SUBCHAPTER F: PERMIT CHARACTERISTICS AND CONDITIONS
§§305.121 - 305.132
Effective June 2, 2016

§305.121. Applicability.

The provisions of this subchapter establish the characteristics and standards for permits issued for injection wells including subsurface area drip dispersal systems, waste discharge, radioactive material disposal, and solid waste management, including sewage sludge.

Adopted June 14, 2006 Effective July 5, 2006

§305.122. Characteristics of Permits.

(a) Compliance with a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit during its term constitutes compliance, for purposes of enforcement, with subtitle C of RCRA except for those requirements not included in the permit which:

(1) become effective by statute;

(2) are promulgated under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 268, restricting the placement of hazardous wastes in or on the land;

(3) are promulgated under 40 CFR Part 264, regarding leak detection systems for new and replacement surface impoundment, waste pile, and landfill units, and lateral expansions of surface impoundment, waste pile, and landfill units. The leak detection system requirements include double liners, construction quality assurance programs, monitoring, action leakage rates, and response action plans, and will be implemented through the Class 1 permit modifications procedures of §305.69 of this title (relating to Solid Waste Permit Modification at the Request of the Permittee); or

(4) are promulgated under 40 CFR Part 265, Subparts AA, BB, or CC limiting air emissions, as adopted by reference under §335.112 of this title (relating to Standards).

(b) A permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated during its term for cause as set forth in §305.62 of this title (relating to Amendments) and §305.66 of this title (relating to Permit Denial, Suspension, and Revocation), or the permit may be modified upon the request of the permittee as set forth in §305.69 of this title.

(c) A permit issued within the scope of this subchapter does not convey any property rights of any sort, nor any exclusive privilege, and does not become a vested right in the permittee.

(d) The issuance of a permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or an invasion of other property rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations.

(e) Except for any toxic effluent standards and prohibitions imposed under Clean Water Act (CWA), §307, and standards for sewage sludge use or disposal under CWA, §405(d), compliance with a Texas pollutant discharge elimination system (TPDES) permit during its term constitutes compliance, for purposes of enforcement, with the CWA, §§301, 302, 306, 307, 318, 403, and 405; however, a TPDES permit may be amended or revoked during its term for cause as set forth in §305.62 and §305.66 of this title.

Adopted January 30, 2013 Effective February 21, 2013

§305.123. Reservation in Granting Permit.

Every permit is subject to further orders and rules of the commission. In accordance with the procedures for amendments and orders, the commission may incorporate into permits already granted any condition, restriction, limitation, or provision reasonably necessary for the administration and enforcement of Texas Water Code, Chapters 26 - 28 and 32, and Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapters 361 and 401.

Adopted June 14, 2006 Effective July 5, 2006

§305.124. Acceptance of Permit, Effect.

Acceptance of the permit by the person to whom it is issued constitutes an acknowledgement and agreement that such person will comply with all the terms and conditions embodied in the permit, and the rules and other orders of the commission.

Effective June 19, 1986

§305.125. Standard Permit Conditions.

Conditions applicable to all permits issued under this chapter, and which shall be incorporated into each permit expressly or by reference to this chapter are as follows.

(1) The permittee has a duty to comply with all permit conditions. Failure to comply with any permit condition is a violation of the permit and statutes under which it was issued and is grounds for enforcement action, for permit amendment, revocation or suspension, or for denial of a permit renewal application or an application for a permit for another facility.

(2) The permittee must apply for an amendment or renewal before the expiration of the existing permit in order to continue a permitted activity after the expiration date of the permit. Authorization to continue such activity terminates upon the effective denial of said application.

(3) It is not a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity to maintain compliance with the permit conditions.

(4) The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal or other permit violation which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

(5) The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the permit conditions. For Underground Injection Control permits proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when necessary to achieve compliance with the permit conditions.

(6) The permittee shall furnish to the executive director, upon request and within a reasonable time, any information to determine whether cause exists for amending, revoking, suspending, or terminating the permit, and copies of records required to be kept by the permit.

(7) The permittee shall give notice to the executive director before physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility if such alterations or additions would require a permit amendment or result in a violation of permit requirements.

(8) Authorization from the commission is required before beginning any change in the permitted facility or activity that would result in noncompliance with other permit requirements.

