

**PAG-04**

**APPROVAL OF COVERAGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
GENERAL PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES FROM
SMALL FLOW TREATMENT FACILITIES (SFTFs)**

NPDES PERMIT NO: PAG041471

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.* (the Act) and Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law, *as amended*, 35 P.S. §§ 691.1 *et seq.* (Clean Streams Law),

**Beth Carlson
480 McCullough Road
Sharpsville, PA 16150-3326**

is authorized to discharge from a facility known as the **Beth Carlson SRSTP**, located in **Jefferson Township, Mercer**, to **Daley Run (WWF)** in Watershed(s) **20-A** in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts A, B and C herein.

APPROVAL OF COVERAGE TO DISCHARGE UNDER THIS GENERAL NPDES PERMIT IS AUTHORIZED BEGINNING ON _____ AND WILL EXPIRE ON NOVEMBER 11, 2028. WHEN THE GENERAL PERMIT IS RENEWED, REISSUED OR AMENDED, THE PERMITTEE MUST 1) COMPLY WITH THE FINAL RENEWED, REISSUED OR AMENDED GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE FACILITY OR ACTIVITY COVERED BY THE APPROVAL OF COVERAGE, OR 2) APPLY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL PERMIT CONSISTENT WITH THE CONDITIONS OF THIS GENERAL PERMIT, OR 3) SUBMIT A NOTICE OF TERMINATION CONSISTENT WITH THE CONDITIONS OF THIS GENERAL PERMIT.

The authority granted by coverage under the PAG-04 NPDES General Permit (General Permit) is subject to the following further qualifications:

1. The permittee shall comply with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements contained in Part A I.A.
2. Submission of a Notice of Intent (NOI) is not required for renewal of coverage under this General Permit unless notified in writing by the Department. The Department may reauthorize coverage under the renewed, reissued or amended General Permit without the receipt of an NOI for existing permittees. The permittee shall be responsible for complying with the final renewed, reissued or amended General Permit. If the permittee is unable to comply with the renewed, reissued or amended General Permit, the permittee must submit an application for an individual NPDES permit within 90 days of the final General Permit publication.
3. If the permittee believes a conflict exists between the requirements in the NOI or its supporting documents and the terms and conditions of the General Permit, the permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of the General Permit.
4. Failure to comply with the terms, conditions, or effluent limitations of this General Permit is grounds for enforcement action, or for termination or revocation of coverage under this General Permit.
5. This General Permit does not constitute authorization to construct or make modifications to small flow treatment facilities necessary to meet the terms and conditions of this General Permit.

The aforementioned approval is authorized by:

**Justin C. Dickey, P.E.
Environmental Program Manager
Northwest Regional Office
Department of Environmental Protection**



PAG-04

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
GENERAL PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES FROM
SMALL FLOW TREATMENT FACILITIES (SFTFs)

In compliance with the provisions of the Act and the Clean Streams Law, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) hereby authorizes, subject to the terms and conditions contained in this General Permit, the discharge of treated sewage effluent from small flow treatment facilities (SFTFs) to surface waters of the Commonwealth. This General Permit authorizes discharges to surface waters in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts A, B and C herein.

New eligible dischargers who wish to be covered under this General Permit must submit an NOI to DEP in accordance with the requirements of this General Permit, using the NOI form provided by DEP.

NOIs submitted to DEP must include the appropriate NOI fee. The fee for Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plants (SRSTP) is \$100. The NOI fee for all SFTFs that are not SRSTPs is \$200.

No new discharge may be commenced under the PAG-04 General Permit until the applicant demonstrates compliance with and/or completes all of the following:

1. DEP has issued planning approval to the municipality, or an exemption to the requirement for planning applies, for the property on which the SFTF discharge is proposed pursuant to the Sewage Facilities Act, 35 P.S. § 750.1, et seq., as amended (Act 537), and regulations promulgated thereto, to be suitable for an SFTF discharge.
2. The proposed SFTF has complied with the planning requirements of the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act including the requirements of 25 Pa. Code § 71.64
3. The applicant has obtained a Water Quality Management (WQM) Permit for the SFTF that will employ one or more of the following technologies:
 - a. Technologies that have been evaluated by DEP's Bureau of Clean Water and have been determined to be capable of achieving the effluent limitations contained in Part A of this General Permit. These generic treatment technologies must follow the treatment sequence of a treatment tank(s), filtration, and disinfection. Treatment tanks may be either septic tanks or aerobic tanks. Filtration includes subsurface sand filters, recirculating subsurface sand filters, or accessible sand filters. Disinfection includes tablet chlorination with a chlorine contact tank or ultraviolet (UV) disinfection.
 - b. Proprietary Technologies that have been evaluated by DEP's Bureau of Clean Water and have been determined to be capable of achieving the effluent limitations contained in Part A of this General Permit, when used in conjunction with disinfection (tablet chlorination with a chlorine contact tank or UV disinfection). Technologies that have been evaluated as of the date of permit issuance are listed in DEP's Small Flow Treatment Facilities Manual.
4. The applicant has submitted a complete PAG-04 NOI (3800-PM-BCW0093b) and DEP has approved coverage to discharge under the PAG-04 General Permit.

