The examination must be made at least once in each designated period during daylight hours unless there is insufficient rainfall or snow-melt to runoff. Whenever practicable, the same individual should carry out the collection and examination of discharges throughout the life of the permit to ensure the greatest degree of consistency possible. Examinations shall be conducted in each of the following periods for the purposes of inspecting storm water quality associated with storm water runoff and snow melt: January through March; April through June; July through September; October through December. Grab samples shall be collected within the first 30 minutes (or as soon thereafter as practical, but not to exceed 60 minutes) of when the runoff begins discharging. Reports of the visual examination include: the examination date and time, examination personnel, visual quality of the storm water discharge, and probable sources of any observed storm water contamination. The visual examination reports must be maintained onsite with the pollution prevention plan.

EPA believes that this quick and simple assessment will help the permittee to determine the effectiveness of his/her plan on a regular basis at very little cost. Although the visual examination cannot assess the chemical properties of the storm water discharged from the site, the examination will provide meaningful results upon which the facility may act quickly. The frequency of this visual examination will also allow for timely adjustments to be made to the plan. If BMPs are performing ineffectively, corrective action must be implemented. A set of tracking or follow-up procedures must be used to ensure that appropriate actions are taken in response to the examinations. The visual examination is intended to be performed by members of the pollution prevention team. This hands-on examination will enhance the staff's understanding of the storm water problems on that site and the effects of the management practices that are included in the plan.

When a facility has two or more outfalls that, based on a consideration of industrial activity, significant materials, and management practices and activities within the area drained by the outfall, the permittee reasonably believes discharge substantially identical effluents, the permittee may collect a sample of effluent from one such outfall and report that the examination data also apply to the substantially identical outfall(s) provided that the permittee includes in the storm water pollution prevention plan a description of the location of the outfalls and explains in detail why the outfalls are expected to discharge substantially identical effluents. In addition, for each outfall that the permittee believes is representative, an estimate of the size of the drainage area (in square feet) and an estimate of the runoff coefficient of the drainage area [e.g., low (under 40 percent), medium (40 to 65 percent), or high (above 65 percent)] shall be provided in the plan.

When a discharger is unable to collect samples over the course of the visual examination period as a result of adverse climatic conditions, the discharger must document the reason for not performing the visual examination. Adverse weather conditions which may prohibit the collection of samples include weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms, etc.) or otherwise make the collection of a sample impracticable (drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).

EPA realizes that if a facility is inactive and unstaffed it may be difficult to collect storm water discharge samples when a qualifying event occurs. Today's final permit has been revised so that inactive, unstaffed facilities can exercise a waiver of the requirement to conduct quarterly visual examination.

*C. Storm Water Discharges Associated With Industrial Activity From Chemical and Allied Products Manufacturing Facilities* 

1. Discharges Covered Under This Section

EPA regulations define "storm water discharges associated with industrial activity" at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) in order to specify those discharges that are required to be permitted under the NPDES program. Category (ii) of this definition includes facilities classified as Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code 28, Chemical and Allied Products Manufacturing, with the exception of facilities classified as SIC code 285-Paints, Varnishes, Lacquers, Enamels, and Allied Products Manufacturing, which are included in category (xi) of the definition. EPA did not receive any group applications from facilities with primary SIC code 283 (Drugs Manufacturing). Therefore, as EPA had no data on such facilities, they are not eligible for coverage under this section of today's permit. The following section describes facilities covered by Part XI.C. of today's permit and the

conditions and requirements of facilities covered by Part XI.C.

For additional information on the subsectors and their industrial activities, please see the following documents:

"Development Document for Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Paint Formulating Point Source Category." EPA-440/1-79/049-b. 1979.

"Development Document for Interim Final Effluent Limitations Guidelines for the Pesticide Chemicals Manufacturing Point Source Category." EPA-440/1-75/060d. 1976.

"Development Document for Effluent Limitations Guidelines and New Source Performance Standards for the Major Organic Products Segment of the Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Point Source Category." EPA-440/1-74-009a. 1974.

"Development Document for Effluent Limitations Guidelines, New Source Performance Standards and Pretreatment Standards for Organic Chemicals and the Plastics and Synthetic Fibers Point Source Category." EPA-440/1-87/009. 1987.

"Development Document for Effluent Limitations Guidelines and New Source Performance Standards for the Basic Fertilizer Chemicals Segment of the Fertilizer Manufacturing Point Source Category." 1974.

"Development Document for Final Effluent Limitations Guidelines, New Source Performance Standards and Pretreatment Standards for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Point Source Category." EPA-440/1-83/084. 1983.

"Development Document for Effluent Limitations Guidelines, New Source Performance Standards and Pretreatment Standards for the Inorganic Chemicals Manufacturing Point Source Category, Phase 2." EPA-440/1-84/007. 1984.

Part XI.C. of today's permit has been developed for storm water discharges at facilities primarily engaged in the manufacture of chemicals and allied products. This sector of industry includes facilities which manufacture a broad range of products including plastic and synthetic materials, detergents, paints and varnishes, drugs, fertilizers and pesticides, adhesives, inks, explosives, artist's inks and paints, and organic and inorganic chemicals used for industrial purposes. Specifically, Part XI.C. of today's permit applies to establishments primarily engaged in manufacturing

*a.* Industrial inorganic chemicals (including SIC 281).

*b.* Plastic materials and synthetic resins, synthetic rubbers, and cellulosic