

# FACT SHEET

FOR THE GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE WASTEWATER FROM FILTER BACKWASH OPERATIONS AT CONVENTIONAL POTABLE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE OKLAHOMA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (OPDES)

DEQ Permit Number: OKG38

Issuing Office: Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division  
707 N. Robinson Ave  
P.O. Box 1677  
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677

Applicant: Owners/Operators of Potable Water Treatment Plants located in the State of Oklahoma

Prepared By: Nathan Davis, Permit Writer  
Municipal Discharge and Stormwater Permits Section  
Water Quality Division

Date Prepared: October 11, 2024

Reviewed By: Michael B. Moe, P.E., Manager  
Municipal Discharge and Stormwater Permits Section  
Water Quality Division

Patrick Rosch, P.E. Manager  
Municipal Wastewater Group  
Water Quality Division

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has made a tentative determination to re-issue the general permit for the discharge from filter backwash operation at conventional potable water treatment plants. DEQ is the permitting authority and this general permit will be enforceable under both federal and state laws, rules and regulations. Permit requirements are based on NPDES regulations (40 C.F.R., Parts 122, 124, and 136) and the Oklahoma Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Act (OPDES Act), Title 27A O.S., § 2-6-201 *et seq.* and the rules of DEQ adopted there under {See OAC 252:606, 616, and 626}.

## I. PERMITTING BACKGROUND

The following is a chronology of permitting activities since issuance of the previous general permit.

January 31, 2025:	Scheduled expiration date of previous OPDES permit.
November 22, 2024:	Public Notice of draft OKG38 posted on DEQ website.
November 22, 2024:	Public Notice of draft OKG38 published in statewide newspaper.
November 14, 2024::	No Objection letter received from EPA.
October 11, 2024:	Draft general permit and fact sheet sent to EPA for courtesy review.
February 1, 2020:	Previously issued general permit became effective.
January 10, 2020:	Previous general permit issued.

## II. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this general permit is to expedite the permitting process for filter backwash operations at conventional potable water treatment plants (SIC 4941) that discharge less than one (1) million gallons per day (mgd) of filter backwash wastewater and that have relatively low risks for causing water quality degradation to receiving streams. The general permit provides a uniform measure of environmental protection consistent with all the laws, rules and regulations of DEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.21, any potable water treatment plant that discharges filter backwash wastewater is required to obtain an authorization for such a discharge. This authorization must be obtained from the Executive Director of DEQ. An owner or operator of a conventional potable water treatment plant located within the boundaries of the state of Oklahoma must submit an electronic application, per 40 C.F.R. 127.11(b), using DEQ **Form 606-G38**, to DEQ to discharge wastewater under this general permit and receive an authorization, prior to commencing any such discharge. Owners or operators within the scope of this general permit who fail to submit an electronic application, per 40 C.F.R. 127.11(b), using DEQ **Form 606-G38**, to DEQ are not authorized to discharge wastewater under this general permit.

A qualifying facility that currently has an individual permit issued by DEQ to discharge filter backwash wastewater may apply for coverage under this general permit no later than 180 days prior to the expiration of its current individual permit, or it may elect to continue coverage under its individual permit. Any qualifying new facility shall apply for and receive an authorization under this general permit before commencing any of the activities regulated by this general permit. Application for coverage under this Permit must be submitted electronically, per 40 C.F.R. 127.11(b), using DEQ **Form 606-G38**.

DEQ **Form 606-G38** is available by clicking on the Online Application button on DEQ's Municipal Permitting web page at <https://www.deq.ok.gov/municipal-permitting/> and then clicking on the Form Finder button to locate the application form.

Beneficial use of dewatered residuals (sludge) by land application or as fill material must be conducted under a DEQ permit (General Permit OKG65A for alum or OKG65L for lime, or an individual residuals permit must be obtained). Disposal of dewatered residuals (sludge) at a landfill must have written authorization from DEQ.

## III. APPLICANT ACTIVITY

### A. Description of Qualifying Facilities

This general permit covers only conventional potable water plants (SIC Code 4941). The conventional water treatment process generally consists of four key steps – coagulation/flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. This general permit also covers packaged water treatment plants that utilize only these same processes.

Water being treated at conventional potable water plants (source water) can be from both underground and surface water sources. Source water shall comply with Water Quality Criteria for potable water supply and must be approved by DEQ.

