Appendix B: Definitions, Abbreviations, and Acronyms

Additive - refer to Chemical Additive.

Cationic Chemical Additives - Additives that contain an overall positive charge. Among other things, they are used to reduce turbidity in stormwater discharges by chemically bonding to the overall negative charge of suspended silts and other soil materials and causing them to bind together and settle out. Common examples of cationic treatment chemicals are chitosan and cationic PAM.

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations

Chemical additive - waste water treatment chemicals or products added to water prior to discharge, such as polymers or flocculants. Additives are added to the water so that the discharge water is in compliance with the permit limits.

Dechlorination – refers to the use of an additive (e.g. sodium bisulfite, sodium thiosulfate) which, if over added, may cause scavenging of dissolved oxygen. Specifically, for the purposes of this permit, this does not include the use of dechlorination tablets.

COMAR - Code of Maryland Regulations

Construction Activities – earth-disturbing activities, such as the clearing, grading, and excavation of land, and other construction related activities (e.g. stockpiling of fill material, placement of raw materials at the site) that could lead to the generation of pollutants. Note: Construction activity does not include earth disturbance for agricultural and silvicultural production activities such as for orchards, cultivated crops, pastures, range lands, and forest lands, unless those activities involve construction of structures, roads or other appurtenances.

Control measure – refers to any BMP or other method (including narrative effluent limitations) used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of this State.

CWA – Clean Water Act (or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq)

Corrective action – for the purposes of the permit, any action taken, or required to be taken, to (1) repair, modify, or replace any stormwater control used at the site; (2) clean up and dispose of spills, releases, or other deposits found on the site; and (3) remedy a permit violation.

Daily determination of concentration - one analysis performed on any given sample representing flow during a calendar day, with one number in mg/L or other appropriate units as an outcome.

Daily maximum effluent concentration - the highest reading of any daily determination of concentration.

Daily maximum temperature - the highest temperature observed during a 24-hour period, or if flows are of shorter duration, during the operating day.

Department - the Maryland Department of the Environment. Unless stated otherwise, all submissions to the Department shall be directed to the attention of the Wastewater Permits Program.

Dewatering – the act of draining accumulated stormwater and/or groundwater from building foundations, vaults, well point system, and trenches.

Discharge – the (a) addition, introduction, leaking, spilling, or emitting of a Pollutant into the waters of this State; or (b) placing of a Pollutant in a location where the Pollutant is likely to pollute. Md. Code Ann., Envir. §§ 9-101(b), 9-322.

DMR – Discharge Monitoring Report

Discharge Monitoring Report - a report submitted by a permittee to the Department summarizing the effluent monitoring results obtained by the permittee over periods of time as specified in the permit.

Effluent limit or limitation - any restriction or prohibition that:

- Is established under federal law or a law of this State;
- Specifies quantities, rates or concentrations of chemical, physical, biological, or other constituents that are discharged into the waters of this State; and
- Includes parameters for the discharge of toxic and nontoxic substances and standards of performance for new sources.

EPA – U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Estimated flow – a calculated volume or discharge rate that is based on a technical evaluation of the sources contributing to the discharge including, but not limited to, pump capabilities, water meters, and batch discharge volumes.

Existing operator – an operator applying for coverage under this permit for discharges authorized previously under an NPDES general or individual permit.

Facility or Activity – any NPDES “point source” (including land or appurtenances thereto) that is subject to regulation under the NPDES program. See 40 CFR 122.2.

Federal Clean Water Act or Clean Water Act - the federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.), its amendments, and all rules and regulations adopted under the Act.

Flushing - the rinsing of pipes, tanks, or reservoirs with untreated “water” or with potable water to remove solids that have accumulated during construction or from settling. Flushing does not include any introduction of cleaners or chemicals into the pipes or tanks.

GPD or gpd - an abbreviation for gallons per day, and is used as unit of measurement for flow.

Grab sample - an individual sample collected in less than 15 minutes. Grab samples for pH and total residual chlorine must be analyzed within 15 minutes of sample collection.

Groundwater - underground water in a zone of saturation.

Includes or including - includes or including by way of illustration and not by way of limitation.

Mechanical cleaning – cleaning of a vessel, pipe, or tank using either manual force by scrubbing or force from pressurized washing. Spraying with a typical garden hose does not constitute mechanical cleaning.

Monthly average – The arithmetic average of all sample results collected in a given month.

