

General Permit for Nitrogen Discharges

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General Permit for Nitrogen Discharges

Section 1. Authority

This general permit is issued under the authority of *Sections 22a-521 through 527 and Chapter 446k* of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 2. Definitions

As used in this general permit, and as defined or modified from Section *22a-521 of the Connecticut General Statutes*:

“*Annual mass loading of total nitrogen*” (expressed in pounds per day) means the sum of monthly mass loading of total nitrogen for each month from January through December divided by 12 and rounded to the nearest whole number.

“*Authorized activity*” means any activity authorized by this general permit.

“*CFR*” means Code of Federal Regulations.

“*Commissioner*” means Commissioner as defined by Section 22a-2(b) of the General Statutes.

“*Daily composite*” means a composite sample taken over a full operating day consisting of grab samples collected at equal intervals of no more than sixty (60) minutes and combined proportionally to flow; or, a composite sample continuously collected over a full operating day proportional to flow.

“*Daily mass loading of total nitrogen*” (expressed in pounds per day) means the total nitrogen concentration (expressed in mg/L to the nearest 0.1 mg/L) multiplied by the daily flow volume (expressed as MGD, to the nearest 0.1 MGD for facilities with a design capacity of 1.0 MGD or greater and to the nearest 0.01 MGD for facilities with a design capacity of less than 1.0 MGD) multiplied by 8.34 and rounded to the nearest whole number to convert to pounds per day units.

“*Department*” means the Department of Environmental Protection.

“*Discharge Monitoring Report*” or “*DMR*” means a report form provided or approved by the Commissioner for use by a permittee to submit discharge monitoring data to the Department relating to compliance with limits and conditions established in the individual permit for a facility.

“*Equivalency factor*” means a ratio of the unit response of dissolved oxygen to nitrogen in Long Island Sound for each POTW based on the geographic location of the specific POTW's discharge point divided by the unit response of the geographic area with the highest impact.

"Equivalent nitrogen credit" means a nitrogen credit multiplied by the equivalency factor.

"Individual permit" means a permit issued to a named permittee under Section 22a-430-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

"Monthly mass loading of total nitrogen" (expressed in pounds per day) means the sum of the daily mass loading of total nitrogen for each monitored day during the month divided by the number of monitoring days during the month and rounded to the nearest whole number.

"Monthly Operating Report" or *"MOR"* means a report form provided or approved by the Commissioner for use by a permittee in submitting data to the Department related to the operation of a facility.

"Municipality" means municipality as defined by Section 22a-423 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

"Nitrogen Analysis Report" or *"NAR"* means a report form provided or approved by the Commissioner for use by a permittee in submitting monitoring data to the Department related to the discharge of nitrogen from a facility.

"Nitrogen credit" means the difference between the annual mass loading of total nitrogen specified for a POTW in the general permit for treated nitrogen discharges and the monitored annual mass loading of total nitrogen discharged by that POTW expressed as pounds of nitrogen per day.

"Nitrogen credit exchange program" means the program within the Department established pursuant to **Section 22a-524 of the Connecticut General Statutes**.

"Nitrogen Wasteload Allocation" means a total load of nitrogen assigned to a discharger expressed in pounds per day of total nitrogen discharged.

"Permittee" means a municipality or person discharging nitrogen as authorized by the general permit.

"Person" means person as defined by Section 22a-423 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

"Publicly Owned Treatment Works" or *"POTW"* means a system used for the collection, treatment or disposal of sewage from one or more parcels of land and that discharges to the waters of the state and is owned by a municipality of the state.

"TMDL" means the Total Maximum Daily Load analysis to achieve water quality standards for dissolved oxygen in Long Island Sound as established by the Department and as approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency on April 3, 2001.

"Total nitrogen" means the total of the concentrations of ammonia nitrogen, organic nitrogen, nitrite nitrogen, and nitrate nitrogen expressed as milligrams of nitrogen per liter.

Section 3. Authorization Under This General Permit

(a) *Eligible Activities or Discharges*

This general permit authorizes the discharge of total nitrogen from the POTWs listed in Appendix 1, provided the activities are conducted in accordance with this general permit.

This general permit does not authorize any discharge of water, substance or material into the waters of the state other than the one specified in this section. Any person or municipality which initiates, creates, originates or maintains such a discharge must first apply for and obtain authorization under Section 22a-430 of the General Statutes.

(b) *Geographic Area*

This general permit applies throughout the State of Connecticut.

(c) *Effective Date and Expiration Date of this General Permit*

This general permit is effective on ***January 1, 2006, and expires on December 31, 2010.***

(d) *Effective Date of Authorization*

An activity is authorized by this general permit on the date the general permit is issued.

