



SCOTT A. THOMPSON
Executive Director

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

MARY FALLIN
Governor

December 28, 2016

U.S. Environment Protection Agency
NPDES Electronic Reporting

RE: Phase 2 Implementation Plan for NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule

Please refer to the attached document for the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's proposed plan for implementing Phase 2 of the NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to successfully implement this rule. If you have questions, please contact David Pruitt at (405) 702-8154.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shellie R. Chard". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Shellie R. Chard, Director
Water Quality Division



NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule Phase 2 Implementation Plan

Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality December 28, 2016

1. Overview/Executive Summary

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) intends to be the initial recipient of all data required to be submitted to the federal database ICIS-NPDES, with the exception of CAFOs which are maintained by the Oklahoma Department of Food & Forestry (ODAFF). ODEQ intends to have all Phase 2 reporting requirements under its control implemented on or before December 21, 2020. The timeline and implementation plan regarding CAFOs will be addressed by ODAFF in a separate submittal.

Implementation of the E-Reporting Rule is being managed by the Water Quality Division's NextGen Reporting & QA group. The primary contact for implementation of Phase 2 data will be David Pruitt who can be contacted by phone at (405) 702-8100.

ODEQ purchased NPDES Management System (NMS) software from Enfotech in 2008 to serve as our database of record for NPDES data. Data extractions from ICIS were made to initially populate NMS from 2008 thru 2010 and ODEQ has been utilizing the system since that time. ODEQ has maintenance contracts with the software supplier through which we have and continue to enhance the NMS software to better meet our needs and to expand its features to meet additional reporting required by the E-Reporting Rule. In support of Phase 1 implementation, ODEQ purchased an electronic reporting tool (E2) that interfaces with NMS and ODEQ's CROMERR compliant electronic reporting system (ERS) enabling facilities to complete and submit DMRs online.

ODEQ plans to take a similar approach in accepting electronic submittals for Industrial/Construction Stormwater NOIs and SSOs. The Hybrid Approach will be utilized for the Construction Stormwater (NOIs, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs). An add-on module for our existing system allowing SSO online reporting is available which ODEQ plans to purchase in SFY18. ODEQ is currently modifying the Industrial/Construction Stormwater application to include all required Appendix A data elements. The eNOI system will be complete by SFY19.

NMS supports the flow of Enforcement, Inspections, Permit/Facility, SSO, and DMR data to ICIS through the Exchange Network Node. ODEQ currently submits Permit/Facility and DMR data in this manner, and schemas for flowing the remaining datasets are under development. ODEQ intends to become a Full batch state. We will maintain data within our state database, NMS, and batch the required data into the federal database, ICIS-NPDES.

2. Agency NPDES Universe

Numbers calculated Dec. 1, 2016:

- A. Number of Active and Administratively Continued Major Individual NPDES Permits - 106
- B. Number of Active and Administratively Continued Minor Individual NPDES Permits - 357
- C. Number of Active and Administratively Continued MS4 Permits - 43
- D. List of Agency General NPDES Permits with number of authorizations for each (total 3,981):

1. OKG270000- Hydrostatic Test- 9
2. OKG950000- Rock, Sand, and Gravel Quarries- 32
3. OKG110000-Concrete Batch Plant-2
4. OKG83000-Underground Storage Tank- 5
5. OKG750000- Vehicle Wash Facilities- 2
6. OKG580000- General Wastewater Discharge- 35
7. OKG380000-General Wastewater Discharge for Filter Backwash Operations at POTWs-18
8. OKG590000-Splash Pads-1
9. OKG040000-Surface Coal Strip Mine- 17
10. OKR050000-Industrial Stormwater - 1620
11. OKR010000-Construction Stormwater - 2240

ICIS NPDES has all facility and permit data for 2. A -D, with the exception of 2 D 10-11 (Industrial & Construction Stormwater data). The stormwater data is maintained in NMS. The Appendix A data elements for stormwater are being added to the NOIs and the required data elements are being added to NMS. NMS modifications to support stormwater data are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016. Development of schema for permit data is currently being performed. Since many of the facilities have been reissued we cannot migrate the permits into ICIS-NPDES without modifying the transaction type. Enfotech has created a tab within NMS allowing us to manually change the submission type from a Replace transaction to a New transaction. With the exception of addressing DMR issues and adding remaining Appendix A data elements, completing the Permit data flow is our highest priority. Currently, ODEQ is doing duplicate data entry for all the permits with the exception of Industrial & Construction Stormwater Permits.