(9) The permittee shall report any noncompliance to the executive director which may endanger human health or safety, or the environment.

(A) Such information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the noncompliance. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the noncompliance. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the potential danger to human health or safety, or the environment; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance, and to mitigate its adverse effects.

(B) The following must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph:

(i) any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit; and

(ii) violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any pollutants listed in a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit to be reported within 24 hours.

(C) Holders of radioactive material licenses issued under Chapter 336 of this title (relating to Radioactive Substance Rules) shall report noncompliances/incidents to the executive director according to the requirements of §336.335 of this title (relating to Reporting Requirements for Incidents).

(10) Inspection and entry shall be allowed under Texas Water Code, Chapters 26 - 28 and 32, Texas Health and Safety Code, §§361.032, 361.033, 361.037, and 401.063, and 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §122.41(i). The statement in Texas Water Code, §26.014, that commission entry of a facility shall occur in accordance with an establishment's rules and regulations concerning safety, internal security, and fire protection is not grounds for denial or restriction of entry to any part of the facility, but merely describes the commission's duty to observe appropriate rules and regulations during an inspection.

(11) Monitoring and reporting requirements are as follows.

(A) Monitoring samples and measurements shall be taken at times and in a manner so as to be representative of the monitored activity.

(B) Except as otherwise required by Chapter 336 of this title or for records of monitoring information required by a permit related to the

permittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years (or longer as required by 40 CFR Part 503), monitoring and reporting records, including strip charts and records of calibration and maintenance, copies of all records required by the permit, records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, and the certification required by 40 CFR §264.73(b)(9) shall be retained at the facility site for a period of three years from the date of the record or sample, measurement, report, application, or certification. This period shall be extended at the request of the executive director.

(C) Records of monitoring activities shall include:

(i) date, time, and place of sample or measurement;

(ii) identity of individual who collected the sample or made the measurement;

(iii) date of analysis;

(iv) identity of the individual and laboratory who performed the analysis;

(v) the technique or method of analysis; and

(vi) the results of the analysis or measurement.

(12) Any noncompliance other than that specified in this section, or any required information not submitted or submitted incorrectly shall be reported to the executive director as promptly as possible.

(13) A permit may be transferred only according to the provisions of §305.64 of this title (relating to Transfer of Permits).

(14) All reports and other information requested by the executive director shall be signed by the person and in the manner required by §305.128 of this title (relating to Signatories to Reports).

(15) A permit may be amended, suspended and reissued, or revoked for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit amendment, suspension and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.

(16) A permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

(17) Monitoring results shall be provided at the intervals specified in the permit.

(18) Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of the permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date.

(19) Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in an application, or in any report to the executive director, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

(20) The permittee is subject to administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, as applicable, under Texas Water Code, §§26.136, 26.212, and 26.213 for violations including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) negligently or knowingly violating Clean Water Act (CWA), §§301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405, or any condition or limitation implementing any sections in a permit issued under CWA, §402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under CWA, §402(a)(3) or (b)(8);

(B) falsifying, tampering with, or knowingly rendering inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under a permit; or

(C) knowingly making any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under a permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance.

(21) For hazardous waste management facility permits, the executive director may require the permittee to establish and maintain an information repository at any time, based on the factors set forth in 40 CFR §124.33(b), as amended December 11, 1995, in the *Federal Register* (60 FR 63417). The information repository will be governed by the provisions in 40 CFR §124.33(c) - (f), as amended December 11, 1995, in the *Federal Register* (60 FR 63417).

(22) Notice of bankruptcy.

(A) Each permittee shall notify the executive director, in writing, immediately following the filing of a voluntary or involuntary petition for bankruptcy under any chapter of Title 11 (Bankruptcy) of the United States Code (11 USC) by or against:

(i) the permittee;

(ii) an entity (as that term is defined in 11 USC, §101(14)) controlling the permittee or listing the permit or permittee as property of the estate; or

(iii) an affiliate (as that term is defined in 11 USC, §101(2)) of the permittee.

(B) This notification must indicate:

(i) the name of the permittee;

(ii) the permit number(s);

(iii) the bankruptcy court in which the petition for bankruptcy was filed; and

(iv) the date of filing of the petition.

Adopted June 14, 2006 Effective July 5, 2006

§305.126. Additional Standard Permit Conditions for Waste Discharge Permits.

