

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 10  
Park Place Building, 13th Floor  
1200 Sixth Avenue, OW-130  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
(206) 553-1214

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REISSUANCE OF GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT  
DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT FOR OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS  
EXPLORATION FACILITIES ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF AND  
CONTIGUOUS STATE WATERS

Public Notice No.: AKG280000

Public Notice Issuance Date: April 5, 2004  
Public Notice Expiration Date: May 19, 2004

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

ACTION: Notice of the Public Comment Period.

**SUMMARY:** The Director, Office of Water, EPA Region 10, proposes to reissue a general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for offshore oil and gas exploration facilities on the outer continental shelf and contiguous state waters pursuant to the provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA) 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq. The proposed permit will authorize offshore oil and gas stratigraphic test and exploration wells and associated discharges in the federal and state of Alaska waters of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. The proposed permit establishes effluent limitations, prohibitions, and other conditions on discharges from covered facilities. These conditions are based on existing national effluent guidelines at 40 CFR Part 435, the state of Alaska's water quality standards (18 AAC 70), and the state of Alaska's wastewater disposal requirements (18 AAC 72). The fact sheet describes the basis for the specific limitations, conditions, and requirements of the proposed permit.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft general NPDES permit to the attention of the Director, Office of Water at the address below. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment and the relevant facts upon which it is based. Comments of either support or concern which are directed at specific cited permit requirements are appreciated. Comments must be submitted to EPA on or before the public notice expiration date.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD:** The complete administrative record for the draft permit is available for public review at the EPA Region 10 office at the address below. Copies of the draft general NPDES permit and fact sheet are available upon request. Requests may be made to Audrey Washington at 1-800-424-4EPA ext. 0523. Requests may also be electronically mailed to: [washington.audrey@epa.gov](mailto:washington.audrey@epa.gov). The proposed general permit and fact sheet may also be found on the EPA Region 10 website at [www.epa.gov/r10earth.htm](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth.htm), click on *Water Quality*, then click

on *NPDES permits* under Programs, and then click on *draft permits* under EPA Region 10 Information.

ADDRESS: Public comments must be sent to USEPA, Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S OW-130, Seattle, Washington 98101. Comments may also be submitted electronically to [koch.kristine@epa.gov](mailto:koch.kristine@epa.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristine Koch of EPA Region 10 at the above address, by telephone at (206) 553-6705 or electronically at [koch.kristine@epa.gov](mailto:koch.kristine@epa.gov).