3. Current and/or Planned NPDES Data Systems and E-reporting Tools

DEQ utilizes NMS as its primary database for management and maintenance of NPDES program data. ODEQ has developed and maintains ERS and our document management system (EDOCTUS) to ensure CROMERR compliance of online submittals and copy-of-record document storage. An electronic reporting tool (E2) interfaces with NMS and ERS enabling facilities to complete and submit DMRs online. Data from the DMRs is then passed to NMS.

ODEQ plans to utilize NMS and the Exchange Network node to batch Inspection, Pretreatment, Biosolid, CWA 316 (b), MS4, Significant Industrial User Compliance Reports, and Enforcement data into ICIS-NPDES. ODEQ plans to obtain a SSO module and a Stormwater NOI module from Enfotech and implement online submittal of SSO and Industrial Stormwater (NOIs, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs) data in the same manner described above for DMR data. A hybrid approach will be used for Construction Stormwater (NOIs, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs).

4. Key Tasks for Updating Agency Data Systems and Data Transmission Systems for Phase 2 Data Groups

A. General Permit Reports - Including NOIs, NOTs, NOEs, and LEWs:

ODEQ is updating the application forms to require those Appendix A data elements necessary to accommodate rule reporting requirements. We have contracted with a consultant to add any data elements that were required per the rule that were not already in our state database, NMS, which we anticipate to be completed by January 2017. We do anticipate flowing the Stormwater NOIs, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs into ICIS-NPDES through the Exchange Node. A hybrid approach will be used with the Construction stormwater facilities. The Construction Stormwater facilities will be required to enter and submit the NOIs, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs online. Construction Stormwater facilities will be able to generate a copy to print and sign from their online entry to

mail a hardcopy to ODEQ. Industrial Stormwater facilities will be able to submit online through our E2 software and ERS.

B. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Annual Program Reports

ODAFF is responsible for the implementation of CAFO programs for Oklahoma; therefore, ODAFF will be responsible for implementation of the E-Reporting Rule requirements for the CAFO program. The timeline and implementation plan regarding CAFOs will be addressed by ODAFF in a separate submittal.

C. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program Reports:

ODEQ is updating the application forms to require those Appendix A data elements necessary to accommodate rule reporting requirement. We have engaged a consultant to add data elements that were required per the rule that were not already in NMS. We anticipate this work to be completed by January 2017. Most of the application required data elements are within NMS, and additional functionality is being added to NMS to capture annual MS4 report data requirements. A schedule will be entered for the annual reports to ensure that the annual reports are entered in a timely manner. At this time, we plan to have staff manually enter the MS4 stormwater annual report data elements into NMS and batch the data elements into ICIS-NPDES.

D. Pretreatment Program Reports:

ODEQ has engaged a consultant to add data elements that were required per the rule that were not already in NMS. We anticipate this work to be completed by February 2017. At this time we plan to have staff manually enter the Pretreatment annual report data elements. NMS enhancements required to capture annual program reports are complete.

E. Significant Industrial User Compliance Reports in Municipalities Without Approved Pretreatment Programs:

ODEQ has engaged a consultant to add data elements required per the rule that were not already in NMS. We anticipate this work to be completed by February 2017. At this time we plan to have staff manually enter the annual report data elements into NMS and batch the data into ICIS-NPDES.

F. Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Reports:

ODEQ engaged a consultant to add SSO data elements that were required per the rule into NMS. This work was completed in October 2015. ODEQ plans to purchase the SSO reporting module, an add-on to our E2 reporting tool, in SFY18. In conjunction with this purchase, we will engage a consultant to develop the necessary schema to flow this data from NMS to ICIS-NPDES via the Exchange Node. Additionally, we will work with our ERS developers to make necessary changes to ensure SSO data submittals are CROMMER compliant. NMS was updated in October 2016 to include Appendix A data elements for this data family.

