

determined that if materials and activities are not exposed to storm water at the site, then the potential for pollutants to contaminate storm water discharges does not warrant monitoring.

Therefore, a discharger is not subject to the monitoring requirements of this Part provided the discharger makes a certification for a given outfall or on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis in lieu of monitoring described under paragraph *b.* below, under penalty of law, signed in accordance with Part VII.G. (Signatory Requirements), that material handling equipment or activities, raw materials, intermediate products, final products, waste materials, by-products, industrial machinery or operations, significant materials from past industrial activity, and that are located in areas of the facility that are within the drainage area of the outfall are not presently exposed to storm water and will not be exposed to storm water for the certification period. Such certification must be retained in the storm water pollution prevention plan and submitted to EPA in lieu of monitoring reports required under paragraph *b.* (below). If the permittee cannot certify for an entire period, they must submit the date exposure was eliminated and any monitoring required up until that date. This certification option is not applicable to compliance monitoring requirements associated with effluent guidelines. EPA does not expect facilities to be able to exercise this certification for indicator parameters, such as TSS and BOD.

*b. Reporting Requirements.* Permittees are required to submit all monitoring results obtained during the second and fourth year of permit coverage within 3 months of the conclusion of each year. For each outfall, one Discharge Monitoring Report Form must be submitted per storm event sampled. For facilities conducting monitoring beyond the minimum requirements an additional Discharge Monitoring Report Form must be filed for each analysis. The permittee must include a measurement or estimate of the total precipitation, volume of runoff, and peak flow rate of runoff for each storm event sampled.

EPA also believes that between quarterly visual examinations and site compliance evaluations potential sources of contaminants can be recognized, addressed, and then controlled with BMPs. In determining the monitoring requirements, EPA considered the nature of the industrial activities and significant materials exposed at these sites, and performed a review of data provided in Part 2 group applications.

*c. Quarterly Visual Examination.* Quarterly visual examinations of a storm water discharge from each outfall are required at asphalt facilities and lubricant manufacturers. The examination must be of a grab sample collected from each storm water outfall. The examination of storm water grab samples shall include any observations of color, odor, turbidity, floating solids, foam, oil sheen, or other obvious indicators of storm water pollution. The examination must be conducted in a well lit area. No analytical tests are required to be performed on these samples.

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. Where 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 inspection 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 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.

*d. Compliance Monitoring Requirements.* Today's permit requires permittees with storm water discharges associated with the production of asphalt paving or roofing emulsions to monitor for the presence of total suspended solids, oil and grease, and for pH at least annually. These monitoring requirements are necessary to evaluate compliance with the numeric effluent limitation imposed on these discharges. Monitoring shall be performed upon a minimum of one grab sample. All samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. The grab sample shall be taken during the first 30 minutes of the discharge. If the collection of a grab sample during the first 30 minutes is impracticable, a grab sample can be taken during the first hour of the discharge, and the discharger shall submit with the monitoring report a description of why a grab sample during the first 30 minutes was impracticable. Monitoring results shall be submitted on Discharge Monitoring Report Form(s) postmarked no later than the last day of the month following collection of the sample. For each outfall, one Discharge Monitoring Report form must be submitted per storm event sampled. Facilities which discharge through a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system (systems serving a population of 100,000 or more) must also submit signed copies of discharge monitoring reports to the operator of the