AZPDES - MSGP
STORM SEMINAR

VISUAL ASSESSMENTS

Lisa Spahr
Engineering and Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Requirement

MSGP Section 4.2 – Visual Assessment of Stormwater Discharges
Assessment Frequency

Two per wet season:

Summer
June 1–October 31

Winter
November 1 – May 31
Procedures

- Clean, clear glass, or plastic container, and examined in a well-lit area
- Collected within the first 30 minutes of discharge
- On discharges at least 72 hrs from previous discharge
### Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Settled Solids</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Color</td>
<td>Suspended Solids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odor</td>
<td>Foam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity</td>
<td>Oil Sheen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floating Solids</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other obvious indicators of pollution
Color
Odor

- Debris
- Sewage
- Blockage
Clarity
Solids

- Floating
- Settled
- Suspended
Foam
Oil Sheen
Other Obvious Indicators of Pollution
Exceptions

- Absence of discharge
- Adverse conditions
- Substantially identical outfalls
Exceptions (cont.)

- **Inactive and unstaffed sites**
  - Only applies to facilities **without** exposed materials and activities
  - No exemptions from sector-specific requirements!
Documentation

- Location(s)
- Date & time of collection
- Name & signature of personnel performing assessment
Documentation (cont.)

- Results of observations
- Probable sources of any observed contamination
- Reason not assessed w/in first 30 min (if applicable)
**SWPPP VISUAL ASSESSMENT FORM**

**GYNORMOUS INDUSTRIAL FACILITY**

**COLLECTION LOCATION INFORMATION**

**OUTFALL ID NUMBER**

**INSPECTOR(S) INFORMATION**

| Summer 1 | Summer 2 | Winter 1 | Winter 2 | Year: 20 |

**INSPECTOR NAME:**

**INSPECTOR SIGNATURE:**

**WEATHER INFORMATION**

- Clear  □  Cloudy  □  Raining  □
- Last rain event: □ more than 72 hrs ago  □ within 72 hrs
- Sample Collected: □ during discharge  □ within 30 min  □ 30 min - 60 min  □ 60 min +

**OTHER:**

**SAMPLE OBSERVATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLOR</th>
<th>□  clear  □  brown  □  green  □  gray  □  red  □  white  □  black  □  pink</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Paint</td>
<td>2 - Clearly Visible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODOOR</td>
<td>sewage  □  rank/sour  □  gas  □  other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Paint</td>
<td>2 - Easily Detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLARITY</td>
<td>clear  □  turbid  □  cloudy  □  murky  □  opaque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Slightly cloudy</td>
<td>2 - Cloudy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLOATING SOLIDS</td>
<td>sewage  □  algae  □  other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Sparse</td>
<td>2 - Intermittent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SETTLED SOLIDS</td>
<td>present  □  absent  □  clearly  □  faintly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Sparse</td>
<td>2 - Intermittent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSPENDED SOLIDS</td>
<td>present  □  absent  □  clearly  □  faintly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Sparse</td>
<td>2 - Intermittent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOAM</td>
<td>present  □  absent  □  clearly  □  faintly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Partial</td>
<td>2 - Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIL SHEEN</td>
<td>present  □  absent  □  clearly  □  faintly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - Partial</td>
<td>2 - Complete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OTHER OBSERVATIONS**

*Note: Normal stormwater samples are light brown and slightly cloudy. Such samples will not be investigated for pollutant source.*

**SAMPLE INFORMATION**

| COLLECTION DATE: | COLLECTION TIME: | ANALYSIS DATE: | ANALYSIS TIME: |

**PROBABLE SOURCES:**

**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS:**

**INSPECTOR SIGNATURE**

**DATE / TIME COMPLETE**

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Name:  

Signature:  

Normal Stormwater Sample!
Questions
For more information on the materials in this presentation contact:

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