



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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Mike Braun
Governor

Clint Woods
Commissioner

Re: Request for Feedback on Construction Stormwater General Permit Renewal

To Whom it May Concern:

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) administers the construction stormwater program through issuance of permit coverage under Indiana's Construction Stormwater General Permit (CSGP). The CSGP is a performance-based regulation designed to reduce pollutants that are associated with construction and/or land-disturbing activities. The requirements of the CSGP apply to all persons who are involved in construction activity (which includes clearing, grading, excavation, and other land-disturbing activities) that results in the disturbance of one (1) acre or more of total land area or if the land-disturbing activity results in the disturbance of less than one (1) acre of total land area but is part of a larger common plan of development or sale.

IDEM is seeking feedback on the renewal of the CSGP. Once finalized this permit will replace the current CSGP which was effective on December 18, 2021, and expires on December 17, 2026. With the renewal, IDEM is updating elements of the CSGP. The draft renewed permit language includes clarifications, reorganized requirements, and several changes designed to improve consistency, protect water quality, and simplify the permit process.

Prior to releasing the final draft CSGP for formal Public Notice, IDEM is releasing this pre-notice draft version of the proposed CSGP. Feedback on this draft will be accepted until **October 9, 2026**. Please direct feedback to the Stormwater Program as follows:

- (1) Written feedback must be submitted to the Stormwater Program email account at Stormwat@idem.IN.gov. The email "Subject Line" should include "CSGP Permit Review".
- (2) Provide feedback including alternative language if you propose changes. Feedback should reference the Section, Subsection, etc. and location in the CSGP including the page number.

IDEM will take the feedback into consideration and edit this initial draft prior to issuing the formal Public Notice and Comment Period.

IDEM is interested in receiving input on key changes for consideration while finalizing the draft CSGP. IDEM utilized track changes to draw attention to differences from the current version of the CSGP. Notes have also been made next to more significant changes and areas where we are seeking input.

Visit on.IN.gov/survey or scan the QR code to provide feedback.

We appreciate your input!



This summary highlights the key proposed changes.

Clarified Requirements for When a Permit Is Needed

- Clearer definitions of land-disturbing activities that require permit coverage, especially for multi-lot developments, off-site work areas, utilities, and single-family home sites.
- Updated Appendix A to help users more easily determine if their project triggers the need for permit coverage.

Improvements to Performance Standards

- IDEM is seeking input whether the CSGP stabilization requirements for idle, unvegetated areas (3.4) should remain consistent with the current CSGP requirements (seven days and be fully completed within 14 days) or modified to include separate criteria for discharges to impaired waters aligning more closely with U.S. EPA guidance.

Natural Buffer Preservation (Appendix B)

- Buffer preservation now applies specifically to natural buffers adjacent to Waters of the United States
- Incorporates language developed as guidance under the current CSGP (2021-2026) to provide clear examples of where buffers must be preserved and under what conditions partial preservation is allowed.
 - Identifies exclusions such as utility crossings, road crossings, water-dependent structures, and cases where preservation is infeasible.

Streamlined Plan Review and Submission

- Updated review deadlines to align MS4 and IDEM expectations with Indiana Code. Removes the 28-day review period in the 2021 CSGP for IDEM.

Updates to Evaluations and Monitoring under the Self-monitoring Program (SMP). IDEM is seeking input on two possible SMP standards:

- First Option – Statewide Standard: One to two evaluations per week depending on rainfall. Similar to current requirements but with reduced maximum frequency.
- Second Option – EPA-Aligned Standard: At least one evaluation per week regardless of precipitation. Additional evaluations required for projects discharging to impaired or TMDL waters.

Removal of Post-Construction Requirements

- Post-construction standards are removed from the permit to align with U.S. EPA Construction General Permit requirements.
- MS4 communities may continue administering post-construction programs under their separate authority and as required by the U.S. EPA.

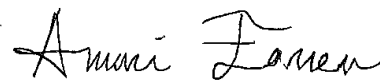
Organizational and Clarity Improvements

- Sections reorganized to improve readability and ease of use. Several items moved to more appropriate locations (e.g., NOI public notification moved to Section 5 and key elements related to residential building moved from Appendix A to appropriate locations in Section 3).
- Redundant text removed or consolidated throughout Sections 3, 4, and Appendices.
- Changes made to improve clarification related to the requirements of House Enrolled Act 1037.

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- (2) Provide feedback including alternative language if you propose changes. Feedback should reference the Section, Subsection, etc. and location in the CSGP including the page number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amari Farren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amari" and last name "Farren" clearly distinguishable.

Amari Farren, Branch Chief
Surface Water and Operations
Office of Water Quality

cc: Randy Braun, Section Chief Stormwater Programs