

**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Louisville District ®

Public Notice

Public Notice No.
LRL-2020-00006

Please address all comments and inquiries to:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
ATTN: Meagan Knuckles, CELRL-RDS, Rm 752
P.O. Box 59
Louisville, Kentucky 40201-0059

Phone: (502) 315-6709

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE ANNOUNCING THE REISSUANCE OF THE NATIONWIDE PERMITS

On January 13, 2021, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) published a final rule in the *Federal Register* (86 FR 2744) announcing the reissuance of 12 existing nationwide permits (NWP) and four new NWP, as well as the reissuance of NWP general conditions and definitions with some modifications. The January 13, 2021, *Federal Register* notice is available for viewing at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/13/2021-00102/reissuance-and-modification-of-nationwide-permits>. The 16 NWP, listed below, become effective on March 15, 2021, and will expire on March 14, 2026:

- NWP 12 – Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline Activities
- NWP 21 – Surface Coal Mining Activities
- NWP 29 – Residential Developments
- NWP 39 – Commercial and Institutional Developments
- NWP 40 – Agricultural Activities
- NWP 42 – Recreational Facilities
- NWP 43 – Stormwater Management Facilities
- NWP 44 – Mining Activities
- NWP 48 – Commercial Shellfish Mariculture Activities
- NWP 50 – Underground Coal Mining Activities
- NWP 51 – Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities
- NWP 52 – Water-Based Renewable Energy Generation Pilot Projects
- NWP 55 – Seaweed Mariculture Activities
- NWP 56 – Finfish Mariculture Activities
- NWP 57 – Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities
- NWP 58 – Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances

On February 15, 2021, the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division (LRD) approved Kentucky regional conditions for the 2021 NWP in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Kentucky Regional Conditions for the 2021 NWP for the Commonwealth of Kentucky become effective on March 15, 2021 and are attached to this public notice. Additionally, the Louisville District has posted the Regional Conditions for the Commonwealth of Kentucky for the 2021 NWP on its

internet home page at: <http://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Obtain-a-Permit/Nationwide/>.

KDOW denied the 401 WQC for NWP 43, NWP 44 and NWP 52, therefore an individual 401 WQC will be required for a project authorized by NWP 43, NWP 44 and NWP 52. The KDOW issued general WQCs for NWPs 12, 21, 29, 39, 42, 50, 51, 57 and 58. An individual 401 WQC will be required by the KDOW if the proposed activities do not meet the conditions of the general WQC. The KDOW certified NWPs 40, 48, 55 and 56 as written, therefore, projects authorized by these activities are certified as written and no further contact with KDOW would be required. The 401 WQC for the 2021 NWPs becomes effective on March 15, 2021 and is attached to this public notice. Additionally, the Louisville District has posted the 401 WQC on its internet homepage at the link noted above.

There are 40 existing NWPs that were not reissued or modified by the January 13, 2021 final rule. Those 40 NWPs were published in the January 6, 2017 issue of the Federal Register (82 FR 1860). The 40 2017 NWPs, accompanying regional conditions and 401 WQC will remain in effect until the Corps issues a final rule reissuing those NWPs, Regional Conditions, and 401 WQC, or until March 18, 2022, whichever comes first. Listed below are the 40 2017 NWPs that remain in effect, and the 2017 Kentucky Regional Conditions are on the Louisville Districts internet homepage at the link noted above.

- NWP 1 – Aids to Navigation
- NWP 2 – Structures in Artificial Canals
- NWP 3 – Maintenance
- NWP 4 – Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
- NWP 5 – Scientific Measurement Devices
- NWP 6 – Survey Activities
- NWP 7 – Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
- NWP 8 – Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
- NWP 9 – Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
- NWP 10 – Mooring Buoys
- NWP 11 – Temporary Recreational Structures
- NWP 13 – Bank Stabilization
- NWP 14 – Linear Transportation Projects
- NWP 15 – U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
- NWP 16 – Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas
- NWP 17 – Hydropower Projects
- NWP 18 – Minor Discharges
- NWP 19 – Minor Dredging
- NWP 20 – Response Operations for Oil or Hazardous Substances
- NWP 22 – Removal of Vessels
- NWP 23 – Approved Categorical Exclusions

- NWP 24 – Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
- NWP 25 – Structural Discharges
- NWP 27 – Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
- NWP 28 – Modifications of Existing Marinas
- NWP 30 – Moist Soil Management for Wildlife
- NWP 31 – Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
- NWP 32 – Completed Enforcement Actions
- NWP 33 – Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
- NWP 34 – Cranberry Production Activities
- NWP 35 – Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
- NWP 36 – Boat Ramps
- NWP 37 – Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
- NWP 38 – Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
- NWP 41 – Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
- NWP 45 – Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
- NWP 46 – Discharges in Ditches
- NWP 49 – Coal Remining Activities
- NWP 53 – Removal of Low-Head Dams
- NWP 54 – Living Shorelines

Questions concerning implementation of the NWPs and associated Regional Conditions should be sent to LRL.RegulatoryPublicComment@usace.army.mil or you can contact Ms. Meagan Knuckles at (502) 315-6709.

