

## Changes from Original Permit to Reissued General Permit for Biosolids

Minor editing was done throughout the permit to correct typographical errors and simple wording changes were made to provide clarification. The following are the more significant changes that were made to the renewal permit.

1. Part 1.1.-Category 3: Language was added to the description of this category to clarify that sewage sludge may be removed from a lagoon more frequently than once every 20 years, but sewage sludge may be land applied to a specific site only once every 20 years under category.

In the second paragraph following the description of category 3 in Part 1.1., the following language was added for purposes of clarification and to allow for temporary disposal of sewage sludge at a landfill on an emergency basis without having to obtain permit coverage under subcategory 2b:

“Facilities that use/dispose of sewage sludge by one or more of these three methods must obtain permit coverage under the appropriate subcategory(s) and must comply with the requirements of each part of the permit as applicable. Facilities/operations that need to dispose of sewage sludge at a landfill(s) on an emergency basis do not need to obtain coverage under subcategory 2.b. provide that the annual amount of sewage sludge disposed of at the landfills does not exceed the average amount of sludge that would be produced in 60 days. Sludge disposed of at the landfill(s) must meet the requirements of Part 5 of this permit. The names and locations of the landfills receiving the sewage sludge and the amounts of sewage sludge disposed at each landfill must be reported in the annual report.”

2. Part 1.5.1.3. was moved to Part 1.5.1.4 and Part 1.5.1.3 was changed to read “A facility/operation was covered under the previous general permit and has submitted a timely request for renewal of coverage under the general permit; or”.
3. Part 1.6.1. The following sentence was added to the end of the paragraph: “Failure to submit an application within the required time will be considered a violation of this permit.”
4. Part 2.1, Deadlines for Applying for Permit Coverage, was changed by inserting a new Part 2.1.1 and renumbering the other parts of 2.1 accordingly. The new Part 2.1.1 provides that facilities/operations that had coverage under the previous general permit and have submitted a timely request for coverage under this renewal permit will be notified that they are covered under this permit unless the permit issuing authority notifies them to submit a new NOI. If a facility/operation has been submitting complete annual reports and other information as required by the previous permit, then EPA should have all of the information that would be submitted in a new NOI.

A new Part 2.1.2.4 was added that requires facilities/operations that were covered under the previous permit, but did not submit a timely request to be covered under the renewal permit, to submit a new NOI within 90 days after the effective date of the renewal permit.

5. Part 2.2, Content of Notice of Intent: In an effort to make it easier to submit an NOI in letter format, an electronic copy of Part 2.2, in rich text format (rtf) will be available for downloading from the Region 8 web page at the following URL: <http://www.epa.gov/region08/biosolids/>. It is anticipated that this will eliminate some typing, but still give the applicant flexibility in preparing the necessary information for submittal.

Under combination of letter and electronic format, the software versions of *Lotus 7 123* spreadsheet was updated to version 9.8 or older, the software version of a *Microsoft<sup>7</sup> Excel* spreadsheet and *Microsoft<sup>7</sup> Access* database were update to version Office 2003 or older. DVDs were added to the list of media for submitting electronic files.

Under Part 2.2.1.3, Phone was changed to Office Phone and Cell Phone was added to the list.

Under Part 2.2.1.9, “A schematic of the treatment process shall be included as part of the description.” was added to the list of information to be submitted.

A new Part 2.2.12 was inserted and the following parts were renumbered accordingly. The new Part 2.2.12 states “Does this facility/operation have authorization by the State for the use and/or disposal of sewage sludge? If yes, give the name of the State authorization document and the authorization number.” The reason for requesting this information is to be able to identify to which of the applicant’s land application sites the State’s information applies.

In Part 2.2.2.3.1, Table NOI-3 was modified to include State Authorization No., State Site No., and distance to nearest stream.

In footnote b/ of Table NOI-6 of Part 2.2.2.3.5.2, “Mehlich 3” was added as an analytical method for soils with a pH of 6.5 or less. This was also done in Part 2.2.3.5.2.

In Part 2.2.2.4.2, the following was added to the end of the paragraph: In addition, the results of any other tests required by the State and/or local agencies shall also be reported.

