



**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
GENERAL NPDES PERMIT FACT SHEET for
Sand, Gravel, Dimension Stone & Crushed Stone Operations**

NPDES Permit No. ING490000

Draft: May 9, 2025

Final: September 2025

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Office of Water Quality

100 North Senate Avenue, IGCN

Indianapolis, IN 46204

www.idem.IN.gov

Existing Permit Information:	Permit Number: ING490000 (Master General Permit). Existing general permit coverage numbering under ING490000 will be retained. Expiration Date: All permitted facilities will have the same expiration date of September 30, 2030, which shall be no more than five (5) years from the effective date of the 2025 general permit renewal.
Source Location:	State-wide
Receiving Streams:	All waters of the state of Indiana except for Outstanding State Resource Waters (OSRWs) and Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs) (see Exclusions to Eligibility in Part D for other exclusions)
Proposed Action:	Renewal of administrative NPDES General NPDES Permit ING490000 to replace the 2020 General NPDES Permit ING490000
Source Category:	NPDES Minor – Industrial
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The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (also referred to as The Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)) was enacted in 1972 and provides that the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the United States from any point source is unlawful unless the discharge is in compliance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The primary condition determining eligibility for this particular general permit is that the discharge consists of only wastewater from sedimentation treatment basins from sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations. Dischargers who meet the eligibility requirements may seek coverage under this Master General ("general") NPDES permit instead of applying for an individual NPDES permit.

To be authorized to discharge under this permit, applicants must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) in accordance with the requirements of Part 4.0 of the permit, using an NOI application form provided by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). The form is notice to IDEM that the applicant intends to comply with the requirements of the general permit.

When the NOI is reviewed by IDEM, IDEM will determine whether coverage under this general permit is granted or denied. If denied, IDEM will notify the applicant in writing. If coverage is granted, IDEM shall notify the applicant of authorization and the effective date via a Notice of Coverage (NOC) letter. This letter includes requirements for monitoring and limits for applicable parameters based upon the characteristics of the discharge. Until IDEM issues a Notice of Coverage (NOC) that grants coverage for the facility, no discharges are authorized under this permit and may not be initiated.

Development of a Fact Sheet for NPDES permits is required by Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 124.8 and 124.56. This document fulfills the requirements established in those regulations by providing the information necessary to inform the public of actions proposed by IDEM as outlined in 40 CFR 122.28 and 327 IAC 5-3-8.

A. Description of General Permit Category

1. History and Overview

General NPDES permits are developed and issued to cover multiple facilities engaged in the same process category instead of individual facilities within the state of Indiana. IDEM first developed a general NPDES permit-by-rule (327 IAC 15-12) for quarry sedimentation treatment basin discharges in 1994. As a result of statutory changes to Indiana law in 2011, IDEM changed its method of administering General NPDES permits by changing from a permit-by-rule format to an administrative format which utilizes a “master general permit” which will be renewed and reevaluated on a five-year interval.

Persons who seek coverage under this Master General (“general”) permit will continue to be assigned permit tracking numbers beginning with “ING49” but coverage under the general permit is limited to the permit term established in the master general permit.

Discharges covered by general permits are similar and require generally the same effluent limitations and monitoring requirements, however, the discharges typically do not occur on a daily basis. As of April 17, 2025, there are approximately 100 facilities which are regulated under ING490000. Since the permit requirements for all of these discharges are similar and due to the large number of such dischargers, it is the opinion of IDEM that this category of sources is regulated more appropriately under a general NPDES permits. Discharges from quarry operations are similar in the following ways:

- a) they are comprised solely of wastewater from sedimentation treatment basins at sites involved in the mining and processing of sand, gravel, dimension stone and crushed stone;
- b) they are generated on the quarry property by processes that include but are not limited to the following: pit dewatering, channel machines, broaching, jet piercing, scrubber water from wet scrubbers used for air pollution control, dust suppression spray water, wash water from spray bars for final screening operations, and/or non-contact cooling water for cooling of crusher bearings, drills, saws, dryers, pumps, and air compressors.