NOI – Notice of Intent to be covered by this permit (see Part II.A.1.a of this permit).

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Operator – means that entity or those persons with responsibility for the management and performance of each facility.

Outfall – for the purposes of this permit, the location where process generated wastewater or collected and concentrated stormwater flows are discharged from the facility such that the first receiving waterbody into which the discharge flows, either directly, through pipes, ditches, swales, or through a separate storm sewer system, is a waters of this State.

Permittee - the person holding a permit issued by the Department, or authorized for coverage under a general permit by the department.

Persistent Foam - foam that does not dissipate within one half-hour of point of discharge and: forms objectionable deposits on the receiving water; forms floating masses producing a nuisance; produces objectionable color or odor; or interferes with a designated use of the water body. It does not mean foaming of the receiving water body caused by natural conditions.

Person – an individual, receiver, trustee, guardian, personal representative, fiduciary, or representative of any kind, and any partnership, firm, association, corporation or other entity. Person includes the federal government, this State, any county, municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of this State or any of their units. See COMAR 26.08.01.01.

PFAS - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. For this permit, PFAS means the sum of the 40 congeners of PFAS which are included in EPA Test Method 1633A for testing (PFAS).

Point source – any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, large animal feeding operation, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are, or may be, discharged.

Pollutant – a) Any waste or wastewater that is discharged from: (i) Any publicly owned treatment works, or (ii) an industrial source; or b) Any other liquid, gaseous, solid, or other substances which will pollute any waters of this State. See Md. Code Ann., Envir. §§ 9-101(g).

Pollutant of concern – A pollutant which causes or contributes to a violation of a water quality standard, including a pollutant which is identified as causing an impairment in a state's 303(d) list.

Pollution – means any contamination or other alteration of the physical, chemical, or biological properties of any waters of this State, including a change in temperature, taste, color, turbidity, or odor of the waters or the discharge or deposit of any organic matter, harmful organism, or liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substance into any waters of this State that will render the waters harmful, or detrimental to

(a) public health, safety, or welfare;
(b) domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate beneficial uses;
(c) livestock, wild animals, birds; or
(d) fish or other aquatic life. See Md. Code Ann., Envir. §§ 9-101(h)

Sewage – water-carried human, domestic and other wastes and includes all human and animal excreta from residences, buildings, industrial establishments, or other places.

State discharge permit - the discharge permit issued under the Environment Article, Title 9, Subtitle 3, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Super chlorinated - the addition of chlorine resulting in levels exceeding four parts per million (4ppm).

Surface waters - all waters of this State which are not groundwaters.

Tier II waters – For antidegradation purposes, pursuant to 40 CFR 131.12(a)(2)) (also COMAR 26.08.02.04-02), Tier II waters are characterized as having water quality that exceeds the levels necessary to support the propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water. Maryland Tier II waters are identified at COMAR 26.08.02.04-10.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) – A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL includes wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point source discharges; load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources and/or natural background, and must include a margin of safety (MOS) and account for seasonal variations. (See section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and 40 CFR 130.2 and 130.7).

Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) - the total amount of chlorine present in a sample. This is the sum of the free chlorine residual and the combined available chlorine residual.

Wastewater - pursuant to COMAR 26.08.01.01B(99), any:

- liquid waste substance derived from industrial, commercial, municipal, residential, agricultural, recreational, or other operations or establishments; and
- other liquid waste substance containing liquid, gaseous or solid matter and having characteristics that will pollute any waters of this State.

Untreated water – the liquid substance which is derived from a groundwater source, a surface water source, or any combination of these sources, and which will be discharged, without change in quality, into waters of this State, with the exception of storm water runoff.

Water quality standards – defined in 40CFR 131.3, and COMAR 26.08.02, and are provisions of law which consist of a designated use or uses for the waters of this State, water quality criteria for such waters based upon such uses, and an antidegradation policy to protect high-quality waters. Water quality standards protect the public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of the CWA.

Waters of this State – includes

1. both surface and underground waters within the boundaries of this State subject to its jurisdiction, including that part of the Atlantic Ocean within the boundaries of this State, the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, and all ponds, lakes, rivers, streams, tidal and nontidal wetlands, public ditches, tax ditches, and public drainage systems within this State, other than those designed and used to collect, convey, or dispose of sanitary sewage; and
2. the flood plain of free-flowing waters determined by the Department of Natural Resources on the basis of the 100-year flood frequency. Environment Article § 9-101(l)