2021 KENTUCKY REGIONAL GENERAL CONDITIONS

These regional conditions are in addition to, but do not supersede, the requirements in the Federal Register (Volume 86, No. 8 on Date January 13, 2021, pp 2744).

Notifications for all Nationwide Permits (NWP) shall be in accordance with General Condition No. 32.

1. For activities that would result in a loss of Outstanding State or National Resource Waters (OSNRWs), Exceptional Waters (EWs), Coldwater Aquatic Habitat Waters (CAHs) and waters with Designated Critical Habitat (DCH) under the Endangered Species Act for the NWP listed below, a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) will be required to the Corps. The Corps will coordinate with the appropriate resource agencies (see attached list) on these NWP for impacts to these waters.

NWP 12 (Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline Activities)

NWP 51 (Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities)

NWP 57 (Electric Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities)

NWP 58 (Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances)

2. All applications and requests should be submitted electronically. To submit applications or other requests electronically, all documents should be saved as a PDF document, and then submitted as an attachment in an email to the following email address:

CELRL.Door.To.The.Corps@usace.army.mil

Your email should include the following:

- a) Subject Line with the name of the applicant, type of request, and location (County and State). Example: RE: Doe, John, DA Permit Application, Jefferson County, KY
- b) Brief description of the request and contact information (phone number, mailing address, and email address) for the applicant and/or their agent.
- c) Project Location: Address and Latitude/Longitude in decimal degrees (e.g. 42.927883, -88.362576).

All forms that require signature must be digitally signed or signed manually, scanned and then sent electronically.

Electronic documents must have sufficient resolution to show project details. In order to have the highest quality documents, the original digital documents should be converted to PDF rather than providing scanned copies of original documents.

The electronic application and attached documents must not exceed 10 megabytes (10MB).

3. For all activities, the applicant shall review the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's IPaC website: <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac> to determine if the activity might affect threatened and/or endangered species or designated critical habitat. If federally listed species or designated critical habitat are identified, a PCN in accordance with General Condition 18 and 32 would be triggered and the official species list generated from the IPaC website must be submitted with the PCN.

Further information:

Outstanding State or National Resource Water (OSNRWs), Exceptional Waters (EWs), and Coldwater Aquatic Habitat Waters (CAHs) are waters designated by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. The list can be found at the following link: <http://eppcapp.ky.gov/spwaters/>

Designated Critical Habitat (DCH) under the Endangered Species Act is determined within the Commonwealth of Kentucky by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The current list of Kentucky's Threatened, Endangered, and Federal Candidate Species can be found at the following link: <http://www.fws.gov/frankfort/EndangeredSpecies.html> Information on Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) can be found at NWP General Condition No. 32 in the Federal Register (Volume 86, No. 8 on Date January 13, 2021, pp 2873).

COORDINATING RESOURCE AGENCIES

Chief, Wetlands Regulatory Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Supervisor
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
JC Watts Federal Building, Room 265
330 West Broadway
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Supervisor
401 Water Quality Certification
Kentucky Division of Water
300 Sower Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601

Commissioner
Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
#1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
Kentucky Heritage Council
410 High Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR



REBECCA W. GOODMAN
SECRETARY

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ANTHONY R. HATTON
COMMISSIONER

300 SOWER BOULEVARD
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

December 18, 2020

Mr. David Baldrige
Chief, South Branch
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Pl
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Re: §401 Water Quality Certification
Nationwide Permits 2020
AI No.: 35050; Activity ID: APE20200005
USACE ID No.: LRL-2020-00006

Dear Mr. Baldrige:

The Kentucky Division of Water (Division) received requests for Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District for the proposed 2020 Nationwide Permits 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, C, D and E on October 19, 2020 and proposed 2020 Nationwide Permits 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 24, 28, 35, A and B on December 10, 2020. The Division has reviewed the conditions specified in each proposed permit and the general conditions that apply to all Nationwide Permits and made determinations to certify, deny or waive. Please review the enclosed package for a summary of these determinations.

It is the determination of the Division that proposed Nationwide Permits 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20, 22, 24, 28, 34, 35, 40, 41, 48, 54, A and B provide reasonable assurances as written, that the applicable water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, and 307 of the CWA, will not be violated. The Division considers Nationwide Permits 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20, 22, 24, 28, 34, 35, 40, 41, 48, 54, A and B certified as written.


It is the determination of the Division that proposed Nationwide Permits 3, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 39, 42, 45, 46, 49, 50, 51, C, D, and E can provide reasonable assurances that applicable water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, and 307 of the CWA, will not be violated if these activities are performed in compliance with the conditions included for each General Certification. The Division considers Nationwide Permits 3, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 39, 42, 45, 46, 49, 50, 51, C, D, and E certified with conditions.

Consistent with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, the General Certification conditions are designed to ensure activities carried out under Nationwide Permits authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will comply with applicable water quality requirements. Where applicable, these conditions are in addition to, not a replacement for, any federal requirements or conditions.