2. Discharges Regulated Under ING490000

The purpose of this general permit is to regulate certain wastewater discharges from sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations which are subject to 40 CFR 436, Subparts A through C, the federal categorical standards for Mineral Mining and Processing Effluent Guidelines. Subpart B is the Crushed Stone Subcategory and Subpart C is the Construction Sand and Gravel Subcategory; both of these subparts contain the same effluent limitations and monitoring requirements. Subpart A, which would regulate Dimension Stone operations (i.e. those facilities with a primary SIC code of 1411 or an NAICS code of 212311) is reserved by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), meaning there are no federal categorical standards set forth for that category. However, IDEM has historically used best professional judgement (BPJ) to apply effluent limitations equivalent to those regulated under Subparts B and C to the dimension stone operations (Subpart A).

All the other subparts of 40 CFR 436 (i.e. Subparts D through AL) contain additional requirements which vary with the type of operation. Therefore, IDEM chooses to restrict the types of operations covered by this general permit to those operations discussed above. All three (3) of these categories are subject to effluent limitations based upon both federal effluent guidelines and BPJ limits, which necessitate such operations to utilize some method of treatment to ensure compliance with these limits.

The process wastewater with these subparts includes discharges from channel machines, broaching, jet piercing, and scrubber water from wet scrubbers used for air pollution control. Also covered are dust suppression spray water, wash water from spray bars for final screening operations and noncontact cooling water for cooling of crusher bearings, drills, saws, dryers, pumps, and air compressors. These types of facilities are also subject to the stormwater rules at 40 CFR 122.26. However, most of the facilities regulated under this general permit also have coverage under 327 IAC 15-6 (or INRM00000) for the discharges of storm water runoff. Any storm water runoff from these sites which flows into the sedimentation basin(s) and commingles with the process generated water is also covered by this general permit, in lieu of a general permit under 327 IAC 15-6 (or INRM00000).

3. Treatment of Process Wastewater

Generally, mine and quarry operations utilize sedimentation basin treatment to achieve the effluent limitations applicable to the process wastewater at the sites. Sedimentation basins are settling ponds with a controlled water release structure, used to collect and store sediment produced by resource extraction activities. A sedimentation basin can be constructed by excavation or by placing an earthen embankment across a low area or drainage swale. The basin detains sediment-laden runoff long enough to allow most of the sediment to settle out. Henceforth in this document, these discharges will be referred to as sedimentation treatment basin discharges.

B. Geographic area covered:

This general permit is intended to cover any discharge of wastewater from sedimentation treatment basins at sand, gravel, dimension stone and crushed stone operation sites (subject to the eligibility provisions denoted in Part D of this fact sheet) to surface waters of the state within the boundaries of the state of Indiana, except as denoted herein. For example, it does not include any discharges to waters located in Indian country, which is defined in United States Code 18 USC Section 1151 as "(a) all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and, including any rights-of-way running through the reservation, (b) all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a state, and (c) all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including the rights-of-way running through the same

C. Receiving waters:

This general permit will authorize discharges to all surface waters of the state of Indiana except for direct discharges to OSRWs and direct discharges to or tributaries of ONRWs are required to obtain an individual NPDES permit to regulate their discharge. See Part D below for additional eligibility requirements.

D. Eligibility

This general permit authorizes discharges comprised of process generated wastewater and mine dewatering water from facilities involved in sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations to surface waters of the state, except as noted below. If the storm water runoff from facilities involved in sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations commingles with the process generated wastewater then such discharges are authorized by this general permit. In these cases, the commingled discharge is subject to the same effluent limitations.

This general permit contains certain specific exclusions from coverage which are denoted in Section 1.3 of the permit and also listed below. In such instances, the person will be required to apply for an individual NPDES permit or an alternate general permit.

The following discharges are not authorized by this permit:

