



GUIDE TO COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW

OPERATIONAL PLANS

By Wessler Engineering

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What is the purpose of my CSO Operational Plan?

The purpose and objective of a CSO Operation Plan is to identify procedures and practices that will help reduce the total loading of pollutants entering the receiving streams from CSOs.

What should my CSO Operational Plan accomplish?

The Operational Plan should include provisions and procedures to assist you in accomplishing the following:

- Operation of the collection and treatment systems so the greatest quantity of wet-weather flow receives the maximum possible treatment;
- Treatment of dry-weather flow to the specified level in the NPDES Permit;
- Regulation of stormwater entry into the collection system;
- Identification and usage of the collection system hydraulic and storage capacity (if available); and,
- Maintenance of the collection system to ensure optimum operating capacity.

What should my CSO Operation Plan include?

A CSO Operational Plan is a living document that should be maintained to reflect current information on the following:

- An inventory of the wastewater system - wastewater treatment plant, collection system, and storm sewers - should include up-to-date maps; schedules of pipes, structures, and equipment; reference to record drawings and sewer videos; etc.
- A list and details of administrative tools available to assist wastewater treatment plant staff in meeting regulatory requirements such as the Sewer Use Ordinance, Emergency Response Plan, Industrial Inspection Program details, Inter-local Agreements, etc.
- System maintenance assets, procedures, and schedules.
- Operational Control Strategies and Standard Operating Procedures.

Is a CSO Operational Plan a capital improvements plan?

A CSO Operational Plan is not a capital improvements plan and should not be confused with a Long-Term Control Plan; however, the CSO Operational Plan should reflect the provisions of the Long-Term Control Plan and its current status.

How should I structure my CSO Operational Plan?

A CSO Operational Plan should be structured around the nine minimum control technologies listed in the NPDES Permit and written under the federal CSO Control Policy summarized here:

1. Implement proper operation and regular maintenance programs for the sewer system and the CSOs.
2. Implement procedures to maximize the use of the collection system for wastewater storage.
3. Minimize CSO impacts from non-domestic users.
4. Operate the wastewater treatment plant at the maximum treatable flow during all wet-weather conditions.
5. Prohibit dry weather overflows from CSOs.
6. Implement measures to control solid and floatable materials in CSO discharges.
7. Implement a pollution prevention program.
8. Implement a public notification program.
9. Monitor and effectively characterize CSO impacts and the efficacy of CSO controls.

Some of these controls require ensuring your Sewer Use Ordinance contains specific language, while other controls require detailed scheduling, system mapping, maintenance activity and project tracking.

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