



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

MAYOR: David H. Bieter | DIRECTOR: Derick O'Neill

Planning & Development Services Building Division Policy

Title: Construction Site Dewatering Plan Preparation and Policy

Code Name: Boise City Code – Construction Site Erosion Control Ordinance.

Code Sections: 8-17-02.4-S

Code Language:

"Dewatering process and procedures (which) will remove pollutants in discharges that will comply with all applicable Water Quality Standards for the receiving waters"

Scope of Policy: A Construction Dewatering Plan must be submitted to the Erosion & Sediment Control (ESC) Section for excavation activities that encounter groundwater or other water that needs to be removed from the excavation and disposed of. The plan must detail a system that will remove silt and other pollutants from this water in order to place clean water back into waterways of the United States. The plan must comply with the following policy and guidelines and include the information listed below.

Policy:

DEWATERING POLICY

1. Construction projects and utility installations that anticipate dewatering must prepare a dewatering plan. This plan shall be included in the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) or Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) submittal for the project and reviewed by the ESC Section.
2. If unanticipated groundwater is encountered, the contractor must immediately stop all related excavation work. Prior to resuming excavation, the contractor must submit a dewatering plan, install the dewatering system, have it inspected, commence dewatering, and drawdown the groundwater below the deepest excavation. Contractors may continue doing non-excavation work on site while waiting for plan approval and implementation.
3. ESC requires a dewatering process that discharges water off site to be tested for contaminants prior to initial discharge into water source and at intervals during dewatering. Turbidity monitoring is also required. The contractor shall retain records of nephelometric turbidity unit (NTU)s testing during construction activities at predetermined sites.

4. If finished water is 50 NTUs or greater than the initial background at discharge point work will be stopped and plan modified to bring water into compliance.

5. The person responsible for dewatering operations shall be on site during all dewatering. Contractor may appoint anyone on site to be responsible person with an authority to modify such plan if water qualities are not in compliance.

PLAN PREPARATION

1. A Construction Dewatering Plan must be prepared by the contractor or an approved third party. The Plan must be presented on its own separate sheet and included with the Building Permit Submittal or referenced to an applicable building permit if issued after work has commenced.

2. A Construction Dewatering Plan is not required to be included in the original Building Permit submittal. If the implementation of a dewatering process becomes necessary during construction, then a plan must be prepared and submitted before dewatering can begin and excavation can continue.

3. The Plan Map must be clear and legible.

4. Any location for discharging the water shall be into the nearest, most practical outlet or infiltration site. The ESC Section requires a well point below excavated grade to pump undisturbed water. Disposal of this water into the Ada County Highway District (ACHD) MS4 system or county owned land is prohibited unless specifically approved by ACHD and/or county.

5. Discharge into any canals may require permission from canal owners. It is site owner's responsibility to obtain permission to discharge into private canals or ditches and provide authorization/approvals if requested by the inspector.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEWATERING PLAN

1. The installation of the dewatering system shall conform to the approved "Construction Dewatering Plan" contained in the permit document. A copy of dewatering plan shall be retained on site.

2. All construction activities and the storage of materials in the street and/or sidewalk area, including drainage pipe placement and sidewalk restoration located in ACHD's right of way, shall first be approved by ACHD.

3. The ESC inspector shall be contacted for an inspection of the completed dewatering system prior to commencement of any approved dewatering operations. The ESC inspector may require modifications to such plan at any time to obtain compliance.



Intent:

The intent of this policy is to require the submittal, implementation, and inspection of a dewatering plan that is compliant with ESC permit conditions and applicable Water Quality Standards for all construction sites that require groundwater dewatering in the City of Boise.

Construction dewatering activities are subject to City, State, and Federal regulations. Ultimately, the Permittee is responsible for keeping sediment and contaminated groundwater out of the storm drain system and waterways of the United States throughout the associated construction activities. Violation of this requirement may result in site shutdown and additional inspection fees. Failures to comply may result in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and/or Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) audits and/or fines. The approved Construction Dewatering Plan is a general guideline only and does not relieve the Permittee from satisfying any of the above listed responsibilities.



Jason Blais
Building Official

5/10/18

Effective Date



Bob Archibald
Building Inspection Supervisor



Date Retired

