

should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk identified above.

The administrative record for the proceeding is located in the EPA Regional Office at the address stated above, and the file will be open for public inspection during normal business hours. All information submitted by Union Electric Company is available as part of the administrative record, subject to provisions of law restricting public disclosure of confidential information. In order to provide opportunity for public comment, EPA will issue no final order assessing a penalty in this proceeding prior to thirty (30) days from the date of this notice.

Dated: October 22, 1996.

William Rice,

*Acting Regional Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 96-28428 Filed 11-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

[FRL-5647-7]

**Proposed General NPDES Permit for log transfer facilities in Alaska: General NPDES Permit No. AK-G70-0000**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice, extension of the public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** On September 30, 1996, EPA provided notice of the draft general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit no. AK-G70-0000 for log transfer facilities in Alaska. The public comment period was published in the notice. At the request of interested parties, EPA is today providing notice that the public comment period has been extended.

**ORIGINAL PUBLIC NOTICE ISSUANCE DATE:** September 30, 1996.

**ORIGINAL PUBLIC NOTICE EXPIRATION DATE:** October 30, 1996.

**EXTENDED PUBLIC NOTICE EXPIRATION DATE:** November 20, 1996.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft general NPDES permit to: Environmental Protection Agency, Attn: Susan Cantor, 222 W. Seventh Avenue #19, Anchorage, Alaska 99513. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment and the relevant facts upon which it is based. Comments of either support or concern which are directed at specific, cited permit requirements are appreciated. Comments must be submitted to EPA on or before the

extended expiration date of the public notice.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD:** The draft general NPDES permit, fact sheet, and the draft technical report for the "Ocean Discharge Criteria Evaluation of the NPDES General Permit for Alaskan Log Transfer Facilities" are available for inspection and copying at the EPA office in Anchorage (Room 537) any time between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm., Monday through Friday. Copies and other information may also be requested by mail or by calling Susan Cantor at (907) 271-3413.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Cantor, of the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Alaska Office, at the address listed above, or by telephone at (907) 271-3413. Inquiries may be submitted via facsimile to (907) 271-3424. Requests may be electronically mailed to CANTOR.SUSAN@EPAMAIL.EPA.GOV. Additional services can be made available to persons with disabilities. For those with impaired hearing or speech, please contact EPA's telecommunication device for the deaf at (206) 553-1698.

Dated: October 29, 1996.

Philip G. Millam,

*Director, Office of Water.*

[FR Doc. 96-28542 Filed 11-05-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[FRL-5646-6]

**Questions and Answers Regarding Implementation of an Interim Permitting Approach for Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations in Storm Water Permits**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a set of questions and answers to assist municipalities and permitting authorities in implementing its recent policy outlining an interim approach for incorporating water quality-based effluent limitations into storm water permits.

**Background and Purpose**

On August 26, 1996, the EPA published in the Federal Register (61 FR 43761) a policy outlining an interim approach for incorporating water quality-based effluent limitations into National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water permits. The policy was developed to address the variable nature

of storm water discharges, and the typical lack of information on which to base numeric water quality-based effluent limitations (expressed as concentration and mass). The policy addresses issues related to the type of effluent limitations that are most appropriate for NPDES storm water permits to provide for the attainment of water quality standards. Since the policy only applies to water quality-based effluent limitations, it is not intended to affect technology-based limitations, such as those based on effluent guidelines or the permit writer's best professional judgements, that are incorporated into storm water permits.

Based on numerous requests for additional information regarding the implementation of the policy, the EPA has developed the following set of questions and answers. For convenience, the policy is also reprinted below.

**Policy Statement**

In response to recent questions regarding the type of water quality-based effluent limitations that are most appropriate for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water permits, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adopting an interim permitting approach for regulating wet weather storm water discharges. Due to the nature of storm water discharges, and the typical lack of information on which to base numeric water quality-based effluent limitations (expressed as concentration and mass), EPA will use an interim permitting approach for NPDES storm water permits.

The interim permitting approach uses best management practices (BMPs) in first-round storm water permits, and expanded or better-tailored BMPs in subsequent permits, where necessary, to provide for the attainment of water quality standards. In cases where adequate information exists to develop more specific conditions or limitations to meet water quality standards, these conditions or limitations are to be incorporated into storm water permits, as necessary and appropriate. This interim permitting approach is not intended to affect those storm water permits that already include appropriately derived numeric water quality-based effluent limitations. Since the policy only applies to water quality-based effluent limitations, it is not intended to affect technology-based limitations, such as those based on effluent guidelines or the permit writer's best professional judgement, that are incorporated into storm water permits.