- 1) discharges directly to or to tributaries of waters that are designated as an ONRW defined at IC 13-11-2-149.5 or discharges directly to an OSRW defined at IC 13-11-2-149.6 and listed at 327 IAC 2-1-11(b), 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(d), or 327 IAC 2-1.5-19(b);
- 2) discharges to a receiving stream when the discharge results in an increase in the ambient concentration of a pollutant which contributes to the impairment of the receiving stream for that pollutant as identified on the current 303(d) list of impaired waters;
- 3) discharges containing water treatment additives (WTAs) which have not received prior written approval from IDEM for the specific additive, use, and dosage at the particular facility which is covered by the general permit;
- 4) discharges from crushed stone operations utilizing flotation agents to remove impurities from marble or other carbonaceous rock. Flotation agents include organic amines, fatty acids, and pine oils;
- 5) industrial sand operations utilizing any or all of the following materials and/or methods:
 - a) acid flotation to effect removal of iron oxide and ilmenite impurities;
 - b) alkaline flotation to remove aluminate bearing materials; and
 - c) hydrofluoric acid flotation for removal of feldspar;
- 6) industrial sand operations utilizing the acid leaching process. This process pertains to the removal of iron from feldspathic sand for use in glass manufacturing;
- 7) stormwater discharges associated with construction or industrial activity. This exclusion only pertains to storm water runoff which discharges directly to a surface water of the state. If the storm water runoff from facilities involved in sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations commingles with the process generated wastewater in the sedimentation treatment basin, then such discharges are permitted by this general permit. Otherwise, the storm water runoff must either be covered by an individual NPDES permit or by the general permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity, 327 IAC 15-6 or General Permit INRM00000. See <https://www.in.gov/idem/stormwater/industrial-storm-water-permitting/> for more information;
- 8) discharges that are commingled with hazardous wastes or hazardous materials;
- 9) discharges of domestic or sanitary wastewater;
- 10) discharges that contain pollutants classified as bioaccumulative chemicals of concern (BCCs) other than mercury;
- 11) discharges for which the Commissioner requests an individual permit application; and

12)any discharges to waters located in Indian country, as denoted in Section 1.1 of the general permit and as described in the Geographic Area Covered section of the fact sheet (Item B above).

E. Application for Coverage:

This general permit provides authorization for any quarry with discharges composed of process generated wastewater and mine dewatering water from sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations which are not precluded from general permit coverage and who agree to be regulated under the terms of the general permit.

Each discharger seeking coverage under this general permit must submit a NOI form. Federal regulations found in 40 CFR 122.21(a) exclude persons covered by general permits from requirements to submit an application for an individual permit. The NOI form for this general permit is State Form 55917 which can be found at <https://www.in.gov/idem/forms/>.

Applicants must obtain written IDEM approval for any WTA prior to its use for the water that is to be discharged under this permit. Documentation of IDEM's approval of said WTA must be submitted with the NOI. The necessary form and complete instructions for approval of WTAs are included in State Form 50000, which can be found at <https://www.in.gov/idem/forms/>. A separate form must be submitted for each WTA that the facility uses or plans to use.

F. Antidegradation Evaluation

Rule 327 IAC 2-1.3 outlines the state's Antidegradation Standards and Implementation Procedures. The Tier 1 antidegradation standard found in 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(a) applies to all surface waters of the state regardless of their existing water quality. Based on this standard for all surface waters of the state, existing uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect existing uses shall be maintained and protected.

IDEM implements the Tier 1 antidegradation standard by requiring NPDES permits to contain effluent limits and best management practices for regulated pollutants that ensure the narrative and numeric water quality criteria applicable to the designated use are achieved and that any designated use of the downstream water is maintained and protected. Effluent limits for the following regulated pollutants are being included in this NPDES permit to satisfy the Tier 1 antidegradation standard: total suspended solids (TSS).

The Tier 2 antidegradation standard, found in 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(b), applies to surface waters of the state that have existing quality higher than necessary to support their existing uses. This tier requires that a higher level of water quality be maintained and protected and that any proposed activity must undergo a review for practicable alternatives. There is a prohibition on the new or expanded discharge of pollutants unless there are no practicable alternatives and the activity is in the public interest.

These surface waters are considered high quality for the parameter, and this high quality shall be maintained and protected unless the Commissioner finds that allowing a significant lowering of water quality is necessary and accommodates important social or economic development in the area in which the waters are located. IDEM implements the Tier 2 antidegradation standard for regulated pollutants with numeric water quality criteria adopted in or developed pursuant to 327 IAC 2-1 or 327 IAC 2-1.5 and utilizes the antidegradation implementation procedures in 327 IAC 2-1.3-5 and 2-1.3-6.

There are no regulated pollutants in the expected discharge from sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations that have numeric water quality criteria. Therefore, a high-quality water determination cannot be made and the Tier 2 antidegradation standard does not apply to any new or existing discharge from sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations.

