NOVEMBER 2004



COMMERCIAL EGG TIP...

NPDES PERMIT REQUIRED FOR POULTRY HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

Poultry House Construction

August of 2003, the Georgia Environment Protection Division approved a new water protection regulation that requires construction activities resulting in land disturbance of **one acre or more** to be covered by a NPDES permit and be in compliance with best management practices for storm water control. The purpose of the permit is to control storm water discharges from construction sites as required by the Georgia Water Quality Control Act and Federal law. As a result of this new regulation, it will be necessary for almost everyone building poultry houses to comply with this permit requirement. The following are key components for compliance with this new regulation:

What is Needed for Compliance

- Submission of a Notice of Intent (NOI)
- An Erosion, Sedimentation and pollution Control Plan(i.e. BMPs, inspections and sampling)
- Submission of a Notice of Termination (NOT)

Before Construction Starts

- Obtain a copy of the Storm Water General Permit. A complete copy of the General Permit can be found in the <u>Technical Guidance</u> section on EPD's website (<u>www.dnr.state.ga.us/dnr/environ</u>). The necessary forms can also be found at this website under <u>Forms</u>.
- Complete and submit a <u>Notice of Intent</u> (NOI) form. The NOI should be sent by certified mail
 return receipt to the appropriate EPD District Office at least 14 days before construction begins. A
 listing of EPD district offices is attached to the NOI form.
- Develop an Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan. A template for developing an erosion control plan for poultry house construction is available through your poultry company, the Georgia Poultry Federation and the Department of Poultry Science, the University of Georgia. Erosion control plans require a site map. NRCS personnel should be able to provide the necessary map. The plan, however, must be certified by a qualified design professional such as a local county engineer, landscape architect, geologist, land surveyor, etc. or by a person that is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sedimentation Control (CPESC) with a current certification by Certified Professional in Erosion and Sedimentation Control Inc.

Individuals in the first category can be found by visiting the Secretary of State's website (http://secure.sos.state.ga.us/myverification/) and then making the appropriate selections from the drop down menus. Being in this data base does not necessarily mean that these individuals will provide the services needed, thus a contact will be needed to find out.

Certified Professionals in Erosion and Sedimentation Control can be found on their organizations

website (http://www.cpesc.net/). Choose Georgia from the drop down menu. There are currently 78 individuals on the list from Georgia; however, some of these are county or city employees and may not be available to provide the service.

Mail a copy of the erosion control plan and a copy of the NOI by certified mail return receipt requested to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division ATTN: Jan Sammons 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101 Atlanta, Georgia 30354

- A copy of the NOI and the Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control plan should also be sent certified mail return receipt requested to the appropriate Soil and Water Conservation District office for their records.
- Complete the General Permit Fee Form. The fee for the permit is \$80.00 per disturbed acre. Agricultural construction is exempt from local issuing authority, so the entire fee goes directly to EPD in Atlanta. The fees and the Fee Form should be mailed to:

EPD Lockbox EPD Construction Land Disturbance Fees PO Box 932858 Atlanta, Georgia 31193-2858

During Construction

- Implement the erosion control plan
- Conduct inspections of the best management procedures of the erosion control plan as required by the permit. The permit requires daily, weekly and monthly inspections to assure the BMPs are in place and working properly. Permit holders should refer to the General Permit (GAR100001) to determine how these inspections should be conducted. Inspections can be done by individuals qualified in Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control plan BMPs. The Georgia Poultry Federation sponsored a qualification training for poultry company personnel in August of 2004. Individuals may want to contact their poultry company for identification of someone qualified to conduct the site inspections. Poultry growers may also want to consider attending training sponsored by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission to become qualified to conduct their own site inspections.
- The permit requires that daily rainfall be monitored and records kept for the site under construction.
- The permit requires the monitoring of nephelometric turbidity of waters associated with rain fall events for the construction site. The General Permit details the sampling procedures and requirements for these events.
- Maintain all records on site (i.e. plans, inspections, rainfall events, analysis, etc.)

Once Construction is Completed

- Complete the Notice of Termination (NOT) form and send by certified mail return receipt to the appropriate EPD District Office as indicated on the NOT form.
- Submit the NOT when all construction has been completed and the disturbed areas have undergone final stabilization.

For More Information

Georgia Environmental Protection Division 404-675-6240

www.dnr.state.ga.us/dnr/environ

Dan L. Cunningham

Poultry Science Extension Coordinator

Extension County Coordinator/Agent

Consult with your poultry company representative before making management changes.

"Your local County Extension Agent is a source of more information on this subject"