



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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TO: Office of Regulatory Management

THROUGH: Michael Rolband, Director, DEQ

FROM: Brandon Bull, Director, Policy Division, DEQ

DATE: October 16, 2025

SUBJECT: Amendment #1 to DEQ's Unified Regulatory Plan (URP) for 2025-2026

Attached are eight additional tables to add to the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Unified Regulatory Plan (URP) for 2025-2026.

Two of these tables address regulatory actions that are necessary to address technical errors. The remaining tables are for guidance documents, two of which are clarifying guidance documents and four of which are necessary to enhance implementation of DEQ's construction stormwater program.

**UNIFIED REGULATORY PLAN OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY FOR THE STATE FISCAL
YEAR 2026**

**PREPARED JUNE 27, 2025
UPDATED OCTOBER 16, 2025**

DESCRIPTION OF AGENCY:

The Department of Environmental Quality is authorized to implement all regulations adopted by its three citizen boards (Code of Virginia, Title 10.1, Chapter 11.1, Article 1.) Additionally, the department must promulgate regulations establishing: criteria for recycling equipment, facilities or devices for local taxation purposes (Code of Virginia, Title 58.1, Chapter 36, Article 5); a permit by rule or permits by rule for the construction and operation of small renewable energy projects, including such conditions and standards necessary to protect the Commonwealth's natural resources (Code of Virginia, Title 10.1, Chapter 11.1, Article 5); and regulations to implement the Uniform Environmental Covenants Act by establishing how activity and use limitations prescribed by an agency pursuant to an environmental response project are to be drafted, recorded and enforced (Code of Virginia, Title 10.1, Chapter 12.2.)

DESCRIPTION OF BOARDS:

The State Air Pollution Control Board

A seven-member citizen board authorized to, among other things, adopt regulations for the control and abatement of air pollution throughout the Commonwealth or in affected areas.

The State Water Control Board

A seven-member citizen board authorized to, among other things, establish standards of quality for state waters, policies and programs for area-wide or basin-wide quality controls, and requirements for treatment of sewage and industrial and other wastes.

The Virginia Waste Management Board

A seven-member citizen board authorized to, among other things, carry out the purposes and provisions of the Virginia Waste Management Act and compatible federal provisions and exercise general supervision and control over waste management activities in the Commonwealth.

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89.	Rescind 91-020, Modifications to September 8, 1989 Guidance Memo VPDES Permitting Strategy for Discharges Resulting from UST Remediation Projects and Similar Projects	Guidance Document
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109.	Develop Nutrient Offset Fund Guidance Memorandum – Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Program.	Guidance Document
110.	Revise LPR-SW-2016-01 - Management of Sharps Guidance	Guidance Document
111.	Rescind Guidance Memo 23-2002 - Final 2024 Water Quality Assessment Guidance Manual	Guidance Document
112.	Revise the Storage Tank Technical Manual – Volume 2: Release Reporting Requirements (01-2024D)	Guidance Document
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118.	Revise LPR-SW-04-2009 - Solid Waste Management Plan 5-year Update Guidance	Guidance Document
119.	Revise Storage Tank Program Compliance Manual, Vol 3: Underground Storage Tank Inspections (LPR-SRR-2016-03)	Guidance Document
120.	Develop Permitting and Coordination of Construction General Permits and Erosion and Sediment Control at Solid Waste Landfills Guidance	Guidance Document
121.	Rescind GM21-2001 and Reissue guidance for the Implementation of the 2021 Reissuance of the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Seafood Processing Facilities, VAG52	Guidance Document
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124	Amend the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation (9VAC25-875) to update Documents Incorporated by Reference	Final Exempt Regulation
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126	Develop Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Monitoring and Reporting Guidance	Guidance Document
127	Issue Guidance Regarding Common Plan of Development or Sale	Guidance Document
128	Issue Guidance Regarding Sequencing Erosion and Sediment Controls to Prevent Sediment from Leaving Construction Sites	Guidance Document

129	Revise GM24-2002 Virginia Runoff Reduction Method Compliance Spreadsheet User's Guide & Documentation	Guidance Document
130	Rescind GM24-2002 Virginia Runoff Reduction Method Compliance Spreadsheet User's Guide & Documentation (Version 4.1, effective April 2024)	Guidance Document