G. CWA section 316(b) Annual Reports:

ODEQ has engaged a consultant to add data elements that were required per the rule that were not already in NMS. We anticipate this work to be completed by March 2017. At this time we plan to have staff manually enter the data elements into NMS and batch the data to ICIS-NPDES. A schedule will be utilized to flag when the report is overdue, so that the data will be entered in a timely manner.

- H. Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Annual Program Reports - Complete this subsection only if the agency is the authorized NPDES program for Biosolids:

ODEQ has engaged a consultant to add Biosolids data elements required per the rule to NMS. Approximately 98% of the data elements required for Biosolids Annual Reports are already in NMS. The remaining 2% are expected to be added by January 2017. We plan to manually enter the report data into NMS and batch it to ICIS-NPDES.

5. CROMERR Compliance Status for Agency Electronic Reporting Systems

- A. General Permit Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: September 26, 2008

- B. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Annual Program Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: N/A for ODEQ

- C. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: September 26, 2008

- D. Pretreatment Program Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: June 6, 2016

- E. Significant Industrial User Compliance Reports in Municipalities Without Approved Pretreatment Programs:

CROMERR Approval Date: June 6, 2016

- F. Sewer Overflow/Bypass Event Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: September 26, 2008

- G. CWA section 316(b) Annual Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: September 26, 2008

- H. Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Annual Program Reports:

CROMERR Approval Date: June 6, 2016

6. State Statutes, State Regulation/Administrative Rule, and NPDES Permit Update Estimated Completion Dates

ODEQ CROMERR rule modification, facilitating the use of revised identity verification processes, was approved September 15, 2016; modified to allow use of LexisNexis with revised documentation requirements.

ODEQ has incorporated E-Reporting language into the draft OKR05 Stormwater Industrial Multi-Sector General Permit which is currently under EPA review; anticipate this permit will be finalized first quarter

of 2017 ODEQ has developed E-Reporting language to be incorporated into our individual permits; anticipate incorporating language into newly issued permits beginning January 1, 2017.

7. Temporary and Permanent Waiver Approval Process (127.24c)

ODEQ will only grant a temporary waiver to a facility if they cannot be verified within the Electronic Registration System which verifies the individual's information against the federal database, LexisNexis. All individuals that cannot be verified will be sent to our IT section that will contact LexisNexis to resolve the issue. No permanent waivers will be granted.

ODEQ will require electronic data entry from the facilities for DMR, Industrial & Construction Stormwater (NOI, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs), and SSO data. The electronic data will be flowed to NMS, EDOCTUS, and ICIS-NPDES Production. Industrial Stormwater, SSO, and DMR electronic submittals will be CROMMER compliant, but the Construction Stormwater (NOIs, NOEs, LEWs, and NOTs) will utilize the hybrid approach. Construction facilities will generate a hard copy of the document that was submitted electronically and mail the signed document to ODEQ. Reports for Biosolids, Pretreatment, MS4, Significant Industrial User Compliance, and CWA 316(b) will be entered manually into NMS by staff and batched to ICIS-NPDES. The permit/facility data will be entered by the permit engineers into NMS. E2 will pull permit/facility data from NMS to generate DMRs for the facilities to fill out online. After the DMR has been completed, a signatory must submit the DMR to our Electronic Reporting System (ERS) to be signed.