Section 4. Conditions of this General Permit

A permittee shall conduct activities authorized by this general permit in accordance with the following conditions:

(a) *Discharge Limits*

- (1) Annual discharge limits applicable to each POTW are set forth in Appendix 1, which is incorporated herein in its entirety, as part of this general permit.
- (2) Each permittee shall limit the discharge of nitrogen to the annual discharge limits set forth in Appendix 1, except as set forth in paragraph (b)(1)(b) of this Section.

(b) *Compliance During Term of Permit*

- (1) A permittee shall be in compliance with its annual discharge limits of this general permit if:
 - (a) the POTW's annual mass loading of total nitrogen is less than or equal to the discharge limit set forth in Appendix 1; or,

- (b) the permittee has secured state-owned equivalent nitrogen credits equal to the amount the POTW exceeded the annual discharge limit set forth in Appendix 1 in accordance with the Nitrogen Credit Exchange Program and ***Sections 22a-521 through 527 of the Connecticut General Statutes.***
- (2) A permittee shall be out of compliance with the annual discharge limits of the general permit and subject to the enforcement provisions of chapter 446k of the Connecticut General Statutes if:
 - (a) the POTW's annual mass loading of total nitrogen is greater than the discharge limit set forth in Appendix 1; and
 - (b) the permittee fails to secure sufficient state-owned equivalent nitrogen credits in a timely manner in accordance with the Nitrogen Credit Exchange Program and ***Sections 22a-521 through 527 of the Connecticut General Statutes.***
- (c) *Operation of Nitrogen Removal Process Equipment*

The permittee shall not bypass or fail to operate any of the approved nitrogen removal equipment or processes without the written approval of the Commissioner. The permittee shall operate all necessary equipment to optimize nitrogen removal so as to reduce nitrogen discharges to the maximum extent practicable. This includes but is not limited to all recycle pumping systems, aeration equipment, aeration tank cycling, mixing equipment, anoxic basins, chemical feed systems or any other process equipment necessary for the optimal removal of nitrogen.

- (d) *Monitoring Requirements*

- (1) Effective upon issuance of this general permit, the permittee shall monitor total nitrogen in the final effluent in accordance with the following frequency:
 - (a) POTWs with a design flow rate specified in the individual permit for the facility of less than 10,000,000 gallons per day shall monitor the final effluent at a minimum frequency of weekly.
 - (b) POTWs with a design flow rate specified in the individual permit for the facility equal to or greater than 10,000,000 gallons per day shall monitor the final effluent at a minimum frequency of twice per week.
- (2) Monitoring requirements shall commence on January 1, **2006**.
- (3) Final effluent and monitoring location shall be identical to that used to determine compliance with final effluent limitations and

monitoring conditions established in the individual permit for the facility.

- (4) All samples analyzed to determine compliance with limits on total nitrogen shall be daily composite samples unless otherwise approved in writing by the Commissioner.
- (5) Chemical analyses to determine compliance with effluent limits and conditions established in this general permit shall be performed using the methods approved in or pursuant to 40 CFR 136 unless an alternative method has been approved in writing pursuant to 40 CFR 136.4.
- (6) The permittee shall measure average daily volume of flow of wastewater received by the facility at the main flow meter as set forth in the individual permit for the facility.
- (7) In the event of a flow meter malfunction on a day when a sample for total nitrogen analysis is collected, the permittee shall utilize the arithmetic average of the 7 highest daily flows measured during the previous 30-day period to calculate the total daily nitrogen loading unless an alternative procedure has been agreed to by the Commissioner.

(e) *Reporting Requirements*

The results of chemical analyses for the total nitrogen in all samples collected during the month and the average daily flow volume of effluent for each day during the month shall be entered on the Monthly Operating Reports (MOR) and Nitrogen Analysis Reports (NAR) and reported to the Department. Results must also be entered in Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR) as a calculated monthly mass loading of total nitrogen. The MOR, NAR and DMR must be received at the following address by the 15th day of the month following the month samples are collected.

ATTN: Municipal Wastewater Monitoring Coordinator
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Management, Planning and Standards Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

(f) *Record Keeping Requirements*

The permittee shall retain copies of all reports required by this general permit, and records of all data used to compile these reports for a period of at least five years from the date of the report submission to the Department.

(g) *Duty to Correct and Report Violations*

Upon learning of a violation of a condition of this general permit, including any failure of flow monitoring equipment, the permittee shall immediately take all reasonable action to determine the cause of such violation, correct such violation and mitigate its results, prevent further such violation, and report in writing such violation and such corrective action to the Commissioner within five (5) days of the permittee learning of such violation. Such report shall be certified in accordance with subsection 4(i) of this general permit.

(h) *Duty to Provide Information*

If the Commissioner requests any information pertinent to the authorized activity or to compliance with this general permit, the permittee shall provide such information in writing within thirty (30) days of such request. Such information shall be certified in accordance with subsection 4(i) of this general permit.