It is the determination of the Division that proposed Nationwide Permits 16, 17, 32, 38, 43, 44, 52, and 53 will require a site-specific Individual Water Quality Certification and will be denied a general certification for these activities. The activities, as permitted in these proposed Nationwide Permits, do not provide sufficient information about the activity design and methodology or the discharge that may occur to be certified as written. The denial for a general certification is based on the Division's inability to generally condition these activities to ensure that the activities will comply with Kentucky's water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, and 307 of the CWA.

The draft determinations were made available for public comment from November 17, 2020 through December 17, 2020. The final determinations will be available to the public on our website at <https://eec.ky.gov>. Please contact Elizabeth Harrod by phone at 502-782-6700 or email at Elizabeth.Harrod@ky.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Harrod, Supervisor
Water Quality Certification Section
Kentucky Division of Water

Enclosure

cc: Mike Ricketts, Louisville District [Michael.S.Ricketts@usace.army.mil]
Josh Frost, Nashville District [Joshua.W.Frost@usace.army.mil]
Timothy Wilder, Memphis District [Timothy.C.Wilder@usace.army.mil]
Ashley Monroe, U.S. EPA [Monroe.Ashley@epa.gov]
Lee Andrews, USFWS: Frankfort [kentuckyes@fws.gov]
Doug Dawson, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources [doug.dawson@ky.gov]



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**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
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ANTHONY R. HATTON
COMMISSIONER

300 SOWER BOULEVARD
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

General Certification--Nationwide Permit (NWP) 2021

NWP 12 – Oil or Natural Gas Pipeline Activities
NWP 57 – Electrical Utility Line and Telecommunications Activities
NWP 58 – Utility Line Activities for Water and Other Substances

This General Certification is issued **December 18, 2020** in conformity with the requirements of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended (33 U.S.C. §1341), as well as Kentucky Statute KRS 224.16-050.

For this General Certification and all General Certifications of Nationwide Permits (NWP), the term 'surface water' is defined pursuant to 401 KAR Chapter 10, Section 1(72): Surface Waters means those waters having well-defined banks and beds, either constantly or intermittently flowing; lakes and impounded waters; marshes and wetlands; and any subterranean waters flowing in well-defined channels and having a demonstrable hydrologic connection with the surface. Lagoons used for waste treatment and effluent ditches that are situated on property owned, leased, or under valid easement by a permitted discharger are not considered to be surface waters of the Commonwealth.

As required by 40 CFR Part 121 – State Certification of Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit, all conditions include a statement explaining why the condition is necessary to assure that any discharge authorized under the general permit will comply with water quality requirements and a citation to federal, state, or tribal law that authorizes the condition. The statements and citations are included with each condition. The statements are written entirely at the end of the certification under the section *Statements of Necessity*.

Agricultural operations, as defined by KRS 224.71-100(1) conducting activities pursuant to KRS 224.71-100 (3), (4), (5), (6), or 10 are deemed to have certification if they are implementing an Agriculture Water Quality Plan pursuant to KRS 224.71-145.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby certifies under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that it has reasonable assurances that applicable water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the CWA, will not be violated for the activities covered by the above listed Nationwide Permits, provided that the conditions in

General Certification--Nationwide Permit 12, 57, and 58

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this General Certification are met. Activities that do not meet the conditions of this General Certification require an Individual Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

1. Activities occurring within surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as designated Outstanding State Resource Waters, National Resource Waters, Cold Water Aquatic Habitat, Exceptional Waters, or identified as candidate Outstanding State Resource Waters or candidate Exceptional Waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(1), Section 1(2), & Section 1(3); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 4(2) & Section 8]
2. Activities impacting surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as impaired for warm water or cold water aquatic habitat where the parameter or source is related to habitat* are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement B and citations KRS 224.70-110 and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

*These include waters impaired by the parameter 'habitat assessment', 'combined biota/habitat bioassessment' or any parameter from the parameter group 'habitat alterations, and/or waters where the parameter identified as a cause of impairment has a source from the source group 'habitat impacts'.

3. Activities impacting surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as full support for warm water or cold water aquatic habitat are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statements A and B and citations KRS 224.70-110 and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
4. The activity will not occur within surface waters identified as perpetually-protected mitigation sites (e.g., deed restriction or conservation easement). [Statement C and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3); and 40 C.F.R. 230.97]
5. Activities with cumulative temporary and permanent impacts greater than 1/2 acre of wetland or 300 linear feet of surface waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. This General Certification shall not apply to projects where multiple Nationwide Permits are issued for individual crossings which are part of a single, larger utility projects. Cumulative impacts include utility line crossings, permanent or temporary access roads, headwalls, associated bank stabilization areas, substations, pole or tower foundations, maintenance corridor, and staging areas. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
6. For a single crossing, impacts from the construction and maintenance corridor in surface waters shall not exceed 50 feet of bank disturbance. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