Conventional potable water plants frequently use common coagulants including polymers or compounds containing aluminum and iron (such as alum and ferric chloride), and lime and soda ash to treat source water to remove contaminants including, but not limited to, iron, manganese, suspended solids and sediment, prior to distribution for domestic and industrial uses.

Once source water is treated with one or more of the above chemicals, it is usually passed through a filter assembly to remove any suspended materials that have not settled out during the sedimentation process. In accordance with OAC 252:626-9-9(d)(5), the filter media may be a single media or a combination of silica sand, anthracite coal, and/or garnet pebbles. In accordance with OAC 252:626-9-7(a)(3), a manganese green sand filter may also be used to remove iron and manganese from the source water.

In order to prevent clogging of the filters, which results in a reduction in filtering capacity and efficiency, the filters are periodically backwashed to remove trapped materials. Wastewater generated during the treatment process (sedimentation and backwashing of the filters) is usually transported via pipeline to holding ponds to provide sufficient detention time for suspended materials to settle out and for any residual of disinfectant that may be present in the backwash to completely dissipate prior to discharge. The holding ponds must be properly designed in accordance with OAC 252-626-13-4.

## **B. Facilities Excluded from Coverage**

This general permit shall not cover any potable water treatment plant that:

1. discharges greater than or equal to one (1) million gallons per day (mgd);
2. operates non-conventional treatment processes such as ion exchange (brine or zeolite) for softening, electrode ionization for coagulation, or membrane filtration (microfiltration, ultrafiltration, nanofiltration or reverse osmosis) as defined in OAC 252:626-9-9(f);
3. has fewer than two lagoon cells for the treatment of filter backwash wastewater or has lagoons that are not constructed in accordance with OAC 252:626-13-4 and OAC 252:656-11; or
4. has wasteload allocation, specified in the Water Quality Management Plan (208 Plan), with effluent limits that are more stringent than the limits established and shown in Section IV.B below; or

This general permit shall not cover supply of reclaimed water for land application or other water reuse. Such water reuse requires a Permit to Supply in accordance with OAC 252:627.

Additional exclusions are described in Sections V.C, D, and G below.

## **C. Wastewater Characteristics**

Wastewater generated during the sedimentation and backwashing of filters at conventional potable water treatment plants has the potential to contain suspended solids, dissolved iron, dissolved aluminum, dissolved manganese, and chlorine residuals resulting from treatment of potable water.

#### IV. TECHNOLOGY-BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS

##### A. General

Regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(a) and OAC 252:606-5-2(a)(1) require technology-based effluent limitations to be placed in OPDES permits based on effluent limitation guidelines where applicable, on Best Professional Judgment (BPJ) of the permit writer in the absence of guidelines, or on a combination of the two.

##### B. Applicable Effluent Limitations Guidelines

Technology-based effluent guidelines have not been promulgated for filter backwash operations. Therefore, the following proposed permit limitations have been developed and are based on EPA Region 6's recommendations for discharges from water treatment plants and previously issued state permits for water plants that use lime, alum or ferric chloride to treat water; use chlorine, chlorine dioxide or ozone to disinfect the treated water in order to provide potable water to the public; and discharge wastewater resulting from the backwashing of filters. The limits established for total suspended solids and pH are judged to represent the degree of effluent reduction attainable through the application of Best Conventional Technology (BCT). The limits established for dissolved iron, aluminum, and manganese are judged to represent the level of treatment attainable through the application of the Best Available Technology that is economically achievable (BAT).

##### BCT and BAT Effluent Limitations for Filter Backwash Wastewater

Parameter	Concentration (mg/L)	
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	20	30
Iron, Dissolved	1.0	2.0
Aluminum, Dissolved <sup>a</sup>	1.0	2.0
Manganese, Dissolved	1.0	2.0
pH (standard unit)	6.5 – 9.0	

<sup>a</sup> Not applicable if alum (or other aluminum salts) is not used as part of the water treatment process.