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Regulations and Virginia Pollutant Abatement (VPA) Regulations in Response to Chapter 280 of the 2025 Acts of Assembly (HB 2517, Del. Runion) (9VAC25-31 and 9VAC25-32)		
Brief Overview This final exempt regulation is necessary to implement Chapter 280 of the 2025 Acts of Assembly (HB 2517, Del. Runion), which exempts a public institution of higher education, as that term is defined in § 23.1-100 of the Code of Virginia, from the requirement to obtain a permit for land application of sewage sludge (also known as “biosolids”) for a research project when the land on which the biosolids are applied is owned and operated by the institution. It further requires the institution of higher education to (i) notify the department and the owner of every adjoining property of its intent to land apply such biosolids; and (ii) comply with setback and recordkeeping requirements as outlined in the Virginia Pollution Abatement Permit Regulation (9VAC25-32). Amendments will be made to the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulation, 9VAC25-31, and the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Permit Regulation, 9-25-32, to implement the bill’s requirements.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This action will provide a new permit exemption for public institutions of higher education conducting biosolids research.	
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation to Add Seven New TMDL Wasteload Allocations in the James River Basin and Tennessee-Big Sandy River Basin (9VAC25-720)		
Brief Overview Under the federal Clean Water Act and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Water Quality Management and Planning Regulation (40 CFR 130) states are required to identify water bodies that violate water quality standards and list them on the state's 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. Additionally, the CWA and EPA regulations require the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for impaired waters. Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:7(C) also requires the State Water Control Board to develop TMDLs for impaired waters. A TMDL must identify all pollutant sources and calculate the pollutant load reductions necessary from each source to achieve compliance with water quality standards. Each TMDL consists of the point source component called the wasteload allocation (WLA), the nonpoint source component called the load allocation (LA), and the margin of safety. This action will add seven new TMDL wasteload allocations in the James River Basin and the Tennessee-Big Sandy River Basin.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6432	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Domestic Sewage Discharges of Less Than or Equal to 1,000 Gallons Per Day (9VAC25-110)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for domestic sewage discharges of less than or equal to 1,000 gallons per day, which expires on July 31, 2026. This general permit regulation authorizes the discharge of treated domestic sewage less than or equal to 1,000 gallons per day. This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new small domestic sewage discharges are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this general permit provides dischargers under this sector with a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain permit coverage as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth.
Expected Date	July 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6427	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Seafood Processing Facilities (9VAC25-115)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action is proposed to amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for seafood processing facilities, which expires on June 30, 2026. This general permit regulation authorizes the discharge of process and stormwater from seafood processing product facilities. This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new seafood processing facilities are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	July 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6571	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Impacts Less Than One-Half Acre (9VAC25-660)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Impacts Less Than One-Half Acre (9VAC25-660). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 1, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-660 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.
Expected Date	July 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6572	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Facilities and Activities of Utility and Public Service Companies Regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the State Corporation Commission and Other Utility Line Activities (9VAC25-670)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Facilities and Activities of Utility and Public Service Companies Regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the State Corporation Commission and Other Utility Line Activities (9VAC25-670). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 2, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-670 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.
Expected Date	July 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6573	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Linear Transportation Projects (9VAC25-680)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection General (VWP) Permit for Linear Transportation Projects (9VAC25-680). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 4, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-680 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.
Expected Date	July 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6574		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Impacts from Development and Certain Mining Activities (9VAC25-690)		
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection General (VWP) Permit for Impacts from Development and Certain Mining Activities (9VAC25-690). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-690 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.	
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Vehicle Wash Facilities and Laundry Facilities (9VAC25-194)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action is proposed to amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for vehicle wash and laundry facilities, which expires on December 31, 2027. This general permit regulation governs the discharge of wastewater from vehicle wash facilities and laundry facilities to surface waters. This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new facilities are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	July 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6640		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Renewable Energy Regulations to Increase Fees Assessed by DEQ Permit by Rule Regulations (9VAC15-40, 9VAC15-60, 9VAC15-70, 9VAC15-100)		
