

## FOREWORD

Pollutants in storm water discharges from many sources are largely uncontrolled. The National Water Quality Inventory, 1990 Report to Congress provides a general assessment of water quality based on biennial reports submitted by the States under Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act. The report indicates that roughly 30% of identified cases of water quality impairment reported by the States are attributable to storm water discharges.

Sampling data from storm water discharges is an important tool which provides information on the types and amounts of pollutants present. This data can then be used to identify pollutant sources and to develop storm water pollution prevention plans and best management practices priorities to control these sources.

This manual is for operators of facilities that discharge storm water associated with industrial activity and operators of large and medium municipal separate storm sewer systems. This manual describes the basic sampling requirements for NPDES storm water discharge permit applications and provides procedural guidance on how to conduct sampling. Many of the concepts in this guidance may also be applicable to sampling requirements contained in NPDES storm water permits.

This document was issued in support of EPA regulations and policy initiatives involving the development and implementation of a national storm water program. This document is agency guidance only. It does not establish or affect legal rights or obligations. Agency decisions in any particular case will be made applying the laws and regulations on the basis of specific facts when permits are issued or regulations promulgated.

This document is expected to be revised periodically to reflect advances in this rapidly evolving area. Comments from users are welcomed. Send comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wastewater Enforcement and Compliance, 401 M Street, SW, Mailcode EN-336, Washington, DC 20460.

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