#### V. WATER QUALITY-BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS

##### A. General

Section 101 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) states that "...it is the national policy that the discharge of toxic pollutants in toxic amounts be prohibited..." A permit that contains technology-based permit limits alone may not adequately protect the quality of the receiving stream. Thus, additional water quality-based effluent limitations and/or conditions are considered in the draft permit using narrative and numerical standards contained in the Oklahoma's Water Quality Standards (OWQS), OAC 252:730 and OWQS implementation criteria contained in OAC 252:606 and OAC 252:740, promulgated by DEQ. This is to ensure that no point-source discharge results in instream aquatic toxicity, a violation of applicable narrative or numerical state water quality standards, or aquatic bioaccumulation which threatens human health.

##### B. Receiving Stream's Designated Beneficial Uses

Potable water treatment plants covered by this general permit are authorized to discharge into various waterbodies of the state with any or all of the following beneficial uses designated in Oklahoma Water Quality Standards, OAC 252, Chapter 730, Appendix A:

- Public and Private Water Supplies (OAC 252:730-5-10);
- Emergency Public and Private Water Supplies (OAC 252:730-5-11);

- Fish and Wildlife Propagation (OAC 252:730-5-12);
- Agriculture/Livestock and Irrigation (OAC 252:730-5-13);
- Primary Body Contact Recreation (OAC 252:730-5-16);
- Secondary Body Contact Recreation (OAC 252:730-5-17);
- Aesthetics (OAC 252:730-5-19);
- Fish Consumption (OAC 252:730-5-20)

### **C. Antidegradation Requirements**

This general permit shall not cover:

1. facilities that discharge within five (5) miles upstream of waterbodies defined in Oklahoma Water Quality Standards as Outstanding Resource Water [OAC 252:730-5-25(c)(1)], High Quality Water [OAC 252:730-5-25(c)(3)], Sensitive Public and Private Water Supplies [OAC 252:730-5-25(c)(4)], and Appendix B Waters [OAC 252:730-5-25(c)(2)];
2. new discharges that are within five (5) miles upstream of a lake, as the mixing zone and wasteload allocation for a discharge to a lake are determined on a case-by-case basis. Additional or more stringent effluent limitations may also apply in accordance with Oklahoma's policy for discharges to state lakes (2012 Continuing Planning Process document, pp. 42-44); or
3. new facilities, or existing facilities with proposed increases in the discharge volume or proposed changes in the location of the discharge point, that discharge into culturally significant waters as defined at OAC 252:730-5-25(c)(7) and designated in Appendix A of OAC 252:730.

For an existing facility applying for coverage under this general permit where the point of discharge is located in culturally significant waters, and there have been no changes in the discharge volume or the point of discharge, DEQ has determined that issuance of an authorization to discharge under this general permit (Authorization) is not likely to adversely affect such culturally significant waters.

### **D. 303(d) List Assessment**

This general permit shall not cover facilities that discharge within five (5) miles upstream of waterbodies with the Cool Water Aquatic Community subcategory of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation beneficial use (OAC 252:730-5-12(d)) that are listed on the 303(d) List in Appendix C of the most current approved Integrated Report as impaired caused by turbidity or pH for which a TMDL has not been performed, or the result of the TMDL indicates that discharge limits more stringent than 20 mg/L monthly average or 30 mg/L daily maximum for total suspended solids, or more stringent than 6.5 – 9.0 standard units for pH are required. Based on the characteristics of filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, these discharges are not anticipated to cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to impairments for turbidity or pH in waterbodies with other subcategories of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation beneficial use (OAC 252:730-5-12(b), (c), or (e)), and thus additional permit actions are not needed for these discharges.

### **E. Water Quality – Based Effluent Limitations by Designated Beneficial Uses**

#### **1. Public and Private Water Supply**

Based on the characteristics of filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, the discharge is not expected to contain pollutants at levels which would require limits or monitoring requirements to protect the designated use.

## 2. Fish and Wildlife Propagation

### a. Dissolved Oxygen (DO)-Demanding Substances

Based on the characteristics of filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, DO-demanding substances are not expected to be present in the discharge. Therefore, neither effluent limits nor monitoring requirements for DO-demanding substances are needed in this general permit.

### b. pH

OAC 252:730-5-12(f)(3) states, "pH values shall be between 6.5 and 9.0 in waters designated for fish and wildlife propagation; unless pH values outside that range are due to natural conditions." This pH range is established in this general permit.

