

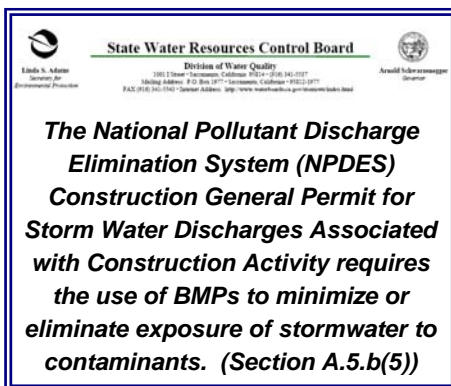


CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION BULLETIN

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Spill and Drip Protection, Prevention and Cleanup

Spill prevention and control has been identified as the third most common deficiency on construction sites. Proper controls must be used to prevent spilled material from entering storm drains or watercourses. This bulletin reviews common challenges and recommends corrective actions for better control of spills and drips.



Contract Documents

Contract documents pave the way for effective storm water pollution prevention. Including specific requirements for installation, maintenance, inspection and corrective action in the standard special provisions (SSPs) and *Standard Plans* provide a mechanism for enforcing effective spill and drip management. Look for BMPs and SSPs that may apply to projects that have potential for spill and drips.

- ◆ 07-340, Water Pollution Control
- ◆ 07-345, Water Pollution Control
- ◆ 07-346, Construction Site Management
- ◆ S5-630, Relations with California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

Check the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

- ◆ To manage spills and drips include BMPs that are specific to the project.

- ◆ The resident engineer is responsible for reviewing and approving the SWPPP.
- ◆ Tailor the SWPPP inspection checklist to include specific questions that prompt the contractor to cleanup spills and drips.

Spills and Drips During Equipment Maintenance

Many spills and drips occur during on-site equipment maintenance.

- ◆ The contractor should verify that equipment maintenance workers perform their activities in designated areas.
- ◆ The resident engineer should verify that the contractor knows to immediately contain, remove, and dispose of spills.



Improper spill cleanup

Spill Response

Respond to spills promptly.

- ◆ SSP 07-346 requires that the contractor:
 - Immediately contain the spread of the spill.
 - Recover spilled materials.
 - Clean the area, and properly dispose of materials.
 - Keep spill response equipment on-site near potential spill areas.
- ◆ Resident engineers should establish a specific timeframe for clean-up.
- ◆ Clean-up should be completed before the contractor commences other work.

Effective Inspections

Inspections are most effective when conducted jointly by the contractor and Caltrans inspectors.

- ◆ Minimum requirements for the frequency of inspections are defined in the project specifications. Deficiencies found during inspections should prompt corrective action and SWPPP amendment, if necessary. For example, if the inspection shows there is an inadequate amount of absorbent spill cleanup material in the fueling and maintenance area, as required by SSP 07-346, the contractor should provide additional material in a timeframe agreed to by both parties.



Inadequate secondary containment

Enforcement Procedures

When the contractor does not respond to Caltrans requests for improvement in the control of spills and drips, the resident engineer should prepare a mandatory non-compliance letter. When the contractor is not responsive, appropriate contract enforcement mechanisms should be executed to ensure that the contractor complies.



Questions or comments may be directed to Hamid Hakim, HQ Construction Storm Water Coordinator, hamid_hakim@dot.ca.gov, or your local Construction Storm Water Coordinator.

