

**TITLE 252. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHAPTER 606. OKLAHOMA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
(OPDES) STANDARDS**

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 1. Introduction
252:606-1-3 [AMENDED]
252:606-1-4 [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

The gist of this proposed rule and the underlying reason for the rulemaking is to ensure the Oklahoma Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (OPDES) is in compliance with the Department's delegation agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and to ensure Oklahoma retains responsibility for administering the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program in Oklahoma. The Department proposes to update its rules concerning the date of the incorporation by reference for the Code of Federal Regulations from July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2018. The most significant federal regulation updates being incorporated include a rule that modifies the approved testing requirements for analysis and sampling under the Clean Water Act; a rule that sets February 6, 2020 as the applicability date of the new "Waters of the United States" definition; and an updated rule that establishes two alternative procedural approaches a permitting authority can use to issue NPDES general permits for small MS4s in order to ensure that the discharge of pollutants is reduced to the "maximum extent practicable." This update also included changes in the names of 40 CFR Parts 122.33-35.

AUTHORITY:

Environmental Quality Board, 27A O.S. § 2-2-101; Water Quality Management Advisory Council, 27A O.S. § 2-2-201; and 27A O.S. §§ 2-6-103, 2-6-303 and 2-6-306.

COMMENT PERIOD:

Written comments may be submitted to the contact person from August 15, 2018, through September 15, 2018.

Oral comments may be made at the Water Quality Management Advisory Council meeting on September 25, 2018, and at the Environmental Quality Board meeting on November 9, 2018.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Before the Water Quality Management Advisory Council on September 25, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room on the first floor of the Department of Environmental Quality, 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102.

Before the Environmental Quality Board on November 9, 2018 at the Dominion House, 602 E. College Avenue, Guthrie, OK 73044.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

The DEQ requests that business entities affected by the proposed rules provide to DEQ (during the comment period) the increase (in dollar amounts if possible) in the level of direct costs (e.g., fees) and indirect costs (e.g., reporting, record keeping, equipment, construction, labor, professional services, revenue loss), or other costs expected to be incurred due to compliance with the proposed rules.

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained from the contact person, reviewed at the Department of Environmental Quality, 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, during normal business hours (8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday) or reviewed online at <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/wqdnew/index.htm>.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

Copies of the rule impact statement may be obtained from the contact person or may be reviewed online at <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/wqdnew/index.htm>.

CONTACT PERSON:

The contact person is Mark Hildebrand. Mark may be contacted at: Mark.Hildebrand@deq.ok.gov (e-mail), (405) 702-8100 (phone) or (405) 702-8101 (fax). The DEQ is located at 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102. The DEQ's mailing address is P.O. Box 1677, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-1677.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Persons with disabilities who desire to attend the rulemaking hearing and need an accommodation should notify the contact person three (3) days in advance of the hearing. For hearing impaired, the TDD relay number is 1-800-522-8506 or 1-800-722-0353, for TDD machine use only.