General Certification--Nationwide Permit 12, 57, and 58

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7. Stream impacts under Conditions 5 and 6 of this certification are defined as the length of bank disturbed. For utility line crossings and roads, only one bank length is used in calculation of the totals. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
8. This General Certification is limited to the crossing of surface waters by utility lines. This certification does not authorize the installation of utility lines in a linear manner within the stream channel or below the top of the stream bank. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
9. Stream relocation, realignment, straightening, and/or widening are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
10. Any crossings must be constructed in a manner that does not impede natural water flow. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
11. Blasting of stream channels, even under dry conditions, is not allowed under this General Certification and require and Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
12. Utility lines trenched parallel to the stream shall be located at least 50 feet from an intermittent or perennial stream, measured from the top of the stream bank. Construction within the 50 foot buffer may be authorized if avoidance and minimization efforts are shown and adequate methods are utilized to prevent soil from entering the stream. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
13. Utility line stream crossings shall be constructed by methods that maintain flow and allow for dry excavation. Water pumped from the excavation shall be contained and allowed to settle prior to re-entering the stream. Excavation equipment and vehicles shall operate outside of the flowing portion of the stream. Spoil material from the excavation shall not be allowed to enter the flowing portion of the stream. [Statement A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
14. The activities shall not result in any permanent changes in pre-construction elevation contours in surface waters or stream dimension, pattern or profile. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
15. Utility line activities which impact wetlands shall not result in conversion of the area to non-wetland status. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR

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10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

16. Clearing of forested wetlands for the installation or maintenance of utility lines is not authorized under this certification. [Statement A and citations 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
17. Surface water impacts covered under this General Certification and undertaken by those persons defined as an agricultural operation under the Agricultural Water Quality Act must be completed in compliance with the Kentucky Agricultural Water Quality Plan (KAWQP). [Statements A and F and citations KRS 224.71-145(1), 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
18. The use of creek rock for bank stabilization; grouted rip-rap; unformed, poured grout; unformed, poured concrete; poured asphalt; or asphalt pieces is not authorized under this General Certification and requires an Individual Certification. Poured concrete or grout will be authorized under this General Certification when contained by tightly sealed forms or cells. Equipment shall not discharge waste washwater into surface waters at any time without adequate wastewater treatments. [Statement A and citations 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
19. New stormwater detention/ retention basins constructed in surface waters or modifications to stormwater detention/ retention basins resulting in the reduction in reach or that cause impairment of flow of surface waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
20. Erosion and sedimentation pollution control plans and Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be designed, installed, and maintained in effective operating condition at all times during construction activities so that violations of state water quality standards do not occur. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
21. Sediment and erosion control measures, such as check-dams constructed of any material, silt fencing, hay bales, etc., shall not be placed within surface waters, either temporarily or permanently, without prior approval by the Kentucky Division of Water's Water Quality Certification Section. If placement of sediment and erosion control measures in surface waters is unavoidable, design and placement of temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in such a manner that may result in instability of streams that are adjacent to, upstream, or downstream of the structures. All sediment and erosion control devices shall be removed and the natural grade restored within the completion timeline of the activities. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

General Certification--Nationwide Permit 12, 57, and 58

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22. Measures shall be taken to prevent or control spills of fuels, lubricants, or other toxic materials used in construction from entering surface waters. [Statements A and D and citations. [KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
23. Removal of riparian vegetation shall be limited to that necessary for equipment access. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
24. To the maximum extent practicable, all in-stream work under this certification shall be performed under low-flow conditions [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
25. Heavy equipment (e.g. bulldozers, backhoes, and draglines), if required for this project, should not be used or operated within the stream channel. In those instances in which such in-stream work is unavoidable, then it shall be performed in such a manner and duration as to minimize turbidity and disturbance to substrates and bank or riparian vegetation. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
26. Any fill shall be of such composition that it will not adversely affect the biological, chemical, or physical properties of the receiving waters and/or cause violations of water quality standards. If rip-rap is utilized, it should be of such weight and size that bank stress or slump conditions will not be created because of its placement. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
27. If domestic water supply intakes are located downstream that may be affected by increased turbidity and suspended solids, the permittee shall notify the operator when such work will be done prior to construction. [Statement E and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
28. Should evidence of stream pollution or jurisdictional wetland impairment and/or violations of water quality standards occur as a result of this activity (either from a spill or other forms of water pollution), the Kentucky Division of Water shall be notified immediately by calling (800) 928-2380. [Statement A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
29. The Kentucky Division of Water requires submission of a formal application for any federal applicant that is not required to submit a Preconstruction Notification that would typically be required of any non-federal applicant. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

General Certification--Nationwide Permit 12, 57, and 58

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30. The Kentucky Division of Water may require submission of a formal application for an Individual Certification for any project that has been determined to likely have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade surface waters so that existing uses of the water body or downstream waters are precluded. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

31. If the final issued General Permit for Nationwide Permit # 12, 57, or 58 changes significantly, the Division of Water may opt to deny certification for this permit. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

Statements of Necessity:

- A. This condition is necessary to protect waters categorized under the anti-degradation policy to protect the designated and existing uses and to maintain the associated water quality criteria necessary to protect these water resources.
- B. This condition is necessary to protect existing uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect those existing uses shall be assured in impaired water.
- C. This condition is necessary for long-term protection of compensatory mitigation sites.
- D. This condition is necessary to provide for the prevention, abatement, and control of all water pollution and to conserve water resources for legitimate uses, safeguard from pollution the uncontaminated waters, prevent the creation of any new pollution, and abate any existing pollution.
- E. This condition is necessary to protect domestic water supply use.
- F. This condition is necessary to evaluate, develop, and improve best-management practices in conservation plans, compliance plans, and forest stewardship management plans; establish statewide and regional agriculture water quality plans; and otherwise promote soil and water conservation activities that protect surface waters from the adverse impacts of agriculture operations within the Commonwealth.

