

PQR Interview Questions (Part 1)

State _____
Date received by EPA _____

PQR Pre-State Visit Questions

These questions are to gather information to understand the scope, organizational structure, and function of the state's permitting program. This information will be included in the PQR report only as necessary to provide background and context.

Please feel free to provide additional documentation or attach additional pages as necessary.

1. State's NPDES permit universe? _____
 - a. POTWs
 - i. Major _____
 - ii. Non-major _____
 - iii. CSO _____
 - b. Non-municipal
 - i. Major _____
 - ii. Non-major _____
 - iii. CAFO _____
 - iv. What are the significant industries in the State?

 - c. Stormwater (number of permittees)
 - i. Municipal _____
 - ii. Industrial _____
 - iii. Construction _____
 - d. Non-stormwater general permits (number of permittees) _____
 - e. Data accurate as of (date) _____
2. Number of general permits? _____
 - a. What are the categories?

 - b. How are NOIs tracked? _____
3. How many State permits are backlogged? Percent of universe?
 - a. Major permits _____
 - b. Non-major permits _____
4. State NPDES permitting authority structure:
 - a. What is the location of the main office? _____
 - b. What are the responsibilities of the main office?

 - c. How many regional or field offices are there? Locations?

d. What are the responsibilities of the regional or field offices?

e. Are any categories of NPDES permits administered by other agencies within the state? Please specify.

5. State NPDES permit development:

a. How many NPDES permit writers does the state have? _____

b. How are permit writers trained (internal mentoring, EPA Permit Writers' course, etc.)?

c. How many water quality modelers does the state have? _____

d. How many TMDL staff does the state have? _____

e. Describe other staff that supports NPDES permitting.

6. How are permit writing responsibilities assigned?

7. What type of data systems are used to support NPDES permit development and implementation?

a. Does the state have in-house data management systems? Please describe.

b. Does the state use PCS and/or ICIS? _____

8. What types of permitting tools and systems does the state use?

a. Does the state use NPDES permit templates? Fact sheet templates? Describe.

b. Does the state use a database or information system to generate draft permits? Describe.

c. Does the state use spreadsheets to calculate reasonable potential? Describe.

d. Does the state use models to calculate mixing zones? Describe.

e. Does the state have written procedures or guidance for developing NPDES permits? Describe.

9. Does the state have a QA/QC process for permit development? Describe.

a. Is there a peer QA/QC process? Describe.

b. Is there management QA/QC of the permit? Describe.

c. Are checklists used in the QA/QC process? Describe.

d. Do all permits undergo the same QA/QC process? If not, describe differences.

10. How and where are NPDES permit files maintained for the following (paper & electronic):

a. Permit development documentation.

b. Correspondence.

c. Monitoring and reporting.

d. Compliance records.

e. Other.

11. If there any areas/concerns the state would like to discuss, please provide description.

DRAFT