performed on the plant site, the permittee shall consider the applicable Best Management Practices outlined in Part XI.P. of today's permit (Storm Water Discharges From Vehicle Maintenance or Equipment Cleaning Operations at Motor Freight Transportation Facilities, Passenger Transportation Facilities, Petroleum Bulk Oil Stations and Terminals, or the United States Postal Service).

(15) Material Storage Areas. The plan must describe measures that prevent or minimize contamination of storm water from material storage areas (including areas used for temporary storage of miscellaneous products and construction materials stored in lay down areas). The facility operator may consider flat yard grades, runoff collection in graded swales or ditches, erosion protection measures at steep outfall sites (e.g., concrete chutes, riprap, stilling basins), covering lay down areas, storing the materials indoors, covering the material with a temporary covering made of polyethylene, polyurethane, polypropylene, or hypalon. Storm water runon may be minimized by constructing an enclosure or building a berm around the area.

Based on information provided in part 1 of the group application process, the management practices applicable to the 15 areas listed above are commonly used at many steam electric power generating facilities. EPA believes that the incorporation of management practices to accomplish the objectives described above, in conjunction with the baseline requirements, will substantially reduce the potential for these activities and areas to significantly contribute to the pollution of storm water discharges. EPA believes that these requirements provide the necessary flexibility to address the variable risk for pollutants in storm water discharges associated with different facilities.

(c) Inspections. Under the inspection requirements of the storm water pollution prevention plan elements, this section requires that in addition to the comprehensive site evaluation required under Part VIII.C.4. of today's permit, qualified facility personnel shall be identified to inspect designated equipment and areas of the facility on a monthly basis. The following areas shall be included in the inspection: coal handling areas, fueling areas, loading/ unloading areas, switchyards, bulk storage areas, ash handling areas, areas adjacent to disposal ponds and landfills, maintenance areas, liquid storage tanks and long term and short term material storage areas. A set of tracking or followup procedures shall be used to ensure that appropriate actions are taken in response to the inspections. Records of inspections shall be maintained onsite.

The purpose of the inspections is to check on the implementation of the storm water pollution prevention plan. The inspections allow facility personnel to monitor the success or failure of elements of the plan on a regular basis.

d. Employee Training. Steam electric power generating facilities are required to identify periodic training dates in the pollution prevention plan, but in all cases training must be held at least annually. EPA believes that such a frequency is necessary due to the many areas with a high potential for contamination of storm water.

5. Numeric Effluent Limitations

Coal pile runoff is subject to the effluent guidelines described in Part V.B of today's permit. However, steam electric generating facilities must comply with the requirement of Part V.B immediately upon permit issuance. Steam electric generating facilities are not permitted to take 3 years to meet this requirement.

6. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

a. Analytical Monitoring Requirements. EPA believes that steam electric power generating facilities may reduce the level of pollutants in storm water runoff from their sites through the development and proper implementation of the storm water pollution prevention plan requirements discussed in today's permit. In order to provide a tool for evaluating the effectiveness of the pollution prevention plan and to characterize the discharge for potential environmental impacts, the permit requires steam electric power generating facilities to collect and analyze samples of their storm water discharges for the pollutant listed in Table O-3. The pollutant listed in Table O-3 was found to be above levels of concern for a significant portion of steam electric power generating facilities that submitted quantitative data in the group application process. Because this pollutant has been reported at or above levels of concern from steam electric power generating facilities, EPA is requiring monitoring after the pollution prevention plan has been implemented to assess the effectiveness of the pollution prevention plan and to help ensure that a reduction of pollutants is realized.

Under the Storm Water Regulations at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14), EPA defined "storm water discharge associated with industrial activity". The focus of today's

permit is to address the presence of pollutants that are associated with the industrial activities identified in this definition and that might be found in storm water discharges. Under the methodology for determining analytical monitoring requirements, described in section VI.E.1 of this fact sheet, zinc is above the bench mark concentrations for the steam electric generating facilities sector. After a review of the nature of industrial activities and the significant materials exposed to storm water described by facilities in this sector, EPA has determined that the higher concentrations of zinc are not likely to be caused by the industrial activity, but may be primarily due to non-industrial activities on-site. Today's permit does not require steam electric generating facilities to conduct analytical monitoring for this parameter.

At a minimum, storm water discharges from steam electric power generating facilities must be monitored quarterly during the second year of permit coverage. Samples must be collected at least once in each of the following periods: January through March; April through June; July through September; and October through December. At the end of the second year of permit coverage, a facility must calculate the average concentration for each parameter listed in Table O-3. If the permittee collects more than four samples in this period, then they must calculate an average concentration for each pollutant of concern for all samples analyzed.

TABLE O-3.—MONITORING REQUIRE-MENTS FOR STEAM ELECTRIC POWER GENERATING FACILITIES

Pollutant of concern	Cut-Off concentra- tion
Total Recoverable Iron	1.0 mg/L

If the average concentration for a parameter is less than or equal to the value listed in Table O-3, then the permittee is not required to conduct quantitative analysis for that parameter during the fourth year of the permit. If, however, the average concentration for a parameter is greater than the cut-off concentration listed in Table O-3, then the permittee is required to conduct quarterly monitoring for that parameter during the fourth year of permit coverage. Monitoring is not required during the first, third, and fifth year of the permit. The exclusion from monitoring in the fourth year of the permit is conditional on the facility maintaining industrial operations and BMPs that will ensure a quality of storm