Violation of Kentucky state water quality standards may result in civil penalties and remediation actions.

For assistance contact the Kentucky Division of Water, Water Quality Certification Section by email (401WQC@ky.gov) or by phone (502)-564-3410.



ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

REBECCA W. GOODMAN
SECRETARY

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

ANTHONY R. HATTON
COMMISSIONER

300 SOWER BOULEVARD
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

General Certification--Nationwide Permit # 21 Surface Coal Mining Operations 2021

This General Certification is effective **December 18, 2020**, in conformity with the requirements of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended (33 U.S.C. §1341), as well as Kentucky Statutes KRS 224.16-050 and KRS 224.16-070.

For this General Certification and all General Certifications of Nationwide Permits (NWP), the term 'surface water' is defined pursuant to 401 KAR Chapter 10, Section 1(72): Surface Waters means those waters having well-defined banks and beds, either constantly or intermittently flowing; lakes and impounded waters; marshes and wetlands; and any subterranean waters flowing in well-defined channels and having a demonstrable hydrologic connection with the surface. Lagoons used for waste treatment and effluent ditches that are situated on property owned, leased, or under valid easement by a permitted discharger are not considered to be surface waters of the Commonwealth.

As required by 40 CFR Part 121 – State Certification of Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit, all conditions include a statement explaining why the condition is necessary to assure that any discharge authorized under the general permit will comply with water quality requirements and a citation to federal, state, or tribal law that authorizes the condition. The statements and citations are included with each condition. The statements are written entirely at the end of the certification under the section *Statements of Necessity*.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby certifies under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that it has reasonable assurances that applicable water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 306 and 307 of the CWA, will not be violated for the activity covered under NATIONWIDE PERMIT 21, namely Surface Coal Mining Operations, provided that the conditions in this General Certification are met. Activities that do not meet the conditions of this General Certification require an Individual Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

1. Activities occurring within surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as designated Outstanding State Resource Waters, National Resource Waters, or Cold Water Aquatic Habitat are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS

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224.16-070(1)(c), KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(1), Section 1(2), & Section 1(3); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 4(2) & Section 8] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).

2. This activity is not authorized under this General Certification if cumulative impacts will impact more than 1 acre of wetland. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(1)(c), KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
3. Stream impacts that occur in a stream with a watershed less than 480 acres in drainage above the most downstream permanent structure. For projects without permanent structures, stream impacts are limited to those with a watershed less than 480 acres in drainage above the most downstream point of disturbance. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(1)(c), KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
4. All earthwork operations shall be carried out so that sediment runoff and soil erosion to waters of the Commonwealth are controlled and minimized. Best management practices (BMPs) for water pollution control shall be used by the surface coal mining operation. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(2)(a) KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
5. Heavy equipment, such as bulldozers, backhoes, and draglines, shall not be used or operated within waters of the Commonwealth outside of the boundaries of a permanent structure, unless that use cannot be avoided. If use of heavy equipment within waters of the Commonwealth outside the boundaries of a permanent structure is unavoidable, then the work shall be performed so as to minimize resuspension of sediments and disturbance to substrates, banks, or riparian vegetation. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(2)(b) KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
6. Measures shall be taken to prevent and to control spills of fuels, lubricants, and other materials from entering waters of the Commonwealth. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(2)(c) KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
7. Any fill or riprap shall be of a composition that shall not cause violations of water quality standards by adversely affecting the biological, chemical, or physical properties of waters of the Commonwealth. If riprap is used, it shall be of a weight and size that bank stress or slump conditions shall not occur. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(2)(d) KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

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8. Removal of riparian vegetation outside the boundaries of a permanent structure shall be minimized. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.16-070(2)(e) KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
9. The Kentucky Division of Water requires submission of a formal application for any federal applicant that is not required to submit a Preconstruction Notification that would typically be required of any non-federal applicant. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
10. The Kentucky Division of Water may require submission of a formal application for an Individual Certification for any project that has been determined to likely have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade surface waters so that existing uses of the water body or downstream waters are precluded. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
11. If the final issued General Permit for this Nationwide Permit changes significantly, the Division of Water may opt to deny certification for this permit. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

Statements of Necessity

- A. This condition is necessary to protect waters categorized under the anti-degradation policy to protect the designated and existing uses and to maintain the associated water quality criteria necessary to protect these water resources.
- B. This condition is necessary to protect existing uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect those existing uses shall be assured in impaired water.
- C. This condition is necessary for long-term protection of compensatory mitigation sites.
- D. This condition is necessary to provide for the prevention, abatement, and control of all water pollution and to conserve water resources for legitimate uses, safeguard from pollution the uncontaminated waters, prevent the creation of any new pollution, and abate any existing pollution.
- E. This condition is necessary to protect domestic water supply use.
- F. This condition is necessary to evaluate, develop, and improve best-management practices in conservation plans, compliance plans, and forest stewardship management plans; establish statewide and regional agriculture water quality plans; and otherwise promote soil and water conservation activities that protect surface waters from the adverse impacts of agriculture operations within the Commonwealth.