The following antidegradation determination is based on 327 IAC 2-1.3. The effluent limits in the general permit for discharges from Sand, Gravel, Dimension Stone and Crushed Stone Operations are based on the best professional judgment of the best available treatment in accordance with 327 IAC 5-5-2 and the Indiana Tier 1 antidegradation standard. Indiana does not have a numeric water quality criterion for Total Suspended Solids (TSS), so the Tier 2 antidegradation standard for high quality waters does not apply to this parameter. Therefore, the Antidegradation Implementation Procedures in 327 IAC 2-1.3-5 and 2-1.3-6 do not apply to the permitted discharges.

G. When to Apply

All dischargers desiring coverage under this general permit must timely submit an NOI at least thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the proposed activity. Under the terms and conditions of this general permit, appropriate submission time frames are proposed and dependent upon the situation of the discharger (see Section 4.0 of the general permit). IDEM encourages timely submittal of the NOI as no discharge is authorized under this permit until IDEM reviews the NOI and issues an NOC.

H. Permit Conditions:

Effluent limitations and monitoring requirements will be established in accordance with the Minimum Surface Water Quality Standards as stated in 327 IAC 2-1-6 and 327 IAC 2-1.5-8 of the Indiana Administrative Code and technology-based effluent limitations (TBELs) and requirements, based upon the information to be submitted as part of the NOI form.

Effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for the discharge will be included in the NOC letter sent to advise the applicant of acceptance of coverage under this general permit.

1) Narrative Water Quality Limitations

The narrative water quality standards contained in 327 IAC 2-1-6(a)(1)(A-E) and 327 IAC 2-1.5-8(b)(1)(A)-(E) have been included in this general permit to ensure that the narrative water quality criteria are met.

2) Numeric Permit Limitations & Monitoring Requirements

In accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-10 and 40 CFR 122.44, NPDES permit limits shall be based on either TBELs, including TBELs developed on a case-by-case basis using best professional judgement (BPJ), or water quality-based effluent limits (WQBELs), whichever is most stringent.

For some industry categories, such effluent limitations have already been established by the U.S. EPA. When an industrial discharge occurs on a continuous basis, the state and federal rules require that the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements be expressed as a monthly average and daily maximum. However, discharges from quarry operations are usually of an intermittent nature, so daily maximum limitations are most applicable to this permit.

- a) Discharge Flow** - Discharge flow is a standard parameter to be monitored in all NPDES permits. This parameter is required of all NPDES permits and is included in this permit in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-13--(a)(2). Flow may be estimated, but the applicant must provide information in the NOI as to the method of flow measurement utilized at the site. This monitoring is to be conducted one time monthly.
- b) Total Flow** - The total cumulative effluent flow for each calendar quarter shall be calculated and reported in units of million gallons (mgal) at a frequency of once quarterly.
- c) Days of Discharge** - The total number of days which discharge occurred shall be reported quarterly.
- d) Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and pH** - TSS and pH limitations are included in the general permit to ensure that discharges will not violate Indiana water quality standards. The effluent limits for pH are unchanged from the 2020 permit. The pH of the effluent shall be between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units. The effluent limit for TSS is unchanged from the 2020 permit, and is set at a daily maximum value of 30 mg/l. The monitoring frequency for TSS and pH is set at four (4) times annually, which shall occur at a minimum of once per calendar quarter.
- e) Other Parameters** - IDEM will evaluate the NOI and other available information relating to the facility/site and the receiving waterbody to determine whether there is a need to include additional parameters, effluent limitations, and/or monitoring requirements.

In accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-10 and 40 CFR 122.44, NPDES permit limits shall be based on either TBELs (including TBELs developed on a case-by-case basis using BPJ, where applicable) or WQBELs, whichever is most stringent. Any additional effluent limitations and/or monitoring requirements will be included in the NOC which will advise the applicant of acceptance of coverage under this general permit.

3) Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The monitoring frequency for TSS and pH is set at four (4) times annually, which shall occur at a minimum frequency of once per calendar quarter. Flow monitoring is to be monitored monthly and total flow must be calculated once quarterly. The permit also now requires the permittee(s) to report the number of days per quarter that an outfall had active discharges.

Permittees are required to complete and submit federal Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) and state Monthly Monitoring Reports (MMRs) or Quarterly Monitoring Reports (QMRs) to IDEM for the previous monitoring period by the 28th day of each month of operation.

Permittees are required to enroll in the NetDMR program for the electronic submittal of the federal DMR and the state MMR or QMR forms in lieu of submitting them via U.S. Mail. Once approved by IDEM, the permittee may use this process for submitting reports in lieu of submitting hard copies of the reports to IDEM.