### c. Oil and Grease

OAC 252:730-5-12(f)(4) states "All waters having the designated beneficial use of any subcategory of fish and wildlife propagation shall be maintained free of oil and grease to prevent a visible sheen of oil or globules of oil or grease on or in the water. Oil and grease shall not be present in quantities that adhere to stream banks and coat bottoms of water courses or which cause deleterious effects to the biota." A narrative condition prohibiting the discharge of any visible sheen of oil or globules of oil or grease will be included in the permit.

### d. Toxicity from Halogenated Oxidants

Water being used for backwashing filters at conventional potable water treatment plants may contain some residual of disinfectant resulting from the treatment and disinfection of water prior to distribution to the public. Filter backwash wastewater must be allowed enough detention time in the properly designed holding ponds (in accordance with OAC 252:626-13-4 and OAC 252:656-11) so that disinfectant residual is completely dissipated. During the previous permit term, all facilities were required to monitor total residual chlorine (TRC). Based on the summary of data from Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) during the period from July 1, 2019, through May 31, 2024, TRC was detected at measurable amounts (values were equal to or greater than 0.1 mg/L) at the majority of discharging facilities covered by this permit. Therefore, a "no measurable" (defined as <0.1 mg/L) TRC limit will be added to this permit.

### e. Toxic Substances

Based on the characteristics of the filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, toxic substances, other than total residual chlorine as described previously, are not expected to be present in the discharge. Therefore, additional effluent limits or monitoring requirements for toxic substances are not needed in this general permit.

## 3. Agriculture/Livestock and Irrigation

Based on the characteristics of filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, chlorides, sulfates and total dissolved solids are not expected to be present in the discharge at levels which would cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. Therefore, neither effluent limits nor monitoring requirements for these pollutants are needed in this general permit.

#### **4. Primary/Secondary Body Contact Recreation**

Based on the characteristics of filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, bacteria are not expected to be present in the discharge at levels that could affect the receiving waterbody's designated use. Therefore, neither effluent limits nor monitoring requirements for bacteria are needed in this general permit.

#### **5. Aesthetics**

Aesthetics use is determined in accordance with OAC 252:730-5-19. A narrative requirement will be established in the draft permit prohibiting the discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

#### **6. Fish Consumption**

In accordance with OAC 252:730-5-20(a), "surface waters of the state shall be maintained so that toxicity does not inhibit ingestion of fish and shellfish by humans". Based on the characteristics of filter backwash wastewater being discharged from conventional potable water treatment plants, such discharges do not contain pollutants at levels which would require fish consumption water quality limits or monitoring.

### **F. Residuals (Sludge) Requirements**

1. All residuals must be handled, beneficially used, and disposed of in accordance with all applicable state (OAC 252:626-13-2, OAC 252:631-3-19(b), and OAC 252:515) and federal regulations (40 CFR Parts 257 and 503) to protect public health and the environment from any reasonably anticipated adverse effects due to any toxic pollutants which may be present.
2. In accordance with OAC 252:626-3-6(c)(10), the permittee shall be required to prepare and obtain approval of a Residuals Management Plan from DEQ prior to removing residuals from the facility.
3. Residuals (sludge) generated at a potable water treatment plant may be beneficially used by land application or as fill material only if the facility has a DEQ residuals (sludge) permit that defines the location and operating conditions and other requirements to be met. Current residuals (sludge) permits available include General Permits OKG65A (for alum) and OKG65L (for lime) or an individual residuals permit. The constituents to be monitored for and the sampling frequencies for each constituent are also defined in the Residuals Management Plan. Application forms for residuals permits or disposal plans may be obtained by contacting the Municipal Enforcement Section of the Water Quality Division of DEQ.
4. A written authorization from DEQ is required for disposal of dewatered residuals (sludge) at a landfill. A letter stating the treatment of the residuals (sludge) to remove excess water and the location of the landfill shall be submitted to DEQ to receive this authorization.
5. All records relevant to the residuals (sludge) beneficial use and/or disposal, including analytical results specified in the Residuals Management Plan approved by DEQ, shall be kept at the facility for a period of five (5) years and shall be made available to DEQ staff upon request.
6. The permittee shall notify DEQ 120 days prior to implementing any changes to the approved residuals (sludge) disposal method.