(i) *Certification of Documents*

Any document, including but not limited to any notice, which is submitted to the Commissioner under this general permit shall be signed by, as applicable, the permittee in accordance with Section 22a-430-3(b)(2) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and by the individual or individuals responsible for actually preparing such document, each of whom shall certify in writing as follows:

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with Section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to Section 53a-157b of the General Statutes, and in accordance with any other applicable statute.”

(j) *Date of Filing*

For purposes of this general permit, the date of filing with the Commissioner of any document is the date such document is received by the Commissioner. The word “day” as used in this general permit means the calendar day; if any date specified in the general permit falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, such deadline shall be the next business day thereafter.

(k) *False Statements*

Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this general permit may be punishable as a criminal offense, in accordance with Section 22a-6, under Section 53a-157b of the General Statutes.

(l) *Correction of Inaccuracies*

Within fifteen days after the date a permittee becomes aware of a change in any information in any material submitted pursuant to this general permit, or becomes aware that any such information is inaccurate or misleading or that any relevant information has been omitted, such permittee shall correct the inaccurate or misleading information or supply the omitted information in writing to the Commissioner. Such information shall be certified in accordance with subsection 4(i) of this general permit.

(m) *Other Applicable Law*

Nothing in this general permit shall relieve the permittee of the obligation to comply with any applicable federal, state and local law, including but not limited to the obligation to obtain and comply with any authorizations required by such law. In the event a POTW is subject to a more stringent nitrogen limitation than set forth in this general permit, the Permittee shall comply with that more stringent limitation and may not purchase or transfer nitrogen credits to comply with that additional limitation.

(n) *Other Rights*

This general permit is subject to and does not derogate any present or future rights or powers of the State of Connecticut and conveys no rights in real or personal property nor any exclusive privileges, and is subject to all public and private rights and to any federal, state, and local laws pertinent to the property or activity affected by such general permit. In conducting any discharge authorized hereunder, the permittee may not cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the air, water, or other natural resources of this state.

Section 5. Commissioner's Powers

(a) *Abatement of Violations*

The Commissioner may take any action provided by law to abate a violation of this general permit, including the commencement of proceedings to collect penalties for such violation. The Commissioner may, by summary proceedings or otherwise and for any reason provided by law, including violation of this general permit, revoke a permittee's authorization hereunder in accordance with Sections 22a-3a-2 through 22a-3a-6, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. Nothing herein shall be construed to affect any remedy available to the Commissioner by law.

(b) *General Permit Revocation, Suspension, or Modification*

The Commissioner may, for any reason provided by law, by summary proceedings or otherwise, revoke or suspend this general permit or modify it to establish any appropriate conditions, schedules of compliance, or other provisions which may be necessary to protect human health or the environment or to implement the 15 year TMDL.

Issued: 12/21/05

Gina McCarthy
Commissioner

APPENDIX 1

ANNUAL DISCHARGE LIMITS FOR TOTAL NITROGEN

Zone	Publicly Owned Treatment Works	Equivalency Factor	TOTAL NITROGEN (POUNDS/DAY)					
			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2014
1	JEWETT CITY WPCF	0.17	22	19	19	18	18	15
1	GROTON CITY WPCF	0.18	144	124	120	117	113	99
1	GROTON TOWN WPCF	0.18	223	191	186	180	175	153
1	KILLINGLY WPCF	0.14	191	163	159	154	150	131
1	LEDYARD WPC	0.18	11	9	9	9	8	7
1	MONTVILLE WPCF	0.18	171	147	143	139	135	118
1	NEW LONDON WPCF	0.18	561	481	468	454	441	386
1	NORWICH WPCF	0.18	292	250	243	236	229	201
1	STONINGTON PAWCATUCK WPCF	0.17	35	30	29	28	28	24
1	PLAINFIELD NORTH WPCF	0.14	50	43	42	40	39	34
1	PLAINFIELD VILLAGE WPCF	0.14	35	30	29	28	27	24
1	PUTNAM WPCF	0.14	77	66	64	62	60	53
1	SPRAGUE WPCF	0.16	11	9	9	9	8	7
1	STAFFORD SPRINGS WPCF	0.15	87	75	73	70	68	60
1	STONINGTON BOROUGH WPCF	0.18	20	17	16	16	15	14
1	STONINGTON MYSTIC WPCF	0.18	39	34	33	32	31	27
1	THOMPSON WPCF	0.14	15	13	12	12	12	10
1	UCONN WPCF	0.15	64	55	53	52	50	44
1	WINDHAM WPCF	0.15	183	157	152	148	143	125
2	BRISTOL WPCF	0.18	579	497	483	469	455	398
2	CANTON WPCF	0.18	35	30	29	28	28	24
2	EAST HAMPTON WPCF	0.20	79	67	65	64	62	54
2	EAST HARTFORD WPCF	0.19	425	365	354	344	334	292
2	EAST WINDSOR WPCF	0.19	87	74	72	70	68	59
2	ENFIELD WPCF	0.19	405	347	338	328	318	278
2	FARMINGTON WPCF	0.18	258	221	215	209	203	178
2	GLASTONBURY WPCF	0.20	142	122	119	115	112	98
2	HARTFORD WPCF	0.20	3456	2964	2881	2798	2714	2377
2	MANCHESTER WPCF	0.19	454	389	378	367	356	312
2	MATTABASSET WPCF	0.20	1213	1040	1011	982	952	834
2	MIDDLETOWN WPCF	0.20	323	277	269	261	253	222
2	PLAINVILLE WPCF	0.18	147	126	123	119	115	101
2	PLYMOUTH WPCF	0.18	61	52	50	49	48	42
2	WINDSOR POQUONOCK WPCF	0.19	142	122	119	115	112	98
2	PORTLAND WPCF	0.20	46	39	38	37	36	31
2	ROCKY HILL WPCF	0.20	419	359	349	339	329	288
2	SIMSBURY WPCF	0.18	156	133	130	126	122	107
2	SOUTH WINDSOR WPCF	0.19	153	132	128	124	120	106

