

November 7, 2023

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE OF STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON THE GUIDANCE FOR REQUESTS TO DISTURB 50 ACRES OR MORE UNDER THE NPDES CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER PERMITS

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (Division) has published a draft Guidance for Requests to Disturb 50 Acres or More under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Stormwater Permits. This notice is to announce that the Division will be holding a virtual stakeholder meeting on the draft guidance on **December 7, 2023**, and accepting public comments on the draft guidance through **December 15, 2023**.

The NPDES Stormwater Discharges Associated With Construction for Stand Alone Construction Projects (GAR100001) and for Common Development (GAR100003) (collectively, the NPDES Permits) each mandate that there be no more than 50 acres of disturbance at any one time unless the permittee has received prior written authorization from the appropriate Division District Office. The permittee for any such site must provide this information sufficiently in advance of disturbing 50 or more acres for the Division to evaluate the request and to determine what additional conditions may be applied to that activity. The draft guidance outlines the review criteria and specifies design components expected for such requests.

This requirement has been in the construction stormwater NPDES permits since 2008. Over time, the Division developed a process to evaluate these sites. This process was previously reflected in internal documents and correspondence between the Division and permittees. Due to an increase in requests to disturb 50 acres or more and requests from stakeholders, the Division is formalizing this process in this draft guidance document.

A copy of the guidance is available to review at the Division's website listed below:

<https://epd.georgia.gov/forms-permits/watershed-protection-branch-forms-permits/storm-water-forms/npdes-construction>

The purpose of the meeting is to inform and to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to request clarification on the proposed guidance document. At the meeting, anyone may offer comments. The Division will listen to comments and address stakeholder questions during the meeting. However, lengthy comments or statements should be submitted in writing. The Division will be hosting the stakeholder meeting via Zoom. Zoom is a free web conferencing platform that also allows participation by phone. The virtual stakeholder meeting will be held as follows:

**Zoom Meeting Details:**

**Date:** December 7, 2023

**Time:** 1:00 p.m.

Please click the following link or copy and paste it into your browser:

<https://gaepd.zoom.us/j/94879955668?pwd=RjFrWG91OVBubmo2ZnVHTDQ3dVMrZz09>

Meeting ID: 948 7995 5668

Passcode: 421306

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Dial by your location

- +1 470 381 2552 US (Atlanta)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- 877 853 5247 US Toll-free
- 888 788 0099 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 948 7995 5668

Passcode: 421306

Stakeholders may provide written comments which will be considered by the Division. Persons wishing to comment on the draft guidance can submit written comments by the close of business on **December 15, 2023**, to [EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov) or mail to:

Environmental Protection Division  
Director of District Operations  
Suite 1462 East Tower  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.  
Atlanta, GA 30334

If you choose to e-mail your comments, please include the words “50 Acre Approval Draft Guidance” in the subject line to help ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the correct staff.

Please share this information with persons who may be interested.