DEP may deny coverage under this General Permit and require submittal of an application for an individual NPDES permit based on a review of the NOI or other information in accordance with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.54.

Scope

The PAG-04 General Permit is intended to provide NPDES permit coverage to existing and proposed SFTFs. SFTFs are treatment works designed to adequately treat sewage flows of not greater than 2,000 gallons per day for discharge to surface waters. The General Permit may not be used to cover other types of treatment facilities including those that process industrial wastes.

NOI REQUIREMENTS

Deadlines for NOI

Persons seeking coverage under the PAG-04 General Permit must submit an administratively complete and acceptable NOI at least 180 days prior to commencing any new discharge. Persons authorized to discharge from an SFTF under an individual NPDES permit who are seeking coverage under this General Permit may continue to discharge in accordance with the individual permit while their NOI and associated documents are being reviewed by DEP.

Contents of the NOI

The applicant must submit the information and attachments required by the General Permit and the NOI form provided by DEP and shall properly sign the NOI in accordance with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.22 (relating to signatories to permit applications and reports) and 40 CFR § 122.22.

Where to Submit the NOI

The NOI shall be submitted to the DEP regional office that has jurisdiction over the county where the facility is located (visit www.dep.pa.gov and select "Regional Resources").

DISCHARGES NOT AUTHORIZED BY THIS GENERAL PERMIT

Discharges from SFTFs are not authorized under this General Permit, and DEP may deny coverage under this General Permit, when one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. The discharge, individually or in combination with other similar discharges, is or has the potential to be a contributor of pollution, as defined in the Clean Streams Law, which is more appropriately controlled under an individual permit. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(1))
2. The discharger is not, or will not be, in compliance with any one or more of the conditions of this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(2))
3. The applicant has failed and continues to fail to comply or has shown a lack of ability or intention to comply with a regulation, permit, schedule of compliance or order issued by DEP. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(3))
4. The discharge contains pollutants for which a change has occurred in the availability of demonstrated technology or practices for the control or abatement of the pollutants. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(4))
5. Categorical point source effluent limitations are promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for those point sources covered by this General Permit where such limitations are not incorporated into this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(5))
6. The discharge is not, or will not, result in compliance with an applicable effluent limitation or water quality standard. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(6))
7. The discharge is from a facility for which an individual permit is required for other point source discharges, and issuance of both an individual permit and authorization for coverage under this General Permit for the facility would constitute an undue administrative burden on DEP. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(7))
8. Any discharge that DEP determines requires an individual NPDES permit to ensure compliance with the Act, the Clean Streams Law or DEP regulations. 25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(8)
9. The discharge is to a surface water classified as High Quality (HQ) or Exceptional Value (EV) Waters under 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 (relating to Water Quality Standards). (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(e)(9))
10. The discharge contains toxic or hazardous pollutants as defined in sections 307 and 311 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1317 and 1321), or any other substance which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or morbidity in either an individual or the total population, or pose a substantial present or future hazard to human health or the environment when discharged into surface waters. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(a)(5))

11. The discharge individually or cumulatively has the potential to cause or contribute to a violation of an applicable water quality standard established under 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 (relating to water quality standards) or cause significant adverse environmental impact. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.54(a)(7))
12. The discharge would adversely affect a listed endangered or threatened species or its critical habitat. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.12(c))
13. The discharge is covered by an individual permit when coverage under the General Permit would result in less stringent effluent limitations or terms and conditions.
14. The discharge is from a facility that has not obtained DEP planning approval under Act 537 and/or does not comply with 25 Pa. Code § 71.64.
15. The discharge would interfere with a downstream riparian landowner's reasonable use of surface waters, property rights, or otherwise cause a private or public nuisance or trespass.

THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY THIS GENERAL PERMIT IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. DEP may require a permittee with discharge(s) authorized by this General Permit to apply for and obtain an individual permit by notifying the permittee in writing that an individual permit application is required. If the discharge is to surface waters subject to an EPA-approved TMDL, DEP will require an individual permit for the discharge if DEP determines that coverage under this General Permit will not be consistent with the TMDL. Any interested person may petition DEP to take action under this paragraph.