8. Outreach and Training

Past/Present Efforts:

- ODEQ conducted multiple rounds of mail outs to our NPDES regulated facilities notifying them of the reporting requirements and deadlines associated with the e-Reporting Rule.
- ODEQ participated in multiple conferences and trade fairs across the state providing an overview of e-Reporting Rule reporting requirements and deadlines.
- ODEQ has provided a series of training/outreach classes during the months of Oct., Nov., and Dec. of 2016 for NPDES regulated facility personnel. The training was hands on at computer lab facilities focusing on registering attendees for accounts required to complete, approve, and submit eDMRs utilizing DEQ web applications; the following summarizes the success of those efforts:
 - Total of 44 classes with 777 facility participants
 - 11 classes provided in October, 2016; classes conducted in NW, NE, SW, SE, and Central Oklahoma; 256 facility representatives attended October training classes
 - 17 classes provided in November, 2016; classes conducted in NW, NE, SW, SE, and Central Oklahoma; 371 facility representatives attended November training classes
 - 16 classes provided in December, 2016; classes conducted in NW, NE, SW, SE, and Central Oklahoma; 150 facility representatives attended December training classes
- ODEQ provided a series of training classes to ODEQ personnel during the months of Oct., Nov., and Dec. of 2016. The objective was to provide an understanding of application account registration and eDMR completion processes to allow ODEQ staff to provide technical assistance to NPDES facility personnel; 6 classes were provided to approximately 150 ODEQ personnel.

- Multiple ODEQ staff designated as technical assistance providers tasked with responded to phone calls and emails with questions concerning account set up, and eDMR submittal. Currently we have 10 ODEQ staff available to respond to requests and 3 IT staff providing application support.
- ODEQ has directly called NPDES facilities that have yet to establish required accounts or attend training; direct contact will continue until all facilities have established accounts.
- ODEQ has provided web accessible fact sheets and instructions concerning the e-Reporting Rule and electronic data submittal.

Future Efforts:

- ODEQ will continue to provide weekly training sessions at our Central Office computer lab for facility personnel who require account registration; this will be continued at least through the first quarter of 2017 and longer if needed.
- ODEQ will continue to directly contact those facilities that have not yet began electronic submittal to assist them in the process.
- Over the next few years, as we approach the 2020 reporting deadlines for Phase 2 components, ODEQ will conduct multiple mail outs to NPDES permitted facilities to raise awareness on Phase 2 reporting requirements and deadlines.
- Over the next few years ODEQ will conduct a series of training/outreach events across the state to raise awareness on Phase 2 reporting requirements and to provide training on the use of applications and processes utilized to submit data electronically.
- Over the next few years ODEQ will continue to participate in trade shows and various conferences to promote awareness of Phase 2 requirements.

9. Alternative Options

ODEQ will implement the following alternative options as needed:

- ODEQ will require dual reporting of DMR data, both electronic and hardcopy, through the first quarter of 2017 (longer if necessary) to allow staff to QA reported data and to ensure there are no false compliance issues resulting from electronic processes and to accommodate those few systems that are not yet ready to implement electronic reporting.
- As we initiate Phase 2 reporting, if there are issues associated with applications or processes ODEQ has put into place to facilitate e-reporting we will work with our regulated facilities to acquire hard copy data that ODEQ will then manually enter to ensure compliance deadlines are met.

10. Obstacles to Rule Implementation

ODEQ anticipates the following as potential obstacles:

- Insufficient financial resources; as future funding levels are subject to change (both state and federal) it will be a challenge to devote sufficient resources to accommodate long term technology based projects.
- Insufficient personnel resources; Oklahoma has transferred IT support for all state agencies to a single agency (with limited staff) resulting in significant delays in completing IT projects.
- Potential changes in program directives/objectives; unknown or unanticipated changes resulting from new direction from EPA or state legislature.
- Ongoing issues inherently associated with IT type efforts; contractor delays, lack of resources, applications conflicting with one another as new patches or version updates are implemented.
- Personnel changes at NPDES regulated facilities; staffing at many of our regulated facilities is subject to frequent changes, which will require significant effort to ensure those new employees or administrators are trained and have required application accounts established to facilitate electronic submittals.

11. Implementation Plan Reassessment

ODEQ proposes the following actions to reassess rule implementation periodically:

- ODEQ would suggest that we interact with EPA annually, on or around the anniversary of rule finalization, to evaluate progress and to discuss potential issues.
- If new rules or state statutes are proposed that may impact rule implementation ODEQ will notify EPA and initiate discussions.