



SUMMARIES OF CWA 104(b)(3) GRANTS

Maryland Model Construction General Permit

FY 1991 - Grant #CP-003651-01

In November 1990, the Environmental Protection Agency added permit requirements for storm water discharges to the NPDES permit program. Maryland has had requirements for temporary runoff controls for construction activities since 1970 and requirements for permanent runoff controls for construction activities since 1982 but needed a permit which would bridge the gap between the state requirements, local ordinances and the new Federal NPDES regulations. In FY 1991, the Environmental Protection Agency awarded the Maryland Department of the Environment a 104 (b)(3) grant for a demonstration project to develop a model general permit for construction activities. During the course of the permit development, a procedure to process Notifications of Intent (NOIs) to be covered by a general permit would also be established. The project period ran from October 1, 1991 to September 30, 1992. The grant project period was then extended to September 30, 1993.

The major goals of the project were to develop a general permit for construction activity, develop a procedure for processing NOIs, develop a procedure to issue and track permits and develop a link with enforcement actions.

Maryland developed an NOI scanner program to speed up data entry and tracking of NOIs. In addition to producing form response letters to permittees, the NOI program organizes the data by jurisdiction and gives information on the BMPs employed. Maryland has received over 1000 NOIs so far and the system produces a monthly report on the new NOIs received and adds them to the total NOIs received for the year. Letters are sent to permittees when an NOI is received. In addition, letters are sent to permittees who file incomplete NOIs. A user's manual for the NOI system was developed.

In the area of enforcement, Maryland has focused on educating the regulated community rather than taking formal action although it is anticipated that as the program matures more aggressive enforcement action may be taken.

Recently Maryland's Department of the Environment enacted a change in regulations that enables the Department of the Environment to collect fees for coverage under the general permit. For more information contact Molly Cannon at (410) 631-3543.

"Clean Water... A Better Environment"

Office of Wastewater Enforcement and Compliance (OWEC)

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