(a) Whenever flow measurements for any sewage treatment plant facility in the state reaches 75 percent of the permitted average daily or annual average flow for three consecutive months, the permittee must initiate engineering and financial planning for expansion and/or upgrading of the wastewater treatment and/or collection facilities. Whenever the average daily or annual average flow reaches 90 percent of the permitted average daily flow for three consecutive months, the permittee shall obtain necessary authorization from the commission to commence construction of the necessary additional treatment and/or collection facilities. In the case of a wastewater treatment facility which reaches 75 percent of the permitted average flow for three consecutive months, and the planned population to be served or the quantity of waste produced is not expected to exceed the design limitations of the treatment facility, the permittee will submit an engineering report supporting this claim to the executive director. If in the judgment of the executive director the population to be served will not cause permit noncompliance, then the requirements of this section may be waived. To be effective, any waiver must be in writing and signed by the director of the enforcement division of the commission, and such waiver of these requirements will be reviewed upon expiration of the existing permit; however, any such waiver shall not be interpreted as condoning or excusing any violation of any permit parameter.

(b) The permittee shall give notice to the executive director as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. In addition to the requirements of §305.125(7) of this title (relating to Standard Permit Conditions), notice shall also be required under this subsection when:

(1) the alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in §305.534 of this title (relating to New Sources and New Dischargers); or

(2) the alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §122.42(a)(1) as adopted by §305.531 of this title (relating to Establishing and Calculating Additional Conditions and Limitations for TPDES Permits);

(3) the alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan.

(c) If the permittee is a new discharger, it must provide quantitative data described in 40 CFR §122.21(h)(4)(I) and (ii) no later than two years after commencement of discharge; however, the permittee need not conduct tests which the permittee has already performed and reported under the discharge monitoring requirements of its TPDES permit.

Adopted December 2, 1998 Effective December 27, 1998

§305.127. Conditions to be Determined for Individual Permits.

Conditions to be determined on a case-by-case basis according to the criteria specified in this section, and when applicable, incorporated into the permit expressly or by reference, are listed in the following paragraphs.

(1) Duration.

(A) Injection well permits.

(i) Permits for Class I and Class V wells shall be for a fixed term not to exceed ten years.

(ii) Initial permits and reissuance of permits for Class III wells shall be for a fixed term of ten years.

(B) Solid waste permits.

(i) Hazardous waste permits shall be for a fixed term not to exceed ten years.

(ii) Other solid waste permits may be for the life of the project.

(iii) Each permit for a land disposal facility used to manage hazardous waste shall be reviewed by the executive director five years from the date of permit issuance or reissuance and shall be modified as necessary by the commission, as provided in §305.62(e) of this title (relating to Amendment).

(C) Waste discharge permits.

(i) Texas pollutant discharge elimination system (TPDES) permits, including sludge permits, shall be for a term not to exceed five years.

(ii) All other permits shall be as follows.

(I) Permits which authorize a direct discharge of wastewater into a surface drainageway shall be for a term not to exceed five years.

(II) Confined animal feeding operation permits may be for the life of the project.

(III) Other wastewater permits, including permits which regulate land disposal systems shall be for a term not to exceed ten years.

(D) Drilled or mined shaft permits. Drilled or mined shaft permits which authorize operation of a drilled or mined shaft shall be for a term not to exceed ten years.

(E) Term of permit. The term of a permit shall not be extended by amendment beyond the maximum duration specified in this section.

(F) Duration of permit. The executive director may recommend that a permit be issued and the commission may issue any permit, for a duration less than the full allowable term under this section.

(G) Radioactive material licenses.

(i) A license issued under Chapter 336, Subchapter H of this title (relating to Licensing Requirements for Near-Surface Land Disposal of Low-Level Radioactive Waste) shall be issued for an initial term of 15 years from the date of issuance. After the initial 15 years, the commission may renew the license for one or more terms of ten years. The authority to dispose of waste expires on the date stated in the license except as provided in §336.718(a) of this title (relating to Application for Renewal or Closure).

(ii) Other radioactive material licenses shall be for a fixed term not to exceed ten years.

(2) Monitoring, recording, and reporting.

(A) Requirements concerning the proper use, maintenance, and installation of monitoring equipment or methods shall be specified by the commission as appropriate.