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Violation of Kentucky state water quality standards may result in civil penalties and remediation actions.

For assistance contact the Kentucky Division of Water, Water Quality Certification Section by email (401WQC@ky.gov) or by phone (502)-564-3410.



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GOVERNOR

REBECCA W. GOODMAN
SECRETARY

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

ANTHONY R. HATTON
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General Certification--Nationwide Permits (NWP) 2021

NWP 29 – Residential Developments
NWP 39 – Commercial and Institutional Developments
NWP 42 – Recreational Facilities
NWP 51 – Land-Based Renewable Energy Generation Facilities

This General Certification is issued **December 18, 2020**, in conformity with the requirements of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended (33 U.S.C. §1341), as well as Kentucky Statute KRS 224.16-050.

For this General Certification and all General Certifications of Nationwide Permits (NWP), the term ‘surface water’ is defined pursuant to 401 KAR Chapter 10, Section 1(72): Surface Waters means those waters having well-defined banks and beds, either constantly or intermittently flowing; lakes and impounded waters; marshes and wetlands; and any subterranean waters flowing in well-defined channels and having a demonstrable hydrologic connection with the surface. Lagoons used for waste treatment and effluent ditches that are situated on property owned, leased, or under valid easement by a permitted discharger are not considered to be surface waters of the Commonwealth.

As required by 40 CFR Part 121 – State Certification of Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit, all conditions include a statement explaining why the condition is necessary to assure that any discharge authorized under the general permit will comply with water quality requirements and a citation to federal, state, or tribal law that authorizes the condition. The statements and citations are included with each condition. The statements are written entirely at the end of the certification under the section *Statements of Necessity*.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby certifies under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that it has reasonable assurances that applicable water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the CWA, will not be violated for the activities covered by the above listed Nationwide Permits, provided that the conditions in this General Certification are met. Activities that do not meet the conditions of this General Certification require an Individual Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

General Certification--Nationwide Permits 29, 39, 42 and 51.

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1. Activities occurring within surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as designated Outstanding State Resource Waters, National Resource Waters, Cold Water Aquatic Habitat, Exceptional Waters, or identified as candidate Outstanding State Resource Waters or candidate Exceptional Waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(1), Section 1(2), & Section 1(3); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 4(2) & Section 8] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).
2. Activities impacting surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as impaired for warm water or cold water aquatic habitat where the parameter or source is related to habitat* are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement B and citations KRS 224.70-110 and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).

*These include waters impaired by the parameter 'habitat assessment', 'combined biota/habitat bioassessment' or any parameter from the parameter group 'habitat alterations, and/or waters where the parameter identified as a cause of impairment has a source from the source group 'habitat impacts'.

3. Activities impacting surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as full support for warm water or cold water aquatic habitat are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statements A and B and citations KRS 224.70-110 and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).
4. The activity will not occur within surface waters identified as perpetually-protected mitigation sites (e.g., deed restriction or conservation easement). [Statement C and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3); and 40 C.F.R. 230.97] Protected surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).
5. Activities with cumulative temporary and permanent impacts greater than 1/2 acre of wetland or 300 linear feet of surface waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
6. Stream relocation, realignment, straightening, and/or widening are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
7. The use of creek rock for bank stabilization; grouted rip-rap; unformed, poured grout; unformed, poured concrete; poured asphalt; or asphalt pieces is not

General Certification--Nationwide Permits 29, 39, 42 and 51.

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authorized under this General Certification and requires an Individual Certification. Poured concrete or grout will be authorized under this General Certification when contained by tightly sealed forms or cells. Equipment shall not discharge waste washwater into surface waters at any time without adequate wastewater treatments. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

8. New stormwater detention/ retention basins constructed in surface waters or modifications to stormwater detention/ retention basins resulting in the reduction in reach or that cause impairment of flow of surface waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
9. Erosion and sedimentation pollution control plans and Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be designed, installed, and maintained in effective operating condition at all times during construction activities so that violations of state water quality standards do not occur. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
10. Sediment and erosion control measures, such as check-dams constructed of any material, silt fencing, hay bales, etc., shall not be placed within surface waters, either temporarily or permanently, without prior approval by the Kentucky Division of Water's Water Quality Certification Section. If placement of sediment and erosion control measures in surface waters is unavoidable, design and placement of temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in such a manner that may result in instability of streams that are adjacent to, upstream, or downstream of the structures. All sediment and erosion control devices shall be removed and the natural grade restored within the completion timeline of the activities. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
11. Measures shall be taken to prevent or control spills of fuels, lubricants, or other toxic materials used in construction from entering surface waters. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
12. Removal of riparian vegetation shall be limited to that necessary for equipment access. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
13. To the maximum extent practicable, all in-stream work under this certification shall be performed under low-flow conditions. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

