

7th MCM Decision and OKR10 Requirements

GCSA Employee Training

Tulsa Mohawk Education Auditorium

November 17, 2015

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Background of 7th MCM

- The 1999 Phase II EPA rules allow local responsibility for discharges from municipal constructions projects.
- In Oklahoma this became Part VIII in OKR04.
- It was made optional by checking a box on the NOI form at time of application for OKR04 permit coverage.
- Most of the original 44 Phase II permittees in Oklahoma elected to use the 7th MCM.
- ODEQ allows a permittee to opt out and back in again with every filing of their Annual Report.
- Changes must be submitted in writing to ODEQ.

Without the 7th MCM

- Any construction project that disturbs one acre or more of soil must be covered by ODEQ's construction general permit (OKR10).
- This involves filing an NOI for OKR10 coverage, preparing a SWP3, and paying the application fee and annual permit fees.
- ODEQ performs a technical review of the impacts. After a few weeks ODEQ will issue an Authorization to Discharge letter.
- It is only then that construction can begin on activities covered by OKR10.
- This process is costly, and it takes weeks to accomplish.
- Most of the technically difficult requirements (e.g., SWP3) must be done regardless of 7th MCM selection.

Benefits of Using the 7th MCM

- Do not have to apply for OKR10 coverage or pay ODEQ permit fees for construction activities under OKR10.
- Do not have to wait for ODEQ's technical review of the proposed project before starting construction.
- Local inspections and enforcement by the Phase II permittee are considered more effective and responsive.
- This is due to greater availability of local staff.
- The permittee has the option for each project to use the 7th MCM or go the traditional OKR10 route.
- Selection of the 7th MCM option on the NOI does not require its use, it only grants the option to use it if desirable.

Past Concerns Over the 7th MCM

- There was confusion about who should prepare the SWP3.
- Also, who should be responsible for local inspections and enforcement.
- Most 7th MCM permittees now require preparation of the SWP3 as part of the engineering and design rather than preparing in-house.
- Many permittees are now more accustomed to doing construction site inspections.
- City inspectors are more educated about the SWP3 requirements, so inspections are much smoother now.

Thank you.

Any Questions ?



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