

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION  
SYSTEM (WPDES) GENERAL PERMIT FOR TRANSPORTATION SEPARATE STORM SEWER  
SYSTEM, PERMIT NO. WI-S066800-1

**Permittee:** The WPDES general permit proposed for issuance applies to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT).

**Permitted Activity:** Storm water discharges to waters of the state from the transportation separate storm sewer system (TS4) that is owned, operated, and maintained by the DOT, located throughout Wisconsin.

**Receiving Waters and Locations:** The WPDES general permit proposed for issuance applies to storm water discharges to waters of the state throughout Wisconsin.

**Department of Natural Resources Determination:** The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has made a preliminary determination to issue WPDES Permit No. WI-S066800-1. Requirements and conditions to protect the waters of the state in accordance with applicable state statutes and administrative codes are included in the proposed general permit.

**Nature of Discharges Covered by the Permit:** The proposed general permit contains the requirements set forth under ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code, and the developed urban area performance standard specified in NR 151, Wis. Adm. Code. The proposed general permit applies to discharges to waters of the state throughout the state of Wisconsin.

**WEPA Compliance Determination under s. NR 150.35(2), Wis. Adm. Code:** Issuance of the transportation separate storm sewer system general permit ("TS4 general permit") is a prior compliance action under s. NR 150.20(3)(a)8., Wis. Adm. Code.

**Summary of the Proposed TS4 General Permit:** Under section 283.35, Wis. Stats., the DNR is authorized to issue general permits for groups of facilities or activities with similar discharge characteristics when no special circumstances warrant individual, site-specific permits. The proposed TS4 general permit is intended to eliminate significant environmental impacts of storm water discharges from the TS4 that is owned, operated, and maintained by the DOT and located within the boundaries of a municipality covered under a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit issued by the DNR pursuant to ss. NR 216.02 or 216.025, Wis. Adm. Code. The TS4 general permit program minimizes paperwork for the permittee as well as the DNR. However, pursuant to section 283.35(3), Wis. Stats., if the DNR determines it is necessary or appropriate to withhold or withdraw a part of the TS4 from coverage under the general permit, it may do so.

Under section 283.33, Wis. Stat., the DNR is authorized to regulate storm water discharges and issue storm water discharge permits. Under 2015 Wisconsin Act 307, chs. 30 and 283, Wis. Stat., were amended to remove the exemption from permitting storm water discharges associated with the TS4 that is owned, operated, and maintained by the DOT. Accordingly, the DOT storm water discharges to waters of the state from the TS4 that is owned, operated, and maintained by the DOT require coverage under a WPDES storm water discharge permit. The proposed TS4 general permit contains the requirements set forth under ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code. Chapter NR 216 regulates how storm water associated with the TS4 can be discharged so that waters of the state will be protected. The TS4 general permit proposed for issuance is as follows:

**WPDES General Permit for Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System (Permit No. WI-S066800-1) –**  
The TS4 general permit is for storm water discharges from the TS4 to waters of the state. The TS4 general permit requires the DOT to reduce pollutants that discharge through its TS4 to waters of the state via the development, implementation, and maintenance of programs for public education and outreach, public

involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site pollutant control, post-construction pollutant control, pollution prevention at its transportation operations, and meeting the developed urban area performance standard under NR 151, Wis. Adm. Code. In addition, the TS4 general permit requires the development and updating of a storm sewer system map and an annual report to the DNR. Furthermore, the proposed TS4 general permit specifies the implementation requirements to begin complying with an approved Total Maximum Daily Load, if applicable.

**Permit Drafters:** Jim Bertolacini – WT/3, Wisconsin DNR, 101 S. Webster St., P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921; (608) 264-8971; [jim.bertolacini@wisconsin.gov](mailto:jim.bertolacini@wisconsin.gov) and Suzan Limberg – WT/3, Wisconsin DNR, 101 S. Webster St., P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921; (608) 266-9278; [suzan.limberg@wisconsin.gov](mailto:suzan.limberg@wisconsin.gov)

**Submitting Comments:** Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed TS4 general permit may direct comments by email to [DNRSWPERMITS@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRSWPERMITS@wisconsin.gov) or in writing to Storm Water Program, c/o Suzan Limberg WT/3, Wisconsin DNR, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921. All comments or suggestions received by 5:00 p.m. Monday, June 4, 2018, will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the TS4 general permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the DNR's final decision when the TS4 general permit is issued.

**Public Hearing:** The DNR has scheduled a public hearing on May 24, 2018, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in Room G09 at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 101 S. Webster St., Madison, Wisconsin.

**Access to Information:** Information on file for this permit action, including the draft TS4 general permit and fact sheet, may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to the office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling or e-mailing the permit drafter or by writing to the DNR. Reasonable costs (usually 20 cents per page) will be charged for copies of information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the DNR's website at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

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**Date Notice Issued:** May 4, 2018