



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
LANSING



February 17, 2011

Dear Permittee:

SUBJECT: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permits

A meeting was held on December 20, 2010, to discuss the Department of Natural Resources and Environment's (DNRE) action to withdraw the 2008 MS4 general permits, and the impact this action would have on MS4 permittees. All MS4 permittees were invited to that meeting.

In response to the questions asked during the meeting, and subsequent questions received by the DNRE, a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document has been developed and is posted on the DNRE's web site (www.michigan.gov/dnre). On the left side of that web page, click on "Water," then "Surface Water," and then "Storm Water." In the middle of that screen under the "Information" heading you'll see the MS4 FAQ document. You will also see a "Contact Information" link under the "Information" heading (clicking on this link will provide you access to a list of the district municipal storm water compliance staff for the DNRE, Water Resources Division [WRD]).

Because you contested the 2008 MS4 general permits, your permit responsibilities under the 2003 MS4 general permits were not impacted by the decision to withdraw these permits. Therefore, many of the issues addressed in the FAQ will not apply to you. The FAQ may contain items of interest such as answers to questions about how the DNRE intends to move forward with new permits.

You are required to comply with the requirements of your 2003 MS4 general permit coverage until new permits are issued. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Identify all discharge points in your MS4, including MS4 to MS4 connections.
- Conduct an illicit discharge elimination program that monitors all discharge points, including MS4 to MS4 points, every 5-years. In accordance with the 2003 MS4 general permits, an alternative schedule or approach may be approved by the DNRE.
- Develop, implement, and enforce a program to address postconstruction storm water runoff in areas of new development or significant redevelopment.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the FAQ, please contact the WRD's compliance staff (directions to identify the appropriate staff were included in the second paragraph of this letter).

Sincerely,

William Creal, Chief
Water Resources Division

cc: District Compliance Staff