



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

Public Notice

In Reply Refer to CENAB-OP-RPA

Date October 31, 2000

Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit (PASPGP-1)
Eight Month Extension
Special Public Notice # 01-002

This Public Notice is being issued on behalf of the Baltimore, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Districts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

On March 1, 1995, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh Districts, issued the Pennsylvania State Programmatic General Permit (PASPGP-1) for a five-year period. On February 29, 2000, the Baltimore District Engineer issued Special Public Notice #00-011 announcing that, in response to the comments received from Special Public Notice # 00-008, dated January 31, 2000, the PASPGP-1 was extended by reissuance, without modification, for eight months expiring on October 31, 2000. On September 22, 2000, we proposed to extend the PASPGP-1 an additional eight months by Special Public Notice #00-037.

The purpose of this notice is to announce that Baltimore, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Districts have decided, following a review of comments received, to extend the PASPGP-1 by reissuance, without modification, for an additional eight months expiring on June 30, 2001 or upon reissuance with modification, reissuance without modification or revocation of the PASPGP-1, whichever occurs first.

The Corps along with input from other Federal and State resource agencies is currently developing a final PASPGP-2 proposal, which will be presented to the public for comment in a Special Public Notice on or before November 13, 2000. In addition, the November 2000 public notice will advertise the date, time and location for a public hearing to receive comments relative to the PASPGP-2 proposal regarding whether to: 1) reissue with modifications for a five year period, 2) reissue without modifications for a five year period or 3) not reissue the PASPGP-1. The purpose of this eight-month extension is to provide adequate time for this evaluation period while insuring continued protection of Pennsylvania's aquatic resources and continuity in the permitting process.

The PASPGP-1 was developed to provide comprehensive protection and a streamlined permit process that incorporates Federal Standards under the Clean Water Act with State Standards under the PADEP Chapter 105 program. Under Federal Statute, the development of general Permits is authorized under Section 404(e) of the Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended, and by the Water Quality Act of 1987. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has issued a Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and Coastal Zone Consistency pursuant to the Pennsylvania Coastal Zone Program.

Questions and comments may be directed to Ms. Patricia Strong, Baltimore District Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 1715 CENAB-OP-RPA, Baltimore, Maryland 21203.

For the District Engineer: