



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF  
WATER AND  
WATERSHEDS

FEB 26 2016

Reply to Attn of: OWW-191

Monty Johnson  
J.R. Simplot Company  
3064 Conda Road  
Soda Springs, ID 83230

Re: Selenium Monitoring Requirements for the Conda Phosphate Mine under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Multi-Sector General Permit, Permit Reference No. IDR053103

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As part of the effort to gain information regarding elevated selenium concentrations in certain watersheds in south east Idaho, additional storm water monitoring is being required of your facility to maintain permit coverage under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 2015 Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP).

Based on the information provided in your Notice of Intent (NOI), storm water from the Conda Phosphate Mine near Soda Springs, Idaho (Facility) discharges into State Land Creek.

Basis for EPA to Add Additional Requirements

See Part 6.2.5 of the MSGP allowing EPA to notify a facility of additional monitoring requirements.

Specific Requirements

Pursuant to Parts 2.2.2.1 and 6.2.4.1 of the MSGP, the Facility is required to conduct storm water monitoring for selenium following the standard quarterly monitoring procedures outlined in the MSGP at Part 6.2. As per Part 9.10.3.6 of the permit, the benchmark level for selenium is 0.02 mg/L.

Climate conditions in south east Idaho may make Parts 6.1.6 and 6.2.1.2 relevant to your sampling plans.

**"6.1.6 Climates with Irregular Stormwater Runoff.**

If your facility is located in areas where limited rainfall occurs during parts of the year (e.g., arid or semi-arid climates) or in areas where freezing conditions exist that prevent runoff from occurring for extended periods, required monitoring events may be distributed during seasons when precipitation occurs, or when snowmelt results in a measurable discharge from your site. You must still collect the required number of samples. As specified in Part 7.4, you must also use NetDMR to report using a "no data" or "NODI" code for any of the regular reporting periods that there was no monitoring."

**"6.2.1.2 Benchmark Monitoring Schedule. ...**

Facilities in climates with irregular stormwater runoff, as described in Part 6.1.6, may modify this quarterly schedule provided that this revised schedule is reported directly to EPA by the due date of the first benchmark sample.”

Monitoring data and corrective action reports shall be submitted to EPA and IDEQ in accordance with Part 7 of the MSGP. Use EPA’s electronic data system to submit to EPA. For IDEQ, please submit to the Pocatello Regional Office:

Lynn Van Every  
DEQ Pocatello Regional Office  
444 Hospital Way #300  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
(208) 236-6160  
lynn.vanevery@deq.idaho.gov

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret McCauley of my staff at [mccauley.margaret@epa.gov](mailto:mccauley.margaret@epa.gov) or (206) 553-1772.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Lidgard".

Michael J. Lidgard, Manager  
NPDES Permits Unit

cc: Lynn Van Every, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality