



CONSENT ORDER

To Comply With The Terms and Conditions of the General Permit for Discharges from Tanks, Pipes, Other Containment Structures, Dewatering Activities, and Groundwater Remediation, No. 17-HT

The Maryland Department of the Environment (“Department”) has the powers, duties, and responsibilities vested in it pursuant to Sections 1-301 and 9-301 through 9-344, inclusive, of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, to implement and enforce the environmental laws of the State, including protection of the waters of the State;

Pursuant to Section 9-322 of the Environment Article, a person may not discharge any pollutant, including from process water discharges from tanks, pipes, other liquid containment structures, dewatering activities, and groundwater remediation, to waters of the State without a permit;

Pursuant to Section 9-335 of the Environment Article, the Department may issue an order to take corrective action to any person who has violated Title 9, subtitle 3 of the Environment Article, any rule or regulation adopted under Title 9, subtitle 3, or any order or permit issued under Title 9, subtitle 3;

A person who violates any provision of Title 9, subtitle 3 of the Environment Article, or any rule, regulation, order, or permit adopted or issued by the Department under Title 9, subtitle 3 may be subject to potential civil and administrative penalties pursuant to Section 9-342, including for discharging from tanks, pipes, other liquid containment structures, dewatering activities, or groundwater remediation without a discharge permit;

Because NPDES permits have a maximum duration of five years, and the five-year term of the General Permit for Discharges from Tanks, Pipes, Other Containment Structures, Dewatering Activities, and Groundwater Remediation (General Discharge Permit Number 17-HT, NPDES Permit Number MDG67) (“17-HT Permit”) ends on July 31, 2025, the Department is no longer issuing new registrations under the expired 17-HT Permit as of August 1, 2025. Proposed new discharges from tanks, pipes, other liquid containment structures, dewatering activities, and groundwater remediation will not be allowed to obtain general permit coverage until a new permit is issued; and

Any person that has signed a Declaration of Intent (the “Declarant”) to comply with the terms and conditions of the 17-HT Permit voluntarily consents to the Department entering this Order. The Declarant also voluntarily agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of the expired 17-HT for all new and existing discharges from tanks, pipes, other liquid containment structures, dewatering activities, and groundwater remediation [as described in Part I (Permit Applicability) of the 17-HT Permit] until a new general permit is final and effective or the Declarant is issued an individual discharge permit, whichever comes first.

ORDER

THEREFORE, pursuant to Sections 1-301 and 9-301 through 9-344, inclusive, of the Environment Article, the Department, hereby ORDERS that each Declarant shall, after receipt from the Department of documentation of approval of the Notice of Intent (“NOI”), comply with all terms and conditions of the 17-HT Permit.

At any time at the discretion of the Department or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or if there is evidence indicating that industrial discharges authorized by this Order cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any applicable water quality standard, the Department may withdraw or revoke this Order and require any Declarant to obtain an individual permit or alternative general permit coverage.

This Order is not intended to be nor shall it be construed to be a permit or an authorization for permit coverage. Compliance by a Declarant with the terms of this Order shall not relieve the Declarant of its obligation to comply with any other applicable local, state, or federal laws and regulations.

Nothing in this Order shall be construed to limit any authority of the Department to issue any order or to take any action it deems necessary to protect public health or the environment, or to limit any authority the Department now has or may hereafter be delegated. The Department reserves the right to withdraw or revoke this Order at any time. Unless otherwise withdrawn or revoked, this Order shall remain in full force and effect for each Declarant until the deadline for new registrations required under a new general permit, or the date the Declarant obtains coverage under an individual permit or alternative general permit, whichever occurs first.

This Order will be effective for each Declarant upon approval of the NOI by the Department.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

D. Lee Currey
D. Lee Currey (Jul 31, 2025 16:03:22 EDT)

Date 07/31/2025

D. Lee Currey, Director
Water and Science Administration