### **G. Protection of Endangered and Threatened Species and Critical Habitat**

For new facilities, or existing facilities with proposed increases in the discharge volume or proposed changes in the location of the discharge point, that discharge into waters designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(USFWS) pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act as sensitive for threatened or endangered species or critical habitat, DEQ will notify the USFWS so they can review whether threatened or endangered species or critical habitat may be associated with the stream segment to which the discharge will occur and may be subject to additional permit conditions. Since such reviews are site-specific and may result in additional site-specific permit conditions, the general permit does not cover such facilities.

For existing facilities that discharge into waters designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act as sensitive for threatened or endangered species or critical habitat, and there have been no changes in the discharge volume or the location of the discharge point DEQ has determined that issuance of this general permit is not likely to adversely affect any threatened or endangered species or critical habitat. Therefore, this general permit covers such facilities.

#### **H. Reopener Clause**

This general permit may be reopened for modification or revocation and/or reissuance to require additional monitoring and/or effluent limitations where actual or potential exceedances of state water quality criteria are determined to be the result of the permittees' discharge(s) to the receiving water(s), or a Total Maximum Daily Load is established for the receiving waters, or when required as technology. Modification or revocation and/or reissuance of the permit shall follow regulations listed at 40 C.F.R. § 124.5.

### **VI. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PERMIT EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

#### **A. General**

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(a), (d) and (l), pollutant limitations and monitoring requirements are established in the general permit based on the more stringent of technology-based, water quality-based or previous general permit requirements. Both concentration and mass (loading) limits are established unless it is impractical to specify loading limits because of the units in which concentration limits are expressed (e.g., standard units for pH). Such loading limitations shall be calculated by the permitting authority individually for each facility's authorization using the facility's highest monthly average backwash discharge flow and the following equation:

$$\text{Mass loading limit (in lb/day)} = \text{Concentration limit (in mg/L)} \times Q_e \text{ (in mgd)} \times 8.34$$

where  $Q_e$  is the highest monthly average effluent flow stated in the application or determined from DMRs covering the previous permit cycle.

#### **B. Effluent Limitations and Monitoring and Reporting Requirement**

Effluent limits and monitoring requirements are effective on the effective date and last through the expiration date of this general permit.



**1. Final Concentration Limitations and Reporting Requirements**

Final limitations and reporting requirements are effective on the effective date of the permit:

Effluent Characteristic <sup>a, b</sup>	Previous General Permit		Draft General Permit	
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum
Flow (mgd) <sup>c</sup>	Report Monthly Average and Daily Maximum		Report Monthly Average and Daily Maximum	
TSS	20	30	20	30
Iron, Dissolved	1.0 <sup>d</sup>	2.0	1.0 <sup>d</sup>	2.0
Aluminum, Dissolved	1.0 <sup>d</sup>	2.0	1.0 <sup>d</sup>	2.0
Manganese, Dissolved	1.0 <sup>d</sup>	2.0	1.0 <sup>d</sup>	2.0
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)	---	Report	Instantaneous Maximum: No measurable <sup>e</sup>	
pH (standard units)	6.5 – 9.0		6.5 – 9.0	

<sup>a</sup> Units are mg/L, unless otherwise specified.

<sup>b</sup> When discharging.

<sup>c</sup> Reporting for flow has been revised as monthly average and daily maximum to be consistent with reporting requirements for other parameters.

<sup>d</sup> Readings may be averaged for the month if an individual sample is in excess of the monthly average.

<sup>e</sup> No measurable is defined as less than 0.1 mg/L.

**2. Final Monthly Average Mass Loading Limitations and Reporting Requirements**

Effluent Characteristic <sup>a</sup>	Previous General Permit	Draft General Permit
TSS	To be specified based on permitted flow	To be specified based on highest monthly average flow
Iron, Dissolved		
Aluminum, Dissolved		
Manganese, Dissolved		

<sup>a</sup> Units are lb/day, unless otherwise specified.