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14. Heavy equipment (e.g., bulldozers, backhoes, and draglines), if required for this project, should not be used or operated within the stream channel. In those instances in which such in-stream work is unavoidable, then it shall be performed in such a manner and duration as to minimize turbidity and disturbance to substrates and bank or riparian vegetation. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
15. Any fill shall be of such composition that it will not adversely affect the biological, chemical, or physical properties of the receiving waters and/or cause violations of water quality standards. If rip-rap is utilized, it should be of such weight and size that bank stress or slump conditions will not be created because of its placement. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
16. If domestic water supply intakes are located downstream that may be affected by increased turbidity and suspended solids, the permittee shall notify the operator when such work will be done prior to construction. [Statement E and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
17. Should evidence of stream pollution or jurisdictional wetland impairment and/or violations of water quality standards occur as a result of this activity (either from a spill or other forms of water pollution), the Kentucky Division of Water shall be notified immediately by calling (800) 928-2380. [Statement A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
18. The Kentucky Division of Water requires submission of a formal application for any federal applicant that is not required to submit a Preconstruction Notification that would typically be required of any non-federal applicant. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
19. The Kentucky Division of Water may require submission of a formal application for an Individual Certification for any project that has been determined to likely have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade surface waters so that existing uses of the water body or downstream waters are precluded. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
20. If the final issued General Permit for Nationwide Permits 29, 39, 42 and 51 changes significantly, the Division of Water may opt to deny certification for this permit. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

General Certification--Nationwide Permits 29, 39, 42 and 51.

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Statements of Necessity:

- A. This condition is necessary to protect waters categorized under the anti-degradation policy to protect the designated and existing uses and to maintain the associated water quality criteria necessary to protect these water resources.
- B. This condition is necessary to protect existing uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect those existing uses shall be assured in impaired water.
- C. This condition is necessary for long-term protection of compensatory mitigation sites.
- D. This condition is necessary to provide for the prevention, abatement, and control of all water pollution and to conserve water resources for legitimate uses, safeguard from pollution the uncontaminated waters, prevent the creation of any new pollution, and abate any existing pollution.
- E. This condition is necessary to protect domestic water supply use.
- F. This condition is necessary to evaluate, develop, and improve best-management practices in conservation plans, compliance plans, and forest stewardship management plans; establish statewide and regional agriculture water quality plans; and otherwise promote soil and water conservation activities that protect surface waters from the adverse impacts of agriculture operations within the Commonwealth.

Violation of Kentucky state water quality standards may result in civil penalties and remediation actions.

For assistance contact the Kentucky Division of Water, Water Quality Certification Section by email (401WQC@ky.gov) or by phone (502)-564-3410.



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General Certification--Nationwide Permit # 50 Underground Coal Mining Activities 2021

This General Certification is effective **December 18, 2020**, in conformity with the requirements of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended (33 U.S.C. §1341), as well as Kentucky Statute KRS 224.16-050.

For this General Certification and all General Certifications of Nationwide Permits (NWP), the term 'surface water' is defined pursuant to 401 KAR Chapter 10, Section 1(72): Surface Waters means those waters having well-defined banks and beds, either constantly or intermittently flowing; lakes and impounded waters; marshes and wetlands; and any subterranean waters flowing in well-defined channels and having a demonstrable hydrologic connection with the surface. Lagoons used for waste treatment and effluent ditches that are situated on property owned, leased, or under valid easement by a permitted discharger are not considered to be surface waters of the Commonwealth.

As required by 40 CFR Part 121 – State Certification of Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit, all conditions include a statement explaining why the condition is necessary to assure that any discharge authorized under the general permit will comply with water quality requirements and a citation to federal, state, or tribal law that authorizes the condition. The statements and citations are included with each condition. The statements are written entirely at the end of the certification under the section *Statements of Necessity*.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky hereby certifies under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) that it has reasonable assurances that applicable water quality standards under Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 401, Chapter 10, established pursuant to Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the CWA, will not be violated for the activity covered under NATIONWIDE PERMIT 50, namely Underground Coal Mining Activities, provided that the following conditions in this General Certification are met. Activities that do not meet the conditions of this General Certification require an Individual Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

1. Activities occurring within surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as designated Outstanding State Resource Waters, National Resource Waters, Cold Water Aquatic Habitat, Exceptional Waters, or identified as candidate Outstanding State Resource Waters or candidate Exceptional Waters are not

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authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(1), Section 1(2), & Section 1(3); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 4(2) & Section 8] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).

2. Activities impacting surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as impaired for warm water or cold water aquatic habitat where the parameter or source is related to habitat* are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement B and citations KRS 224.70-110 and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).

*These include waters impaired by the parameter 'habitat assessment', 'combined biota/habitat bioassessment' or any parameter from the parameter group 'habitat alterations, and/or waters where the parameter identified as a cause of impairment has a source from the source group 'habitat impacts'.