I. Reporting Spills and Noncompliance

Pursuant to 327 IAC 5-2-8(11) and 327 IAC 5-1-3, the permittee shall orally report to the Commissioner information on the following incidents within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of such occurrence. If the incident poses significant danger to human health or the environment, then pursuant to 327 IAC 2-6.1, the report shall be made as soon as possible, but within two (2) hours of discovery to IDEM's Emergency Response Section at (317) 233-7745 ((888) 233-7745 toll free in Indiana).

This number should only be called when reporting these emergency events. However, under 327 IAC 2-6.1-3(1), when the constituents of the discharge are regulated by this permit, and death or acute injury or illness to animals or humans does not occur, the reporting requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1 do not apply:

- a) Any unanticipated bypass or upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit or NOC;
- b) Any adverse incidents, including spills and leaks, which reach any surface water of the state;
- c) Any discharge from any other outfall or point not listed in this permit.

For the above incidents, the permittee can make oral reports by calling (317) 232-8670 during regular business hours and asking for the Compliance Data Section. A written submission shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of non-compliance, including exact dates and times, and, if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce and eliminate the noncompliance and prevent its recurrence.

The Commissioner may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours. Alternatively, the permittee may submit a "Bypass/Overflow Report" (State Form 48373) or a "Noncompliance 24-Hour Notification Report" (State Form 52415), whichever is appropriate, to IDEM at wwreports@idem.in.gov. If a complete e-mail submittal is sent within 24 hours of the time that the permittee became aware of the occurrence, then the email report will satisfy both the oral and written reporting requirements.

Pursuant to 327 IAC 5-2-8(11)(D), the permittee shall report any instance of noncompliance not reported under the above scenarios at the time the pertinent DMR is submitted as referenced in Section I.3 of the fact sheet and 3.7 of the general permit. The report shall contain the information specified in the paragraph above.

J. Fees

In accordance with 327 IAC 5-3-17, any application for a new permit, renewal of a permit, modification of a permit, or variance from a permit requirement must be accompanied by an application fee. This fee is also applicable to NOIs for general permits and the amount can be found on the NOI. Once approved for coverage under a general permit, the permittee is also subject to annual operating fees. These annual fees are set by rule in accordance with 327 IAC 5-3-17.

Fees may be remitted by mailing a check or money order to IDEM or by online payment (e-checks and credit cards) at <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/e-services/online-payment-options/>.

K. Reopening Clauses

This general permit may be modified or alternately, revoked and reissued, after public notice and opportunity for hearing:

1. to comply with any applicable effluent limitation or standard issued or approved under 301(b)(2)(C)(D) and (E), 304 (b)(2), and 307(a)(2) of the Clean Water Act, if the effluent limitation or standard so issued or approved:
 - a) contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the permit; or

- b) controls any pollutant not limited in the permit.
- 2. to invoke one of the reopening clauses at 327 IAC 5-2-16.

L. Permit Term

This general permit is proposed to be in effect for a five-year term.

M. Forms, References, and Guidance Documents

The IDEM website contains information about each of the General NPDES permits, including the issued permit(s) and will also be used to post notices pertaining to the renewal or modification of any general permits. It can be found at <https://www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/wastewater-permitting/general-permits/>. All state forms, including the NOI and the application to use water treatment additives (State Form 50000) may be found at <https://www.in.gov/idem/forms/idem-agency-forms/>.

N. Post Public Notice Addendum – September 18, 2025

The draft NPDES general permit ING490000 for Sand, Gravel, Dimension Stone & Crushed Stone operations was made available for public comment from May 20, 2025 through June 20, 2025 as part of Public Notice No. 20250520- ING490000-RD on IDEM's website at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/public-notices-all-regions/>. During this comment period, comment letters were received from the following people: Craig Ousley, Environmental Supervisor at Jurgensen Companies Infrastructure Solutions on May 21, 2025; Laurie Webb, Environmental Manager with U.S. Aggregates Inc on June 17, 2025; Dana Armstrong, Senior Environmental Engineer with Martin Marietta on June 17, 2025. The comments submitted and this Office's corresponding responses are summarized below. Any changes to the permit and/or Fact Sheet are so noted below.

