



State of Utah

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Department of
Environmental Quality

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DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

July 25, 2012

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
PUBLIC NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF THE
GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE OPERATION OF PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER
COLLECTION SYSTEMS IN THE STATE OF UTAH

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO DECLARE THE STATE OF UTAH'S INTENTION TO ISSUE A GENERAL PERMIT TO THE OWNERS/OPERATORS OF PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEMS UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE UTAH WATER QUALITY ACT, SECTION 19-5-104 AND 107, UTAH CODE ANNOTATED 1953, AS AMENDED.

PERMIT INFORMATION

NAME: GENERAL PERMIT FOR THE OPERATION OF A PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM IN THE STATE OF UTAH (SEWER SYSTEM GENERAL PERMIT – SSGP)

BACKGROUND

The Water Quality Board, recognizing the complexity of water quality management and the necessity to temper regulatory actions with the realities of technology and uncertainty, must act to protect the public from health hazards. Sanitary sewer systems experience periodic failures resulting in discharges that may affect waters of the State. There are many factors (including factors related to geology, design, construction methods and materials, age of the system, population growth, and system operation and maintenance), which affect the likelihood of a sanitary system overflow (SSO). A proactive approach that requires collection system operators to ensure a system-wide operation, maintenance, and management plan is in place that will minimize the number and frequency of SSOs within the state. This approach will, in turn, decrease the risk to human health and the environment caused by SSOs. Many SSOs are preventable with adequate and appropriate facilities, source control measures and operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system.

Consistent with the statutory requirement to develop programs which prevent control or abate pollution from reaching the waters of the state, the Utah Sanitary Sewer Management Program (USMP) is established. All federal and state agencies, municipalities, counties, districts, and other public entities that own or operate sanitary sewer systems that collect and/or convey untreated or partially treated wastewater to a publicly owned treatment facility in the State of Utah are required to comply with the terms of this program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments are invited any time prior to the close of business on August 28, 2012. Written public comments can be submitted to: John Kennington, USMP Coordinator, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by email at: jkennigton@utah.gov. After considering public comment the Utah Water Quality Board may execute the permit issuance, revise it, or abandon it.

The permit and associated documents are available for public review under “Public Participation” at www.waterquality.utah.gov/. If internet access is not available, a copy may be obtained by calling John Kennington at 801-536-4380.