



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

January 29, 1997

Acme Industry
Mr. John Doe, President
101 Main Street
Anywhere, TX #####

Re: NPDES Permit No. TXR00####

Dear Permittee:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify and expand upon a January 9, 1997, letter sent to you by Mr. Taylor Sharpe of the EPA Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division. The second paragraph of that letter indicated that you will need to make arrangements to continue NPDES permit coverage for your industrial activity under another permit. It also implied that you should immediately submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the multi-sector storm water general permit issued September 29, 1995, and terminate your coverage under the baseline general permit. PLEASE NOTE that this information does not include all permitting options that may be available to you by the time your permit expires.

You do not need to take any action at this time to change your coverage under EPA's storm water baseline general permit. You may remain covered by the baseline permit until September 9, 1997, with no further action on your part. In addition, if EPA has not reissued or replaced the permit by September 9, 1997, Part VII.B. of the baseline permit allows you to remain covered after the expiration date by submitting a new Notice of Intent between August 1, 1997, and September 9, 1997.

You do have a second option. Part II.A.6. of the multi-sector storm water general permit allows most facilities previously covered by the baseline permit to switch coverage to the multi-sector permit between June 13, 1997, and September 9, 1997. Facilities eligible for multi-sector permit coverage may switch to this newer permit (which is effective through September 2000) by filing a Notice of Intent for the newer permit.

EPA is currently considering options in regard to the expiring baseline general permit. However, no final decisions have yet been made. Any action on the baseline general permit will go through EPA's normal permit notification and public comment period, at which time you will have the opportunity to provide input into this process. We do expect to begin action on this within the next two months and anticipate final action prior to September 9, 1997.

If, in response to the January 9th letter, you have already submitted a Notice of Intent to switch coverage to the multi-sector permit, you have two options. You may either withdraw the Notice of Intent and cancel the Notice of Termination you submitted, or do nothing and allow the switch to the multi-sector permit to take effect. You can get information on the storm water program and the multi-sector permit, including electronic copies of the permit, 24 hours a day from EPA's PIPES bulletin board, accessible via the Internet at <http://pipes.ehsg.saic.com/storm.htm> or modem (703-749-9216). Information on the baseline general permit, including blank discharge monitoring report forms, is available from EPA Region 6's Storm Water Page at:

<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6en/w/sw/home.htm>

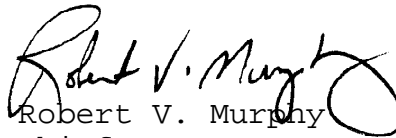
We regret and apologize for any confusion or inconvenience you may have experienced. For further information, please contact Mr. Sharpe at 214-665-7112, or the Region 6 Storm Water Hotline at 800-245-6510.

Sincerely yours,



Jack V. Ferguson, P.E.
Chief
NPDES Permits Branch

Sincerely yours,



Robert V. Murphy
Chief
Water Enforcement Branch