Comment 1: Ms. Webb submitted the following comment (paraphrased): On page 7 of 25, the Discharge Limitation Table 1 shows that there is only a Daily Max of 30 mg/l for TSS and does not indicate an area to report a Quarterly Average. In previous NPDES Permits before the 2020 NPDES ING490000 General Permit was issued, permittees were given an opportunity to take multiple follow-up samples and calculate a quarterly average if one of their TSS results was high. The option to conduct further TSS analysis gives sites an incentive to fix the issue and conduct a follow-up test to confirm the "fix" worked, and it did not result in a permit violation on the DMR. As is, the permittee gets one chance to get it right. I am respectfully asking that you re-evaluate this section of the permit and add a Quarterly Average for TSS.

IDEM Response 1: Including the daily maximum complies with requirements in 327 IAC 5-2-11.1. Note that multiple samples taken in one day can be averaged and reported as a daily maximum. We will consider adding quarterly limitations and/or revisiting the daily maximum limitation value as a possible future modification to the permit. However, a daily maximum limitation will still be retained in order to remain in compliance with the aforementioned rule. Therefore, no changes have been made to the permit in response to this comment at this time.

Comment 2: Ms. Webb submitted the following comment (paraphrased): Footnote 5 of Table 1 (page 8) states that for TSS “a minimum of one sample shall be collected, analyzed and the results reported each calendar quarter.” This wording is contradictory to the requirement of reporting only a Daily Maximum TSS result.

IDEML Response 2: All monitoring frequencies listed in Table 1 are a minimum frequency requirement. The daily maximum TSS result corresponds to a single sample taken, which is consistent with only one (1) sample being required per quarter. In order to include a monthly or quarterly average, more than one sample within that time frame would be required. Therefore, no changes have been made in response to this comment.

Comment 3: Monthly monitoring reports (MMRs) should not be required to be submitted with Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) when there is no discharge. Mr. Ousley and Ms. Armstrong both submitted comments pertaining to this issue.

IDEML Response 3: MMRs are and are and have been required regardless of monthly discharge activity. Due to the creation of a quarterly monitoring report (QMR), permittees have the option of utilizing it instead of the MMR. No changes have been made in response to this comment.

Comment 4: A licensed and certified wastewater operator should not be required in order to collect samples and field measurements from these facilities, as the only “treatment” used are settling ponds. Neither Ohio nor Kentucky have similar requirements for a certified operator. Additionally, neither the training for certified operators nor the Continuing Education Unit (CEUs) offerings are applicable to this type of operation. Mr. Ousley and Ms. Armstrong both submitted comments pertaining to this issue.

IDEML Response 4: Certified operators are required for any facility that contains a treatment unit. The facilities covered under this general permit typically contain settling ponds, which constitute treatment, and therefore require a certified operator. See 327 IAC 5-23 and IC 13-18-11-11 for more information on certified operators. No changes have been made in response to this comment.

Comment 5: Responsible Officials should be allowed to sign off on the QMRs and DMRs instead of a wastewater certified operator. Mr. Ousley and Ms. Armstrong both submitted comments pertaining to this issue.

IDEML Response 5: The responsible official is required to sign all reports unless they delegate signatory authority to someone else. Such authorization must be submitted to IDEML in writing and must explain the duties and responsibilities of the authorized representative. Certified operators may sign reports if they have been given delegated authority by a responsible official. No changes have been made to the permit in response to this comment.

Amendments to the Master General Permit Following the 30-day Comment Period:

1. New language was added to Sections 1.1 and 1.3 of the NPDES general permit to clarify that any discharges within (or which would enter) Indian Country are excluded from coverage under this general permit. Such discharges are not included in Indiana's delegated authority of the NPDES program from U.S. EPA.
2. Additional language was added to Section 6.9 of the permit to include other instances by which a facility may be required to (or may elect to) submit an individual NPDES application for the discharge(s) for which general permit coverage is being sought. These provisions were originally listed in the NPDES general permits-by-rule, 327 IAC 15-2-9.
3. Minor edits were made to Section 6.1 (m) and (n) of the permit to more accurately mirror the federal rule language at 40 CFR 122.41 (m) and (n), which address more than just the *reporting* of bypasses and upsets. In both instances the word "Reporting" was removed.
4. Some of the standard wording in the master general permit was updated to be more consistent with other recently issued NPDES general permit.