Notice of Intent" to operate under the general permit, and to develop a stormwater pollution prevention plan as a means to comply with the conditions of the permit. The Airport has been operating under the initial general permit since 1997.

In April 2014, the SWRCB adopted a new General Industrial Stormwater Discharge Permit, which supersedes the 1997 permit. The new permit took effect July 1, 2015.

**DISCUSSION:**

Process/Implementation

Airport developed compliance documents based on a template developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association and master tenant input to comply with the terms of the new permit. Tenants have the option to comply with the permit by operating under the terms of the Airport's plan or seek permit coverage individually.

Airport staff performs facility inspections, samples discharges, works with tenants on pollution prevention and compliance issues, and prepares required reports to SWRCB.

#### Permit Requirements

The Permit requires development of a site specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that includes a site map, identification of potential pollutants and sources, and development and implementation of best management practices. Best management practices must be Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT) and Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT).

Facilities are required to monitor performance by conducting monthly visual inspections and sample four qualifying storm events annually. Results of sampling must be measured against benchmarks established in the Permit. In cases where sample results exceed benchmarks, the Permit establishes a required response protocol to improve pollution prevention practices and improve the quality of the stormwater discharges.

The Airport's plans, sample results, exceedance response actions, and reports will be filed electronically and posted on the State Water Resources Control Board, Storm Water Multiple Application and Report Tracking System website, known as SMARTS, where the records will be available for public review.