DEP's notice will include the following:

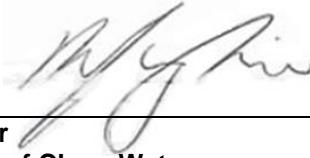
- A brief statement of the reason(s) for this decision;
- An individual permit application form;
- A deadline for the owner or operator to submit the application; and
- A statement that upon the effective date of the individual permit, coverage under this General Permit shall automatically terminate.

2. Any person authorized to discharge by this General Permit may request to be excluded from the coverage under this General Permit by applying for an individual permit.
3. This General Permit does not authorize the discharge of any waste streams other than treated sewage from SFTFs.
4. When DEP issues an individual NPDES permit to a person whose discharge is covered by this General Permit, the applicability of this General Permit is automatically terminated upon the effective date of the individual permit. When DEP denies an individual permit to a person whose discharge(s) is covered by this General Permit, the person may continue discharging if all eligibility requirements under this General Permit are met, or shall cease discharging if DEP advises that such requirements are not met.
5. This General Permit will expire on the date specified below. If DEP modifies this General Permit during its current term, a permittee with approved coverage under this General Permit may continue to discharge in accordance with the terms and conditions of the modified General Permit. If DEP reissues this General Permit, a permittee with approved coverage under this General Permit shall submit an NOI to continue coverage under the reissued General Permit.
6. To modify or reissue this General Permit, DEP will publish a notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* of a draft General Permit and provide a 30-day public comment period. After the comment period, DEP will publish notice of the final modified or reissued General Permit in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. The permittee shall comply with the final modified or reissued General Permit. If the permittee is unable to comply with the modified or reissued General Permit, the permittee shall submit an application for an individual permit within 90 days of publication of the final General Permit or terminate the discharge.

7. If a discharge approved for coverage under this General Permit subsequently exhibits a condition that renders the discharge ineligible for coverage (see "Discharges Not Authorized by this General Permit", above), the permittee promptly shall take action to restore eligibility, to notify DEP in writing of the condition, and, if eligibility cannot be restored, to submit an individual NPDES permit application to DEP. DEP may revoke coverage under this General Permit if potential or actual adverse impacts to water quality occur.
8. No condition of this General Permit shall release the permittee from any responsibility or requirements under other federal or Pennsylvania environmental statutes or regulations or local ordinances.

General Permit
(PAG-04) Issued

By



Director
Bureau of Clean Water

Effective November 12, 2023

Expires November 11, 2028

PART A**EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS, MONITORING, RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS****I. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

A. The following effluent limitations and monitoring requirements are applicable to discharges from SFTFs.

Parameter	Concentration Limitations		Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average	IMAX	Minimum Measurement Frequency ⁽¹⁾	Required Sample Type
Flow (GPD)	Report	Report	Upon Request	Estimated ⁽³⁾
CBOD ₅ (mg/l)	10	20	Upon Request	Grab
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) (mg/l)	10	20	Upon Request	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) (mg/l) ⁽²⁾	Report	Report	1/month	Grab
pH (S.U.)	Between 6.0 and 9.0 at all times		Upon Request	Grab
Fecal Coliform (No./100 mL)	200 Geo Mean	XXX	Upon Request	Grab

Footnotes:

- (1) This is the minimum number of sampling events required. Permittees are encouraged, and it may be advantageous in demonstrating compliance, to perform more than the minimum number of sampling events.
- (2) TRC must be measured monthly and reported on the AMR if chlorine is used for disinfection and if there is effluent flow. If ultraviolet (UV) disinfection is used, analysis for TRC is not required and the AMR must identify UV maintenance that is performed.
- (3) The permittee shall estimate flow, upon request, using any method of liquid volume measurement based on a technical evaluation of the sources contributing to the discharge including, but not limited to, pump capabilities, water meters and batch discharge volumes.

B. Additional Requirements

1. The permittee may not discharge:
 - a. Floating solids, scum, sheen or substances that result in observed deposits in the receiving water. (25 Pa Code § 92a.41(c))
 - b. Oil and grease in amounts that cause a film or sheen upon or discoloration of the waters of this Commonwealth or adjoining shoreline, or that exceed 15 mg/l as a daily average or 30 mg/l at any time (or lesser amounts if specified in this permit). (25 Pa. Code § 92a.47(a)(7), § 95.2(2))
 - c. Substances in concentration or amounts sufficient to be inimical or harmful to the water uses to be protected or to human, animal, plant or aquatic life. (25 Pa Code § 93.6(a))
 - d. Foam or substances that produce an observed change in the color, taste, odor or turbidity of the receiving water, unless those conditions are otherwise controlled through effluent limitations or other requirements in this permit. For the purpose of determining compliance with this condition, DEP will compare conditions in the receiving water upstream of the discharge to conditions in the receiving water approximately 100 feet downstream of the discharge to determine if there is an observable change in the receiving water. (25 Pa Code § 92a.41(c))
2. Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge pipe after disinfection.

