

SECTION 1: SUMMARY AND SCOPE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

EPA published a final action withdrawing proposed effluent guidelines for storm water discharges associated with construction activities in March of 2004. This document presents technical information to support the Agency's decision and compliments "Economic Analysis for Final Action for Effluent Guidelines and Standards for the Construction and Development Category," EPA-821-B-04-002.

A summary of the information contained in the sections of this document is as follows:

- Section 2 presents a summary of the legal authority for effluent guidelines and the existing EPA storm water program.
- Section 3 summarizes the data collection activities and the analytical tools and processes followed to support the final action.
- Section 4 summarizes the characteristics of the construction and development industry, including major indicators of industry size and annual construction activity.
- Section 5 presents information and data on erosion and sediment control (ESC) best management practices (BMPs) used by the construction and development industry, including applicability, costs, and efficiencies of various technologies..
- Section 6 presents a description of the regulatory options considered by EPA for the final action.
- Section 7 presents EPA's methodology for estimating the costs of the options considered.
- Section 8 summarizes the approach used by EPA to estimate the pollutant loads, load reductions and environmental benefits of the options considered.