(B) The type, intervals, and frequency of monitoring shall be set to yield data representative of the monitored activity, at a minimum as specified in commission rules for monitoring and reporting.

(C) Other requirements for monitoring and reporting shall be set at a minimum as specified in commission rules for monitoring and reporting.

(3) Schedule of compliance.

(A) A schedule of compliance prescribing a timetable for achieving compliance with the permit conditions, the appropriate law, and regulations may be incorporated into a permit. The schedule shall require compliance as soon as possible and may set interim dates of compliance. For injection wells, compliance shall be required not later than three years after the effective date of the permit. For TPDES permits the schedule of compliance shall require compliance not later than authorized by Chapter 307 of this title (relating to Texas Surface Water Quality Standards).

(B) For schedules of compliance exceeding one year, interim dates of compliance not exceeding one year shall be set, except that in the case of a schedule for compliance with standards for sewage sludge use and disposal, the time between interim dates shall not exceed six months.

(C) Reporting requirements for each schedule of compliance shall be specified by the commission as appropriate. Reports of progress and

completion shall be submitted to the executive director no later than 14 days after each schedule date.

(D) For TPDES permits the following additional conditions apply.

(i) The first TPDES permit issued to a new source or a new discharger shall contain a schedule of compliance only when necessary to allow a reasonable opportunity to attain compliance with requirements issued or revised after commencement of construction, but less than three years before commencement of the relevant discharge.

(ii) For recommencing dischargers, a schedule of compliance shall be available only when necessary to allow a reasonable opportunity to attain compliance with requirements issued or revised less than three years before recommencement of discharge.

(iii) If a permit establishes a schedule of compliance which exceeds one year from the date of permit issuance, the permit schedule shall set forth interim requirements and the dates for their achievement.

(E) For underground injection control permits, the time for compliance shall require compliance as soon as possible, and in no case later than three years after the effective date of the permit. Except as provided in clause (iii)(I)(-b-) of this subparagraph, if a permit establishes a schedule of compliance which exceeds one year from the date of permit issuance, the schedule shall set forth interim requirements and the dates for their achievement.

(i) The time between interim dates shall not exceed one year.

(ii) If the time necessary for completion of any interim requirement is more than one year and is not readily divisible into stages for completion, the permit shall specify interim dates for the submission of reports of progress toward completion of the interim requirements and indicate a projected completion date.

(iii) A permit applicant or permittee may cease conducting regulated activities (by plugging and abandonment) rather than continue to operate and meet permit requirements as follows.

(I) If the permittee decides to cease conducting regulated activities at a given time within the term of a permit which has already been issued:

(-a-) the permit may be modified to contain a new or additional schedule leading to timely cessation of activities; or

(-b-) the permittee shall cease conducting permitted activities before noncompliance with any interim or final compliance schedule requirement already specified in the permit.

(II) If the decision to cease conducting regulated activities is made before issuance of a permit whose term will include the cessation date, the permit shall contain a schedule leading to cessation of activities which will ensure timely compliance with applicable requirements.

(III) If the permittee is undecided whether to cease conducting regulated activities, the executive director may issue or modify a permit to contain two schedules as follows:

(-a-) both schedules shall contain an identical interim deadline requiring a final decision on whether to cease conducting regulated activities no later than a date which ensures sufficient time to comply with applicable requirements in a timely manner if the decision is to continue conducting regulated activities;

(-b-) one schedule shall lead to timely compliance with applicable requirements;

(-c-) the second schedule shall lead to cessation of regulated activities by a date which will ensure timely compliance with applicable requirements; and

(-d-) each permit containing two schedules shall include a requirement that after the permittee has made a final decision under item (-a-) of this subclause, it shall follow the schedule leading to compliance if the decision is to continue conducting regulated activities, and follow the schedule leading to cessation if the decision is to cease conducting regulated activities.

(IV) The applicant's or permittee's decision to cease conducting regulated activities shall be evidenced by a firm public commitment satisfactory to the executive director, such as a resolution of the board of directors of a corporation.

(4) Requirements for individual programs.