II. DEFINITIONS

Annual Maintenance Report (AMR) (3800-PM-BCW0093e) means the form used by SFTF permittees to report the results of self-monitoring, maintenance, and inspections reporting of self-monitoring results by the permittee and inspection and maintenance performed by the service provider.

Average refers to the use of an arithmetic mean, unless otherwise specified in this General Permit. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(l\)\(4\)\(iii\)](#))

Bypass means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(m\)\(1\)\(i\)](#))

Daily Discharge means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably and accurately represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day. ([25 Pa. Code § 92a.2](#))

Geometric Mean (Geo Mean) means the average of a set of n sample results given by the nth root of their product.

Grab Sample means an individual sample of at least 100 mL collected at a randomly selected time over a period not to exceed 15 minutes.

Impaired Waters means surface waters that fail to attain one or more of its designated uses under 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 and as listed in Categories 4 and 5 of Pennsylvania's Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report.

Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation means the highest allowable discharge of a concentration or mass of a substance at any one time as measured by a grab sample. ([25 Pa. Code § 92a.2](#))

Monthly Average Discharge Limitation (Monthly Average) means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. ([25 Pa. Code § 92a.2](#))

Notice of Intent or NOI means a complete and accurate form submitted for NPDES general permit coverage which contains information required by the terms of the permit and by § 92a.54 (relating to general permits).

Person means any individual, public or private corporation, partnership, association, municipality or political subdivision of this Commonwealth, institution, authority, firm, trust, estate, receiver, guardian, personal representative, successor, joint venture, joint stock company, fiduciary; department, agency or instrumentality of State, Federal or local government, or an agent or employee thereof; or any other legal entity. ([25 Pa. Code § 92a.2](#))

Proprietary System means a proprietary system of treatment technologies or components thereof that are manufactured, supplied and supported by a company.

Service Provider means an individual who is capable of satisfactorily completing the operation and maintenance (O&M) of a small flow treatment facility. The individual must be able to maintain the facility in an operable condition, compliant with the NPDES permit. The permittee may not be a service provider unless the permittee is a certified wastewater system operator under DEP's regulations at 25 Pa. Code Chapter 302 or has been trained on the O&M of their specific SFTF system. For Proprietary Systems that have received coverage under this General Permit for the first time following the effective date of this General Permit, the service provider must be certified by the system manufacturer to provide O&M.

Severe Property Damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities that causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(m\)\(1\)\(ii\)](#))

Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plant (SRSTP) means an SFTF that is a system of piping, tanks or other facilities serving a single-family residence located on a single family residential lot, that solely collects, treats, and disposes of direct or indirect sewage discharges from the residence into surface waters. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Small Flow Treatment Facility (SFTF) means a treatment works designed to adequately treat sewage flows not greater than 2,000 gallons per day for final disposal using a stream discharge or other methods approved by DEP. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Stormwater means runoff from precipitation, snowmelt runoff and surface runoff and drainage. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Surface Waters means perennial and intermittent streams, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, wetlands, springs, natural seeps and estuaries, excluding water at facilities approved for wastewater treatment such as wastewater treatment impoundments, cooling water ponds and constructed wetlands used as part of a wastewater treatment process. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) means the sum of individual waste load allocations for point sources, load allocations for nonpoint sources and natural quality and a margin of safety expressed in terms of mass per time, toxicity or other appropriate measures. (25 Pa. Code § 96.1)

Wasteload Allocation (WLA) means the portion of a surface water's loading capacity that is allocated to existing and future point source discharges. (25 Pa. Code § 96.1)

Toxic Pollutant means those pollutants, or combinations of pollutants, including disease-causing agents, which after discharge and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains, may, on the basis of information available to DEP cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions, including malfunctions in reproduction, or physical deformations in these organisms or their offspring. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

III. SELF-MONITORING, REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING

A. Representative Sampling and Recordkeeping.

1. The permittee shall take representative samples and measurements to monitor compliance with this permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(e) and 40 CFR § 122.41(j)(1))
2. Records Retention. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(f)(2) and 40 CFR § 122.41(j)(2))

The permittee shall retain all records of monitoring activities and results, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit for three years from the date of the sample measurement, report or application, unless a longer retention period is required by the permit. The permittee shall retain records beyond the 3-year period as requested by DEP or the EPA Regional Administrator.

