United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water, Office of Wastewater Management, Water Permits Division

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NPDES Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) **Online Training Course**



NPDES WET Online Course Description

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) course has been used to train states, EPA regions, and authorized Tribes for several years. Due to an ongoing need for easily accessible, standardized, and basic NPDES WET permit program training for all states, EPA regions, authorized Tribes and interested parties, EPA developed a web-based NPDES WET permits course with input from EPA program and regional offices. This twelve-module course covers key elements of EPA's NPDES WET permit program. It also provides an overview of WET implementation under the NPDES permit program including: a brief review on the Clean Water Act sections and NPDES regulations relevant to WET; a basic introduction to key WET technical concepts and WET data interpretation and statistical calculations; WET monitoring; WET reasonable potential determinations; NPDES WET limit calculations; recommended NPDES WET permit language and conditions; the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) for WET reporting; toxicity reduction evaluations/toxicity identification evaluations; and NPDES WET permit enforcement.

Why is EPA making this course available to EPA Regions, States, and **Authorized Tribes?**

EPA developed this NPDES WET online course to provide an easy to use, inexpensive way for EPA regions, states, and authorized Tribes to train their staff, including permit writers, on implementing WET under the NPDES permit program based on EPA's NPDES permit program regulations and the Clean

How can this NPDES WET Online **Course benefit EPA Regions**, States, and Authorized Tribes?

Features of the NPDES WET Online Course

- ✓ Similar design to other EPA HQ online courses
- ✓ Certificate is available upon completion
- ✓ Ability to download module slides and transcripts
- ✓ Access to NPDES WET documents
- ✓ Customized to include EPA toxicity test methods:
 - Freshwater toxicity test methods
 - > Estuarine/marine toxicity test methods used on the Atlantic Coast and in the Gulf of Mexico
 - Estuarine/marine toxicity test methods used on the Pacific Coast
- > Provides a desktop NPDES WET Permit Program Course. Permit writers and other staff can complete this basic NPDES WET online course at their own pace without having to travel to take the course and it provides a desktop reference when developing NPDES permits with WET requirements.
- > Responds to NPDES Permit WET Implementation Questions. This online NPDES WET course has been designed, in part, to respond to some common NPDES WET programmatic and technical questions.
- NPDES WET Permit Program Examples. The NPDES WET online course provides some NPDES WET permit examples, such as recommended permit language or provisions to include in permits and some toxicity reduction evaluations/toxicity identification evaluations (TRE/TIE) case studies.

The NPDES WET online training course is accessible through the NPDES website link. Click on the "Recorded Training and Presentations" tab and then click on "Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Training" bullet.

For more information, contact EPA HO's NPDES WET Coordinators:

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