



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Julia Raimondi
Julia.Raimondi@DEQ.Virginia.gov
(804) 659-2654

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State Water Control Board Holds Regular Meeting

Board approves reissuance of Construction General Permit and proposed amendments; receives update on Sandy River Reservoir permit

RICHMOND, Va. – At its regular meeting on Feb. 23, the State Water Control Board approved the reissuance of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities (9VAC25-880, Construction General Permit). The approval of the Construction General Permit for a new five-year term, from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029, allows construction projects to apply for and obtain coverage for land-disturbing activities under a general permit instead of needing an individual VPDES permit after the current Construction General Permit expires on June 30.

The reissued permit continues requirements in the current permit and adds requirements to be consistent with the construction dewatering turbidity benchmark in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s 2022 Construction General Permit. It also clarifies requirements for small construction activity involving single-family detached residential structures and makes other revisions to be consistent with upcoming changes in DEQ’s erosion and stormwater management program that will be effective on July 1.

Also at this meeting, the Board received an update on the Prince Edward County Virginia Water Protection permit application for the Sandy River Reservoir. DEQ granted the request for a public hearing on the draft permit, which has been scheduled for March 5 at Prince Edward High School. DEQ anticipates making a final decision on the permit by early summer 2024.

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About DEQ

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality protects and enhances Virginia’s environment and promotes the health and well being of the citizens of the commonwealth. We are committed to cleaner water, improved air quality and the productive reuse of contaminated land.

For more information, please visit www.DEQ.Virginia.gov.

