

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BOBBY JINDAL Governor

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For Immediate Release: Feb. 21, 2013 **Contact:** Tim Beckstrom **Telephone:** 225-219-3967

DEQ to reissue permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has announced that the general permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems is being reissued with an effective date of March 1, 2013. Coverage under this general permit applies to operators (parishes, cities, towns, military bases, etc.) of storm water drainage systems that typically serve populations between 10,000 and 150,000 persons.

Current permit holders are required to apply for coverage under the new permit within 60 days of being notified by DEQ, as coverage under the new permit will not be automatically extended to current permit holders.

DEQ will notify all currently permitted operators of the requirement to reapply, and notifications will be mailed by March 1, 2013. The application will consist of a new Notice of Intent (NOI) and/or Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP).

The change is being made based upon a mandate by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency which requires all states to include reapplication requirements in reissued Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System general permits.

Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System operators may submit a complete form MS4-G or complete Sections I through IV of the form and attach a current Storm Water Management Plan in lieu of completing Section V (ensuring the SWMP addresses all questions in Section V).

The application may be obtained from the DEQ Web site at: <u>www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits/LPDESPermits/ LPDESWaterPermitApplications.aspx</u>.

A copy of the reissued general permit can be viewed and accessed on the DEQ Web site at: www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits/LPDESPermits/ WaterDischargeGeneralPermits.aspx.