3. Recording of Results. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(f)(1) and 40 CFR § 122.41(j)(3))

For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the requirements of this permit, the permittee shall record the following information:

- a. The exact place, date and time of sampling or measurements.
- b. The person(s) who performed the sampling or measurements.
- c. The date(s) the analyses were performed.
- d. The person(s) who performed the analyses.
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and the associated detection level.
- f. The results of such analyses.

4. Test Procedures.

- a. The permittee shall use facilities in compliance with laboratory accreditation requirements of The Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act (27 Pa. C.S. §§ 4101-4113) and 25 Pa. Code Chapter 252 (relating to environmental laboratory accreditation) to test or analyze samples used to demonstrate compliance with this permit. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.61(b))
- b. Test procedures (methods) for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters shall be those approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapters N or O, unless the method is specified in this permit or has been otherwise approved in writing by DEP. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.44 and 40 CFR §§ 122.41(j)(4), 122.44(i)(1)(iv))
- c. Test procedures (methods) for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters shall be sufficiently sensitive. A method is sufficiently sensitive when 1) the method quantitation limit is at or below the level of the effluent limit established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 2) the method has the lowest quantitation limit of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapters N or O, for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 3) the method is specified in this permit or has been otherwise approved in writing by DEP for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. Permittees have the option of providing matrix or sample-specific quantitation limits rather than the published levels. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.44 and 40 CFR § 122.44(i)(1)(iv))

5. Quality/Assurance/Control.

In an effort to assure accurate self-monitoring analyses results:

- a. The permittee shall participate in, or shall use a laboratory that agrees to participate in, periodic scheduled quality assurance inspections conducted by DEP or EPA. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(i) and 40 CFR §§ 122.41(e), 122.41(j)(3))
- b. The permittee shall develop and implement or shall use a laboratory that has developed and implemented a program to assure the quality and accurateness of the analyses performed to satisfy the requirements of this permit, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(i) and 40 CFR § 122.41(j)(4))

B. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements.

1. The permittee shall effectively monitor the operation and efficiency of all treatment and control facilities, as applicable, and the quantity and quality of the discharge(s) as specified in this permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.44, 92a.61(i) and 40 CFR §§ 122.41(e), 122.44(i)(1))
2. Annual Maintenance Report (AMR). (25 Pa. Code § 92a.61(g))
 - a. The permittee shall submit a complete and accurate AMR (3800-PM-BCW0093e) to the office(s) specified in the AMR Instructions (3800-PM-BCW0093f) and to the municipality where the SFTF is located by June 30 of each year to document monitoring and maintenance activities that occurred between January 1 and December 31.
 - b. For existing permittees, the first AMR is due by June 30, 2024. For new permittees, the first AMR is due by June 30 following the first year of General Permit coverage.
 - c. The permittee shall submit the AMR to DEP electronically upon receipt of written notification from DEP.
3. Completed AMRs shall be signed and certified by either of the following applicable persons:
 - For a corporation – by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president, or an authorized representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge described in the NPDES form originates.
 - For an LLC – an authorized signatory as evidenced by operating agreement or a Certificate of Authority registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State.

- For a partnership or sole proprietorship – by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
- For a municipality, state, federal or other public agency – by a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.

If signed by a person other than the above, written notification of delegation of signatory authority must be submitted to DEP in advance of or along with the relevant AMR form. ([40 CFR § 122.22\(b\)](#))

4. If the permittee monitors any pollutant at monitoring points identified in the NOI, using analytical procedures described in Part A III.A.4. herein, more frequently than the General Permit requires, the results of this monitoring shall be incorporated, as appropriate, into the calculations used to report self-monitoring data on the AMR. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(l\)\(4\)\(ii\)](#))
5. Planned Changes to Physical Facilities – The permittee shall give notice to DEP as soon as possible but no later than 30 days prior to planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. A permit under 25 Pa. Code Chapter 91 may be required for these situations prior to implementing the planned changes. A permit application, or other written submission to DEP, can be used to satisfy the notification requirements of this section.