### 3. Final Monitoring Requirements and Sample Types (Outfall 001)

Effluent Characteristic	Previous General Permit		Draft General Permit <sup>a</sup>	
	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow	To be specified based on permitted flow <sup>b</sup>	To be specified based on permitted flow <sup>b</sup>	To be specified based on highest monthly average flow <sup>b</sup>	To be specified based on highest monthly average flow <sup>b</sup>
TSS	To be specified based on permitted flow <sup>b</sup>	Grab	To be specified based on highest monthly average flow <sup>b</sup>	Grab
Iron, Dissolved	1/Month <sup>b</sup>	Grab	1/Month <sup>b</sup>	Grab
Aluminum, Dissolved	1/Month <sup>b</sup>	Grab	1/Month <sup>b</sup>	Grab
Manganese, Dissolved	1/Month <sup>b</sup>	Grab	1/Month <sup>b</sup>	Grab
Total Residual Chlorine (TRC)	1/Week	Grab	1/Week	Grab
pH	2/Week <sup>b</sup>	Grab	2/Week <sup>b</sup>	Grab

<sup>a</sup> When discharging.

<sup>b</sup> Monitoring frequency and sample type are in accordance with OAC 252:606, Appendix G.

#### Other Year Round Requirements

- There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.
- There shall be no discharge of any visible sheen of oil or globules of oil or grease.
- Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the discharge from the final treatment unit.
- All monitoring and reporting requirements shall also be in compliance with Part III of this general permit.

#### C. Reporting Requirements

Monitoring results shall be reported in accordance with the provisions of Part III.B.5 of the permit. Monitoring results obtained during the previous month shall be summarized and electronically reported on an electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) form due to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, Wastewater Compliance Tracking Section no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the completed monthly test. If no discharge occurs during the reporting period, an eDMR form stating "No Discharge" shall be electronically submitted according to the above schedule. Instructions on how to register as a Preparer or Signatory for eDMRs, as well as how to prepare and submit eDMRs, can be found on DEQ's website at <https://www.deq.ok.gov/water-quality-division/wastewater-stormwater/compliance-enforcement/wastewater-reporting/>. Assistance is also available by contacting DEQ at (405) 702-8100 or [deqreporting@deq.ok.gov](mailto:deqreporting@deq.ok.gov).

### VII. SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS GENERAL PERMIT

The following change is made to this general permit:

- Added instructions for electronic application, per 40 C.F.R. 127.11(b), using DEQ Form 606-G38.
- TRC limits were added to meet the "no measurable amount" of disinfectant residual in the discharge.

- Added a section for Facilities Excluded from Coverage in Part III of the Fact Sheet.
- Determination of mass loading limits, and monitoring frequencies for Flow and TSS, are clarified to be based on highest monthly average flow determined from DMRs covering the previous permit cycle.
- Expanded Part V.C Antidegradation Requirements of the Fact Sheet for clarity.
- Expanded Part V.F Residuals (Sludge) Requirements of the Fact Sheet for clarity.
- Added a proximity distance of five (5) miles to the 303(d) List Assessment/TMDL provision for waterbodies that are impaired for turbidity or pH, and restricted this provision to the Cool Water Aquatic Community subcategory of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation beneficial use.
- Updated regulation references where OAC 785:45 is now OAC 252:730 and all applicable parts of OAC 252:690 are now incorporated into OAC 252:606.

### **VIII. REVIEW BY OTHER AGENCIES AND FINAL DETERMINATION**

A draft general permit and draft public notice will be sent to the District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, State Historical Preservation Office and to the Field Supervisor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service upon the publication of the notice. If comments are received from these agencies or other state or federal agencies with jurisdiction over fish, wildlife, or public health, the general permit may be denied or additional conditions may be included in accordance with regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. § 124.59.

The public notice describes the procedures for the formulation of the final determination.

### **IX. ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

The following sources were used to prepare this general permit and constitute a part of the administrative record for this general permit:

#### **A. DEQ Records**

- Permit files containing permits, applications and monitoring data for potable water treatment plants
- Fact sheets from individual permits previously issued by DEQ

#### **B. Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act), 33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.**

- Section 301, 303 and 402(a).

#### **C. Federal Rules and Regulations**

- 40 C.F.R. Parts 122, 124, 136, 257, and 503.

#### **D. State Law, Standards, and Rules and Regulations**

- Oklahoma Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (OPDES) Act, 27A O.S. 2-6-201 et. seq.
- OAC 252:515, 606, 616, 626, 627, 631, 730 and OAC 252:740.
- Oklahoma's Water Quality Standards, as amended.
- Oklahoma Continuing Planning Process Document (CPP).