§ 35.935–9 Project initiation and completion.

(a) The grantee agrees to expeditiously initiate and complete the step 1, 2, or 3 project, or cause it to be constructed and completed, in accordance with the grant agreement and application, including the project progress schedule, approved by the Regional Administrator. Failure of the grantee to promptly initiate and complete step 1, 2, or 3 project construction may result in annulment or termination of the grant.

(b) No date reflected in the grant agreement, or in the project completion schedule, or extension of any such date, shall modify any compliance date established in an NPDES permit. It is the grantee’s obligation to request any required modification of applicable permit terms or other enforceable requirements.

(c) The invitation for bids for step 3 project work is expected to be issued promptly after grant award. Generally this action should occur within 90 to 120 days after award unless compliance with State or local laws requires a longer period of time. The Regional Administrator shall annul or terminate the grant if initiation of all significant elements of step 3 construction has not occurred within 12 months of the award for the step 3 project (or approval of plans and specifications, in the case of a step 2–3 project). (See definition of “initiation of construction” under “construction” in §35.905.) However, the Regional Administrator may defer (in writing) the annulment or termination for not more than 6 additional months if:

1. The grantee has applied for and justified the extension in writing to the Regional Administrator;
2. The grantee has given written notice of the request for extension to the NPDES permit authority;
3. The Regional Administrator determines that there is good cause for the delay in initiation of project construction; and