Notice is required when:

- a. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR § 122.29(b). ([40 CFR § 122.41\(l\)\(1\)\(i\)](#))
- b. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are not subject to effluent limitations in this General Permit. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(l\)\(1\)\(ii\)](#))
- c. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(l\)\(1\)\(iii\)](#))
- d. The planned change may result in non-compliance with the General Permit requirements. ([40 CFR § 122.41\(l\)\(2\)](#))

6. Planned Changes to Waste Stream – Under the authority of 25 Pa. Code § 92a.24(a), the permittee shall provide notice to DEP as soon as possible but no later than 45 days prior to any changes in the volume or pollutant concentration of its influent waste stream as a result of indirect discharges or hauled-in wastes.
7. Unanticipated Noncompliance or Potential Pollution Reporting.
 - a. Immediate Reporting – The permittee shall immediately report any incident causing or threatening pollution in accordance with the requirements of 25 Pa. Code §§ 91.33 and 92a.41(b).
 - (i) If, because of an accident, other activity or incident a toxic substance or another substance which would endanger users downstream from the discharge, or would otherwise result in pollution or create a danger of pollution or would damage property, the permittee shall immediately notify DEP by telephone of the location and nature of the danger. Oral notification to the Department is required as soon as possible, but no later than four hours after the permittee becomes aware of the incident causing or threatening pollution.
 - (ii) If reasonably possible to do so, the permittee shall immediately notify downstream users of the waters of the Commonwealth to which the substance was discharged. Such notice shall include the location and nature of the danger.
 - (iii) The permittee shall immediately take or cause to be taken steps necessary to prevent injury to property and downstream users of the waters from pollution or a danger of pollution and, in addition, within 15 days from the incident, shall remove the residual substances contained thereon

or therein from the ground and from the affected waters of this Commonwealth to the extent required by applicable law.

- b. The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR § 122.41(l)(6). These requirements include the following obligations:
 - (i) 24 Hour Reporting – The permittee shall orally report any noncompliance with this General Permit which may endanger health or the environment within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph:
 - (1) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the General Permit;
 - (2) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the General Permit; and
 - (3) Violation of the maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed in the General Permit as being subject to the 24-hour reporting requirement. (40 CFR § 122.44(g))
 - (ii) Written Report - A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the permittee becomes aware of any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
 - (iii) Waiver of Written Report - DEP may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the associated oral report has been received within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances which may endanger health or the environment. Unless such a waiver is expressly granted by DEP, the permittee shall submit a written report in accordance with this paragraph. (40 CFR § 122.41(l)(6)(iii))

8. Other Non-Compliance.

The permittee shall report all instances of non-compliance not reported under paragraph B.8 of this section at the time AMRs are submitted, on the Non-Compliance Reporting Form (3800-FM-BCW0440). The reports shall contain the information listed in paragraph B.8.b.(ii) of this section. (40 CFR § 122.41(l)(7))

PART B

STANDARD CONDITIONS

I. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A. Compliance.

The permittee shall comply with all conditions of this General Permit. Any permit non-compliance constitutes a violation of the Act and Clean Streams Law and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification, or denial of a permit renewal application. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(a))

B. Permit Modification, Termination, or Revocation and Reissuance.

1. DEP may modify, terminate or revoke and reissue this General Permit during its term. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3, 92a.41(a), 92a.72 – 92a.75 and 40 CFR § 122.41(f))
2. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated non-compliance, does not stay any permit condition. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3, 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(f))
3. In the absence of DEP action to modify or revoke and reissue this General Permit, the permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants within the time specified in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(a)(1))
4. DEP may terminate coverage under this General Permit for the reasons specified at 40 CFR § 122.64(a). (25 Pa. Code § 92a.74(c) and 40 CFR § 122.64(a))
5. Permittees that wish to terminate coverage under this General Permit shall submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) to the DEP office that approved coverage, utilizing DEP's NOT for Permits Issued Under Chapter 92a form (3800-PM-BCW0410). If the permittee intends to cease operations or discharging, the permittee shall notify DEP at least 90 days prior to cessation of operations or discharging unless permission has been granted by DEP for a later date. The permittee shall submit the NOT electronically when required by DEP in writing. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.74(c), 92a.76 and 40 CFR § 122.64(c))

C. Duty to Provide Information.

1. The permittee shall furnish to DEP, within a reasonable time, any information which DEP may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating coverage under this General Permit, or to determine compliance with this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(h))
2. The permittee shall furnish to DEP, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(h))
3. Other Information – Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in an NOI, or submitted incorrect information in an NOI or in any report to DEP, it shall promptly submit the correct and complete facts or information. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(l)(8))

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance.