6. Part 4: At the end of the NOTE in Part 4.1.1.1 the following was added: **Records for those sites are to be retained in perpetuity.**

At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph in Part 4.1.2, the following was added: **If the sewage sludge does not meet Class A, it cannot be sold or given away in a bag or other container for application to land or for use on a lawn or home garden.**

Part 4.1.2.1, Class A Pathogen Requirements, was modified. The wording now specifies that in order for a sewage sludge to be classified Class A with respect to pathogens, the requirements of 40 CFR Part 503 Sec 32(a)(3), 32(a)(4), 32(a)(5), 32(a)(6), 32(a)(7), or 32(a)(8) shall be met. The two methods most commonly used in Region 8 for meeting the Class A pathogen requirements are listed in the table. If the permittee intends to use another method for meeting the class A pathogen requirements, the EPA and the State (or applicable Tribe, see Part 13) must be informed at least 30 days prior to its use. Special conditions were added for those facilities/operations that want to use Alternative 3 or Alternative 4 for meeting the Class A pathogen requirements.

The previous permit specified that The Class A pathogen requirements must be met in the same treatment process as the vector attraction reduction requirements in Part 4.1.3 are met or in a treatment process prior to meeting the vector attraction reduction requirements in Part 4.1.3. It also stated that this requirement does not apply when the vector attraction reduction requirements are met by raising the pH as specified in Part 4.1.3.6. In the renewal permit the exception also includes Part 4.1.3.7 and Part 4.1.3.8, which is in accordance with 40 CFR Part 503.

Part 4.1.2.2, Class B Pathogen Requirements, was modified. The renewal permit states “In order for a sewage sludge to be classified Class B with respect to pathogens, the requirements in either 40 CFR Part 503 Sec 32(b)(2), 32(b)(3), or 32(b)(4) shall be met. The methods most commonly used in Region 8 for meeting the Class B pathogen requirements are given in Table 4.1.2.2. If the permittee intends to use another method for meeting the class B pathogen requirements, the EPA and the State (or applicable Tribe, see Part 13) must be informed at least 30 days prior to its use. This change may be made without additional public notice.”

The requirement that “the site restrictions in Part 4.1.2.3 must be met when sewage sludge that meets Class B pathogen requirements is applied to the land.” is now specified in Part 4.1.2.2 in addition to being in Part 4.1.2.3. In the previous permit it was only specified in Part 4.1.2.3.

In Part 4.1.4.7, “Mehlich 3” was added as an analytical method for soils with a pH of 6.5 or less.

In Part 4.2.2, the following was added at the end of the next to last sentence: **if it has not been submitted previously.**

Part 4.2.6.2 was changed to read “approval from the permitting authority has been obtained based upon a plan demonstrating adequate runoff containment measures.”

In Part 4.2.7 changes were made to the concentrations and Part 4.2.7.2 was modified by adding Parts 4.2.7.2.1 and 4.2.7.2.2. In Part 4.2.7.1.1 the concentration was changed from 100 to 80 ppm; in Part 4.2.7.1.2 the concentration was changed from 50 to 40 ppm; Part 4.2.7.2.1 reads “for Bray and Kurtz P-1 extraction 1/, 120 ppm;”, with the concentration having been changed from 170 to 120 ppm; and new Part 4.2.7.2.2 reads “for Mehlich 3 extraction 1/, 200 ppm.”

A new part 4.2.18 was added. It reads “The permittee shall notify the permitting authority of changes in land application locations (i.e. either by written notice or e-mail)”

7. Part 5: In Part 5.1.2.3 the requirement to do the toxicity characteristic leaching procedure (TCLP) was limited to metals whereas in the previous permit it included organics. Experience has shown that the sewage sludge consistently passes the TCLP procedure for organic. The following sentence was added to this part: “In the annual report the permittee shall report the analytical results of any monitoring of sewage sludge for TCLP for organics conducted for any other program (e.g., pretreatment program) and/or state or local agency.”
8. In Part 12 several new analytical methods were added to the list of acceptable analytical methods to be used in the analysis of sewage sludge. In addition, the references to some of the methods that were in the previous permit were updated.

A section titled “Other Analytical Methods” was added. It includes two references for the analysis of soils.

9. In Part 13 the list of environmental coordinators for applicable tribes was updated.