

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND RENEWAL OF GENERAL PERMIT NUMBER TXG920000

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) proposes to amend and renew General Permit No. TXG920000 authorizing the discharge of manure, and wastewater from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) into and adjacent to water in the state only when chronic or catastrophic rainfall conditions or events occur. This general permit applies to the entire state of Texas. This general permit is authorized under provisions of Federal Clean Water Act, Section 402 and Texas Water Code §26.040.

PROPOSED GENERAL PERMIT. The Executive Director has prepared a draft renewal with amendments of an existing general permit that authorizes the discharge of manure and wastewater from CAFOs under specific circumstances. The general permit is applicable to Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and State-only CAFOs statewide. No significant degradation of high quality waters is expected and existing uses will be maintained.

The Executive Director has reviewed this action for consistency with the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) in accordance with the regulations of the Coastal Coordination Advisory Council and has determined that the action is consistent with the applicable CMP goals and policies.

A copy of the proposed general permit and fact sheet are available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk located at the TCEQ Austin Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F. These documents will also be available at the TCEQ's 16 regional offices and on the TCEQ website at:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/cafo/cafo.html>

PUBLIC COMMENT / MEETING. You may submit public comments about this general permit. In addition, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting on this general permit. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the general permit. The public meeting will be held as follows:

April 8, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at the TCEQ Austin Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building F, Room 2210.

Written public comments must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at <http://www10.tceq.state.tx.us/epic/ecmnts/> within 30 days from the date this notice is published in the Texas Register.

APPROVAL PROCESS. After the comment period, the Executive Director will consider all the public comments and prepare a written response. The response will be filed with the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at least ten days before the scheduled Commission meeting when the Commission will consider approval of the general permit. The Commission will consider all public comment in making its decision and will either adopt the Executive Director's response or prepare its own response. The Commission will issue its written response on the general permit at the same time the Commission issues or denies the general permit. A copy of any issued general permit and response to comments will be made available to the public for inspection at the agency's Austin and Regional offices. A notice of the Commissioner's action on the proposed general permit and a copy of its response to comments will be mailed to each person who made a comment. Also, a notice of the Commission's action on the proposed general permit and the text of its response to comments will be published in the Texas Register.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may request to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific general permit; (2) the mailing list for a specific county; and/or (3) the mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number. Clearly specify which list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific general permit.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. If you need more information about this general permit or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program at 1-800-687-4040. *Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.* General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/>.

Further information may also be obtained by calling the TCEQ's Water Quality Division at 512-239-4671.