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances), including BMPs, which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this General Permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes, but is not limited to, adequate laboratory controls such as appropriate quality assurance procedures. The permittee shall properly operate and maintain backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems installed by the permittee, as necessary to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(e))

E. Duty to Mitigate.

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge, sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(d))

F. Bypassing.

1. **Bypassing Not Exceeding Permit Limitations** - The permittee may allow a bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions in paragraphs F.2, F.3 and F.4 of this section. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(2))

2. **Other Bypassing** - In all other situations, bypassing is prohibited and DEP may take enforcement action against the permittee for bypass unless:

a. A bypass is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury or severe property damage. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A))

b. No feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime are available. This condition is not satisfied if adequate backup equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B))

c. The permittee submitted the necessary notice required in paragraph F.4 of this section below. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C))

3. DEP may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if DEP determines that it will meet the conditions listed in paragraph F.2. of this section. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(4)(ii))

4. **Notice.**

a. **Anticipated Bypass** – If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible, at least ten days before the bypass. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(3)(i))

b. **Unanticipated Bypass** – The permittee shall submit oral notice of any other unanticipated bypass within 24 hours, regardless of whether the bypass may endanger human health or the environment or whether the bypass exceeds effluent limitations. The notice shall be in accordance with Part A III.B.8.b. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(m)(3)(ii))

II. PENALTIES AND LIABILITY

A. Violations of Permit Conditions.

Any person violating Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act or any permit condition or limitation implementing such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act is subject to civil, administrative and/or criminal penalties as set forth in 40 CFR 122.41(a)(2).

DEP may take an enforcement action to restrain violations, to withhold a permit, or to seek other remedies or relief as authorized by the Clean Streams Law against a permittee that violates any condition or limitation of this General Permit, or any statute, or regulation or any order, permit or license issued by DEP.

B. Falsifying Information.

The permittee or any person who engages in the conduct described below may, upon conviction, be punished by a fine and/or imprisonment pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904, 35 P.S. § 691.611 or 40 CFR § 122.41(j)(5) or (k)(2). (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(c))

- Falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this General Permit, or
- Knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this General Permit (including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or non-compliance)

C. Liability.

Nothing in this General Permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for non-compliance pursuant to Section 309 of the Act or Sections 602, 603 or 605 of the Clean Streams Law.

Nothing in this General Permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or to relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject to under the Act and the Clean Streams Law.

D. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense.

The permittee may not maintain as a defense in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(c))

III. OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Right of Entry.

The permittee shall allow authorized representatives of DEP and EPA to conduct the following activities upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law (35 P.S. §§ 691.5(b) and 305, 25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(i)(2)):

1. To enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this General Permit; (40 CFR § 122.41(i)(1))
2. To have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this General Permit; (40 CFR § 122.41(i)(2))
3. To inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices or operations regulated or required under this General Permit; (40 CFR § 122.41(i)(3)) and
4. To sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act or the Clean Streams Law, any substances or parameters at any location. (40 CFR § 122.41(i)(4))

B. Transfer of Permits.

1. Transfers by modification – Except as provided in paragraph B.2 of this section, General Permit coverage may be transferred by the permittee to a new owner or operator only if both parties request a modification of General Permit coverage and DEP approves the modification or revokes and reissues the General Permit coverage. General Permit coverage may be transferred both during the term of this General Permit and during period(s) of administrative extension of this General Permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.71 and 40 CFR § 122.61(a))

2. Automatic transfers – As an alternative to transfers under paragraph B.1 of this section, any NPDES permit may be automatically transferred to a new permittee on the date identified in paragraph 2.b. of this section if (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.71):
 - a. The current permittee notifies DEP at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date in paragraph 2.b. of this section; (40 CFR § 122.61(b)(1))
 - b. The notice includes the appropriate DEP transfer form signed by the existing and new permittees containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage and liability between them; (40 CFR § 122.61(b)(2))
 - c. DEP does not notify the existing permittee and the proposed new permittee in writing prior to the transfer date of its intent to modify or revoke and reissue this permit; (40 CFR § 122.61(b)(3)) and
 - d. The new permittee is in compliance with existing DEP issued permits, regulations, orders and schedules of compliance, or has demonstrated that any non-compliance with the existing permits has been resolved by an appropriate compliance action or by the terms and conditions of the permit (including compliance schedules set forth in the permit), consistent with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.51 (relating to schedules of compliance) and other appropriate DEP regulations. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.71)
3. In the event DEP does not approve transfer of General Permit coverage, the new owner or operator must submit to DEP a new NOI or an application for an individual NPDES permit.

C. Property Rights.

The approval of coverage under this General Permit does not convey any property rights, or any exclusive privilege. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a) and 40 CFR § 122.41(g))

D. Duty to Reapply.

The permittee shall submit a renewal NOI when notified in writing by DEP. Permittees seeking to renew coverage under this provision may immediately continue to discharge under this permit upon the submission of a timely and complete NOI. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a. 54(c)(1) and 40 CFR § 122.41(b))

E. Other Laws.

The approval of coverage under this General Permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations.

