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 electronic, electric, photographic and optical goods facilities to conduct analytical monitoring for these parameters.

Based on a consideration of the BMPs typically used at these facilities, and generally low pollutant values from the application data, EPA believes that the pollution prevention plan with visual examinations of storm water discharges will help to ensure storm water contamination is minimized. Because permittees are not required to conduct analytical monitoring, they will be able to focus their resources on developing and implementing the pollution prevention plan.

Quarterly visual examination of a storm water discharge from each outfall are required. 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. 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 1 hour) 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 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.

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 inspections. 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 and retain this documentation onsite with the records of the visual examinations. 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.).

As discussed above, EPA does not believe that analytical monitoring is necessary for facilities that manufacture electronic and electrical equipment and components, photographic, and optical goods. EPA 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.

IX. Paperwork Reduction Act

EPA has reviewed the requirements imposed on regulated facilities in this proposed multi-sector general permit under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. The information collection requirements in today's permit have already been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in previous submissions made for the NPDES permit program under the provisions of the Clean Water Act.

X. 401 Certification

Section 401 of the CWA provides that no Federal license or permit, including NPDES permits, to conduct any activity that may result in any discharge into navigable waters, shall be granted until the State in which the discharge originates certifies that the discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the CWA. The Section 401 certification process has been completed for all States. Indian lands. and Federal facilities covered by today's general permit. The following summary indicates where additional permit requirements have been added as a result of the certification process and also provides a more detailed discussion of additional requirements for the District of Columbia, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, and Washington State.

Region I

- Connecticut: Indian lands only, no 401 conditions.
- Maine: No 401 conditions.
- Maine Indian lands: No 401 conditions.
- Massachusetts: No 401 conditions.
- Massachusetts: Indian lands only, no
- 401 conditions.
- New Hampshire: no 401 conditions.
- New Hampshire: Indian lands only, no 401 conditions.
- Rhode Island: Indian lands only, no 401 conditions.
- Vermont: Indian lands only, no 401 conditions.
- Vermont: Federal facilities only, no 401 conditions.

Region II

- Puerto Rico: no 401 conditions.
- Puerto Rico: Federal facilities only, no 401 conditions.

Region III

District of Columbia: see the following and Part XII of the permit for 401 conditions.

The District of Columbia has added the following permit conditions in order to protect water quality in the District. A copy of all storm water pollution prevention plans required under the permit shall be submitted to the District of Columbia's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Environmental