Zone	Publicly Owned Treatment Works	Equivalency Factor	TOTAL NITROGEN (POUNDS/DAY)					
			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2014
2	SUFFIELD WPCF	0.19	65	56	54	52	51	45
2	VERNON WPCF	0.19	268	229	223	217	210	184
2	WINDSOR LOCKS WPCF	0.19	96	82	80	77	75	66
2	WINSTED WPCF	0.18	93	80	77	75	73	64
3	BRANFORD WPCF	0.60	279	239	233	226	219	192
3	CHESHIRE WPCF	0.49	149	128	124	121	117	103
3	MERIDEN WPCF	0.49	653	560	544	528	513	449
3	NEW HAVEN EAST WPCF	0.60	2279	1954	1900	1845	1790	1568
3	NORTH HAVEN WPCF	0.60	230	197	192	186	180	158
3	SOUTHINGTON WPCF	0.49	296	254	246	239	232	204
3	WALLINGFORD WPCF	0.60	391	335	326	317	307	269
3	WEST HAVEN WPCF	0.60	513	440	428	415	403	353
4	ANSONIA WPCF	0.67	167	143	139	135	131	115
4	BEACON FALLS WPCF	0.67	18	15	15	14	14	12
4	DANBURY WPCF	0.46	643	551	536	520	505	442
4	DERBY WPCF	0.67	104	89	86	84	81	71
4	LITCHFIELD WPCF	0.35	34	29	28	27	27	24
4	MILFORD BEAVER BROOK WPCF	0.67	137	117	114	111	108	94
4	MILFORD HOUSATONIC WPCF	0.67	448	384	373	363	352	307
4	NAUGATUCK TREATMENT Co.	0.60	358	307	299	290	281	246
4	NEW MILFORD WPCF	0.46	35	30	29	28	28	28
4	NEWTOWN WPCF	0.46	24	20	20	19	19	42
4	NORFOLK WPCF	0.35	16	14	13	13	13	11
4	NORTH CANAAN WPCF	0.35	19	16	16	15	15	13
4	SALISBURY WPCF	0.35	31	26	26	25	24	21
4	SEYMOUR WPCF	0.67	89	76	74	72	70	61
4	SHELTON WPCF	0.67	154	132	128	125	121	106
4	SOUTHBURY TR. SCHOOL WPCF	0.46	22	19	18	18	17	15
4	STRATFORD WPCF	0.67	517	443	431	418	406	356
4	THOMASTON WPCF	0.60	61	52	50	49	48	42
4	TORRINGTON WPCF	0.60	361	309	301	292	283	248
4	WATERBURY WPCF	0.60	1468	1259	1224	1188	1153	1049
5	BRIDGEPORT EAST WPCF	0.85	526	451	438	426	413	362
5	BRIDGEPORT WEST WPCF	0.85	1514	1298	1262	1225	1189	1041
5	FAIRFIELD WPCF	0.85	591	507	492	478	464	406
5	WESTPORT WPCF	0.85	126	108	105	102	99	87
6	GREENWICH WPCF	1.00	697	598	581	564	547	479
6	NEW CANAAN WPCF	1.00	93	80	77	75	73	64
6	NORWALK WPCF	1.00	1044	895	870	845	820	718
6	RIDGEFIELD SOUTH ST. WPCF	1.00	42	36	35	34	33	29
6	STAMFORD WPCF	1.00	1346	1154	1122	1090	1057	926