(A) Requirements to provide for and assure compliance with standards set by the rules of the commission and the laws of Texas shall be

determined and included in permits on a case-by-case basis to reflect the best method for attaining such compliance. Each permit shall contain terms and conditions as the commission determines necessary to protect human health and safety, and the environment. Reference is made to Chapter 330 of this title (relating to Municipal Solid Waste) for municipal solid waste facility standards, to Chapter 331 of this title (relating to Underground Injection Control) for injection well standards, to Chapter 335 of this title (relating to Industrial Solid Waste and Municipal Hazardous Waste) for solid waste facility standards, to Chapter 336 of this title (relating to Radioactive Substance Rules) for radioactive material disposal standards, to Chapter 309 of this title (relating to Domestic Wastewater Effluent Limitation and Plant Siting) for waste discharge standards, to Chapter 329 of this title (relating to Drilled or Mined Shafts) for drilled or mined shaft standards, and to Chapter 222 of this title (relating to Subsurface Area Drip Dispersal Systems) for subsurface area drip dispersal systems standards.

(B) Any applicable statutory or regulatory requirements which take effect prior to final administrative disposition of an application for a permit or prior to the amendment, modification, or suspension and reissuance of a permit shall be included in the permit.

(C) New, amended, modified, or renewed permits shall incorporate any applicable requirements contained in Chapter 331 of this title for injection well standards, Chapter 335 of this title for solid waste facility standards, Chapter 336 of this title, Chapter 309 of this title for waste discharge standards, Chapter 329 of this title for drilled or mined shaft standards, and Chapter 222 of this title for subsurface area drip dispersal systems standards.

(5) Wastes authorized.

(A) Injection well permits. Each category of waste to be disposed of by injection well shall be authorized in the permit.

(B) Drilled or mined shaft permits. Each category of waste to be handled, stored, processed, or disposed of in a drilled or mined shaft, or in associated surface facilities shall be authorized in the permit.

(C) Unauthorized wastes. Wastes not authorized by permit are prohibited from being transported to, stored, and processed or disposed of in a permitted facility.

(6) Permit conditions. All permit conditions shall be incorporated either expressly or by reference. If incorporated by reference, a specific citation to the applicable rules or requirements must be given in the permit.

Adopted February 11, 2009 Effective March 12, 2009

§305.128. Signatories to Reports.

(a) All reports requested by permits and other information requested by the executive director shall be signed by a person described in §305.44(a) of this title (relating to Signatories to Applications) or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

(1) the authorization is made in writing by a person described in §305.44(a) of this title (relating to Signatories to Applications);

(2) the authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity or for environmental matters for the applicant, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or well field, environmental manager, or a position of equivalent responsibility. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.); and

(3) the written authorization is submitted to the executive director.

(b) If an authorization under this section is no longer accurate because of a change in individuals or position, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of this section must be submitted to the executive director prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

(c) Any person signing a report required by a permit shall make the certification set forth in §305.44(b) of this title (relating to Signatories to Applications).

Effective October 8, 1990

§305.129. Variance Procedures.

The following regulations contained in 40 Code of Federal Regulations, which are in effect as of the date of Texas pollutant discharge elimination system TPDES program authorization, as amended, are adopted by reference:

(1) Part 122, Subpart B -- Permit Applications and Special NPDES Program Requirements, §122.21(m), providing requirements for variance requests by non-publicly owned treatment works.

(2) Part 122, Subpart B -- Permit Applications and Special NPDES Program Requirements, §122.21(n), providing requirements for variance requests by POTWs.

(3) Part 122, Subpart C -- Permit Applications and Special NPDES Program Requirements, §122.21(o), providing requirements for expedited variance procedures and time extensions.

(4) Part 124, Subpart D -- Specific Procedures Applicable to NPDES Permits, §124.62, providing decision-making procedures for variances.

September 17, 1990 Effective October 8, 1990

§305.130. Notice of Inactive Municipal Solid Waste Permit.

(a) The owner or operator of a permitted municipal solid waste (MSW) facility that has not accepted waste within two years of permit issuance or that has ceased accepting waste for two consecutive years shall provide notice to the public as specified in '39.510 of this title (relating to Notice Requirements for Inactive Municipal Solid Waste Permit) of the following:

(1) the permitted facility may begin construction or operation at a future time; and

(2) the date that the facility is expected to begin construction and operations.

(b) The public notifications in subsection (a)(1) and (2) of this section are required on an annual basis following the second anniversary date of permit issuance, date the facility ceased accepting waste, or the effective date of this section, whichever is later, until waste acceptance begins or resumes.