3. Activities impacting surface waters assessed by the Kentucky Division of Water as full support for warm water or cold water aquatic habitat are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statements A and B and citations KRS 224.70-110 and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4] These surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).
4. The activity will not occur within surface waters identified as perpetually-protected mitigation sites (e.g., deed restriction or conservation easement). [Statement C and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3); and 40 C.F.R. 230.97] Protected surface waters can be identified using the [401 Water Quality Certification Web Viewer](#).
5. This activity is not authorized under this general certification if cumulative impacts will impact more than 1 acre of wetlands. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
6. Stream impacts occur in a stream with a watershed less than 480 acres in drainage above the most downstream permanent structure. For projects without permanent structures, stream impacts are limited to those with a watershed less than 480 acres in drainage above the most downstream point of disturbance. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
7. The use of creek rock for bank stabilization; grouted rip-rap; unformed, poured grout; unformed, poured concrete; poured asphalt; or asphalt pieces is not authorized under this General Certification and requires an Individual Certification. Poured concrete or grout will be authorized under this General Certification when

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contained by tightly sealed forms or cells. Equipment shall not discharge waste washwater into surface waters at any time without adequate wastewater treatments. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

8. New stormwater detention/ retention basins constructed in surface waters or modifications to stormwater detention/ retention basins resulting in the reduction in reach or that cause impairment of flow of surface waters are not authorized under this General Certification and require an Individual Certification. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
9. Erosion and sedimentation pollution control plans and Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be designed, installed, and maintained in effective operating condition at all times during construction activities so that violations of state water quality standards do not occur. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
10. Sediment and erosion control measures, such as check-dams constructed of any material, silt fencing, hay bales, etc., shall not be placed within surface waters, either temporarily or permanently, without prior approval by the Kentucky Division of Water's Water Quality Certification Section. If placement of sediment and erosion control measures in surface waters is unavoidable, design and placement of temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in such a manner that may result in instability of streams that are adjacent to, upstream, or downstream of the structures. All sediment and erosion control devices shall be removed and the natural grade restored within the completion timeline of the activities. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
11. Measures shall be taken to prevent or control spills of fuels, lubricants, or other toxic materials used in construction from entering surface waters. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
12. Removal of riparian vegetation shall be limited to that necessary for equipment access. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
13. To the maximum extent practicable, all in-stream work under this certification shall be performed under low-flow conditions. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

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14. Heavy equipment (e.g. bulldozers, backhoes, and draglines), if required for this project, should not be used or operated within the stream channel. In those instances in which such in-stream work is unavoidable, then it shall be performed in such a manner and duration as to minimize turbidity and disturbance to substrates and bank or riparian vegetation. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
15. Any fill shall be of such composition that it will not adversely affect the biological, chemical, or physical properties of the receiving waters and/or cause violations of water quality standards. If rip-rap is utilized, it should be of such weight and size that bank stress or slump conditions will not be created because of its placement. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
16. If domestic water supply intakes are located downstream that may be affected by increased turbidity and suspended solids, the permittee shall notify the operator when such work will be done prior to construction. [Statement E and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
17. Should evidence of stream pollution or jurisdictional wetland impairment and/or violations of water quality standards occur as a result of this activity (either from a spill or other forms of water pollution), the Kentucky Division of Water shall be notified immediately by calling (800) 928-2380. [Statement A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
18. The Kentucky Division of Water requires submission of a formal application for any federal applicant that is not required to submit a Preconstruction Notification that would typically be required of any non-federal applicant. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
19. The Kentucky Division of Water may require submission of a formal application for an Individual Certification for any project that has been determined to likely have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade surface waters so that existing uses of the water body or downstream waters are precluded. [Statement A and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]
20. If the final issued General Permit for this Nationwide Permit changes significantly, the Division of Water may opt to deny certification for this permit. [Statements A and D and citations KRS 224.70-110, 401 KAR 10:030, Section 1(3)(b) & Section 1(4)(b); and 401 KAR 10:031, Section 2 & Section 4]

General Certification--Nationwide Permit # 50

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Statements of Necessity:

- A. This condition is necessary to protect waters categorized under the anti-degradation policy to protect the designated and existing uses and to maintain the associated water quality criteria necessary to protect these water resources.
- B. This condition is necessary to protect existing uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect those existing uses shall be assured in impaired water.
- C. This condition is necessary for long-term protection of compensatory mitigation sites.
- D. This condition is necessary to provide for the prevention, abatement, and control of all water pollution and to conserve water resources for legitimate uses, safeguard from pollution the uncontaminated waters, prevent the creation of any new pollution, and abate any existing pollution.
- E. This condition is necessary to protect domestic water supply use.
- F. This condition is necessary to evaluate, develop, and improve best-management practices in conservation plans, compliance plans, and forest stewardship management plans; establish statewide and regional agriculture water quality plans; and otherwise promote soil and water conservation activities that protect surface waters from the adverse impacts of agriculture operations within the Commonwealth.

Violation of Kentucky state water quality standards may result in civil penalties and remediation actions.

For assistance contact the Kentucky Division of Water, Water Quality Certification Section by email (401WQC@ky.gov) or by phone (502)-564-3410.