PART C

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

I. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) REQUIREMENTS

- A. Annual Inspection.
 - 1. The permittee shall retain a Service Provider, as defined in this General Permit, to conduct an annual inspection of the SFTF. The inspection and any necessary maintenance shall be documented on the AMR that shall be completed and submitted to the office(s) identified in the AMR Instructions by June 30 of each year.
 - 2. For permittees that receive approval of coverage under this General Permit after the effective date of this General Permit and install and operate a Proprietary System, the Service Provider for the annual inspection shall be a person that is certified by the manufacturer of the Proprietary System as qualified to perform O&M for the system.
- B. For mechanical equipment such as aerobic treatment units, spray nozzles, etc., a service contract with the equipment manufacturer or representative shall be executed so that periodic inspection and as needed services are provided.
- C. Solids Monitoring and Removal.
 - 1. The depth of septage and scum in septic tanks must be measured at least once a year by a service provider. Whenever the top of the sludge layer in the tank or any compartment of the tank is found to be less than 12 inches below the bottom of the outlet baffle, or if the bottom of the scum layer is within three inches of the outlet baffle, the tank must be pumped. Annual pumping may be substituted for measurement.
 - 2. At a minimum, septic tanks must be pumped out once every three years so that an inspection of the interior of the tanks may be made, even if the criteria in paragraph C.1 are not met.
 - 3. Dosing tanks, if applicable, must be inspected annually and pumped if solids are observed that could reduce the performance of downstream treatment units.
 - 4. The permittee shall submit written documentation of pumping with the AMR for the year in which pumping was completed.
- D. Disinfection.
 - 1. The permittee shall maintain and ensure proper functioning of the disinfection unit at all times.
 - 2. Chlorine Disinfection.
 - a. If chlorine disinfection is used, the permittee should attempt to maintain the concentration of effluent Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) concentrations within the range of 0.3 to 0.5 mg/L. If chlorine tablets are used for disinfection, the permittee may use only tablets that are approved for use in wastewater treatment that are made of calcium hypochlorite.
 - b. If DEP determines that effluent TRC is causing adverse water quality impacts, DEP may revoke coverage under this General Permit and/or require implementation of control measures or operational practices to eliminate such impacts.
 - 3. Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection.
 - a. If UV disinfection is used, the permittee shall clean the contact surface at least monthly to ensure adequate disinfection, unless the UV system is equipped with a sensor or alarm system to provide notification that cleaning is required, in which case the permittee shall clean the contact surface when notified by the alarm.

- b. The permittee or Service Provider shall replace the UV bulb(s) annually, unless the UV system is equipped with a sensor or alarm to provide notification that UV intensity or transmittance has decreased below levels adequate for disinfection, in which case the permittee shall replace the UV bulb(s) when notified by the alarm.

II. AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC SEWERAGE

If, after the approval of coverage under this General Permit, DEP approves a municipal sewage facilities official plan or an amendment to an official plan under Act 537 (Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act) in which sewage from the herein approved facilities will be treated and disposed of at other planned facilities, the permittee shall, upon notification from the municipality or DEP, provide for the conveyance of its sewage to the planned facilities, abandon use and decommission the herein approved facilities including the proper disposal of solids, and notify DEP accordingly. The permittee shall adhere to schedules in the approved official plan, amendments to the plan, or other agreements between the permittee and municipality. The approval of General Permit coverage shall then, upon notice from DEP, terminate and become null and void.

III. MALFUNCTIONING TREATMENT SYSTEM OR CHANGE IN CONDITIONS

- A. If, in the opinion of DEP, the SFTF is not operated in compliance with the conditions of this General Permit, or if the character of the waste changes, there is an increased load into the facility, the use or condition of the receiving water changes, the effluent ceases to be satisfactory, the discharge otherwise creates a nuisance, or the permittee violates the Act, the Clean Streams Law, or regulations, then upon notice from DEP, the right to discharge pursuant to this General Permit will cease. DEP may allow persons with such discharges a specified time period to implement remedial measures which will result in a satisfactory effluent discharge into the receiving body of water.
- B. Discharges from SFTFs shall not result in a violation of the water quality criteria prescribed in 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 for the various designated and existing uses of the receiving stream.

IV. PROHIBITION OF STORMWATER DISCHARGES

No stormwater from pavements, area ways, roofs, foundation drains or other sources may be admitted to the sanitary sewers associated with the herein approved discharge.