(c) The notice requirements of this section are applicable to MSW permits issued:

(1) on or after the effective date of this section; and

(2) before the effective date of this section.

(d) For the purposes of this section, permit issuance means the date that the permit is issued by the commission or the date of a final, non-appealable decision regarding the permit.

Adopted May 11, 2005 Effective June 2, 2005

§305.131. Revocation of Inactive Municipal Solid Waste Permit.

A municipal solid waste permit may be revoked at the discretion of the commission under the procedures found in §305.68 of this title (relating to Action and Notice on Petition for Revocation or Suspension) if the commission finds that the owner or operator has failed to provide notice to the public as required by §305.130 of this title (relating to Notice of Inactive Municipal Solid Waste Permit).

Adopted May 11, 2005 Effective June 2, 2005

§305.132. Special Conditions for Certain Wastewater Discharges.

(a) The following words and terms, when used in this section, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Collection system--Pipes, conduits, lift stations, force mains, and all other constructions, devices, and appurtenant appliances used to transport domestic wastewater to a wastewater treatment facility.

(2) History of noncompliance--History of non-reporting or reoccurrences of accidental discharges or spills of treated or untreated wastewater.

(3) Local government--An incorporated city, a county, a river authority, or a water district or authority acting under Article III, Section 52, or Article XVI, Section 59 of the Texas Constitution.

(4) Wastewater treatment facility--All contiguous land and fixtures, structures, and appurtenances used for storing, processing, and treating wastewater. A wastewater treatment facility does not include the collection system located outside of the fenced area around a wastewater treatment facility.

(b) The owner or operator of a wastewater treatment facility or collection system that is owned or operated by a local government, may report accidental discharges or spills of treated or untreated wastewater that do not endanger human health or safety or the environment to the executive director as a monthly summary if each individual accidental discharge or spill:

(1) has a volume of 1,000 gallons or less;

(2) is not associated with another simultaneous accidental discharge or spill of treated or untreated wastewater;

(3) is controlled or removed before the accidental discharge or spill enters water in the state or adversely affects a public or private source of drinking water; and

(4) is not otherwise subject to local regulatory control and reporting requirements.

(c) The owner or operator shall submit a monthly summary to the executive director by the 20th day of the month for each accidental discharge or spill of treated or untreated wastewater that occurred during the previous month. The summary must include, at a minimum, the:

(1) location, volume and content of the accidental discharge or spill;
(2) description of the accidental discharge or spill;

(3) cause of the accidental discharge or spill;

(4) dates and times of the accidental discharge or spill; and

(5) steps taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the accidental discharge or spill.

(d) The owner or operator must use one of the following methods for determining the volume of the discharge or spill.

(1) Visual estimate. If the accidental discharge or spill is less than 55 gallons, using a standard five-gallon bucket for reference, estimate the number of buckets that the discharge or spill would fill and then multiply by five to obtain the number of gallons discharged or spilled. If the accidental discharge or spill is larger than 55 gallons, using a standard 55 gallon barrel for reference, estimate the number of barrels that the discharge or spill would fill then multiply by 55 to obtain the number of gallons discharged or spilled.
(2) Measured volume. Identify the length, width, and depth of the contained accidental discharge or spill in feet and calculate the volume by multiplying length by width by depth by 7.5 (the conversion factor from cubic feet to gallons).

(3) Duration and flow rate. Identify separate estimates for the duration and the flow rate of the accidental discharge or spill. The estimated volume is calculated by multiplying the duration (hours or days) by the flow rate (gallons/hour or gallons/day).

(4) Other methods. The responsible person may use other volumetric calculation methodologies rather than those listed in paragraphs (1) - (3) of this

subsection, so long as such methodologies include procedures to identify a duration, flow rate, depth, affected area, and total quantity of each spill (including, as appropriate, reference to estimation tools such as barrels, for example), and such methodology is consistent with standard and accepted industry practices. Such alternative methodologies must be identified in the responsible person's monthly report.

(e) The owner or operator must keep records of all accidental discharges or spills of treated or untreated wastewater reported under this section. The records must remain on-site for three years and be made immediately available to commission staff upon request.

(f) The executive director may require more frequent reporting based on the owner or operator's history of noncompliance.

Adopted May 11, 2016 Effective June 2, 2016