Brief Overview The intent of this regulatory action is to amend or modify DEQ regulations to increase fees assessed by the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Wind) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-40), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Combustion) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-70), and the Small Energy Storage Facilities Permit by Rule (9VAC15-100). The fees assessed by these regulations for wind, solar, and combustion small renewable energy projects were last modified over ten years ago and the fees for small energy storage facilities were last modified in 2022.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Renewable Energy Regulations to Incorporate Interconnection Facilities Requirements (9VAC15-40, 9VAC 15-60, 9VAC15-70 and 9VAC15-100)		
Brief Overview DEQ was directed by Chapter 710 of the 2025 Acts of the Assembly to amend or modify Department of Environmental Quality regulations to incorporate requirements for the inclusion of interconnection facilities into the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Wind) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-40), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Combustion) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-70), and the Small Energy Storage Facilities Permit by Rule (9VAC15-100). DEQ is to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Corporation Commission by July 1, 2026.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amendment to the Small Energy Facilities Permit by Rule to Correct Technical Errors (9VAC15-100)		
Brief Overview The intent of this regulatory action is to amend or modify provisions of the Small Energy Facilities Permit by Rule to correct technical errors. The technical errors that will be addressed include a technically inaccurate definition of “rated power capacity” and two references in the existing regulation to “maximum power capacity” that need to be changed to “rated power capacity” for consistency with section 10.1-1197.5 of the Code of Virginia as well as internal consistency with the remainder of the regulation.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Certification of Nonpoint Source Nutrient Credits Regulation in Response to the Periodic Review (9VAC25-900)		
Brief Overview In response to a periodic review of the Certification of Nonpoint Source Nutrient Credits Regulation, 9VAC25-900, DEQ decided to move forward with a regulatory action to clarify aspects of the regulation.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit Regulation for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity Technical Corrections (9VAC25-151)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend the existing VPDES General Permit Regulation for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activity (9VAC25-151) to correct several outdated citations, cross references, and references with regards to construction stormwater.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☒ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This fast-track regulation will improve accuracy and streamline the regulation of industrial stormwater in the Commonwealth.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6536	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the General Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulation for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus Discharges and Nutrient Trading in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Virginia (9VAC25-820)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing General Permit Regulation for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus Discharges and Nutrient Trading in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Virginia, which expires on December 31, 2026. This general permit regulation authorizes the discharge of total nitrogen and total phosphorus within the Chesapeake Bay watershed and is instrumental in meeting the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new nutrient discharges are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed nutrient dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6561	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amendment of the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Permit Regulation, 9VAC25-32 as Required by 2024 Acts of Assembly Chapter 209 (HB 870)	
Brief Overview 2024 Acts of Assembly Chapter 209 (HB 870, Del. Bulova) requires the State Water Control Board, with the assistance of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Department of Health, to adopt regulations that include procedures for addressing administrative, staging, signage, and additional on-site and alternative storage site requirements when routine and on-site storage facility capacity and holding times are anticipated to be exceeded for the purpose of protecting against the release of sewage sludge (a.k.a. "biosolids") into state waters and to account for increased intensity, frequency, and duration of storm events.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Normally, entities that generate and store biosolids have sufficient capacity to store the material for several months, allowing end-users to land-apply during optimal times for nutrient application and uptake. Extended periods of precipitation or drought affect the timing of land-application. During 2018-2019, a record year for precipitation in some parts of the Commonwealth, many biosolids storage facilities reached or exceeded their capacity. At the time, owners of those facilities applied to DEQ on a case-by-case basis for variances to their permits to store and manage biosolids that could not be land-applied or stored in the usual manner. The amendments to the VPA Permit Regulation will give permittees a way to plan in advance for alternative storage and handling solutions when extreme weather conditions result in long periods of time when biosolids cannot be land-applied, creating situations when the amount of biosolids exceeds normal storage facility capacity.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit Regulation for Discharges from Groundwater Remediation of Contaminated Sites, Dewatering Activities of Contaminated Sites, and Hydrostatic Tests (9VAC25-120)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Discharges from Groundwater Remediation of Contaminated Sites, Dewatering Activities of Contaminated Sites, and Hydrostatic Tests (9VAC25-120) to reissue the general permit for another term and update relevant provisions as appropriate. The current permit expires on February 29, 2028. This general permit covers the discharge of wastewaters from petroleum contaminated sites, non-petroleum contaminated sites, groundwater remediation discharges, dewatering activities, the hydrostatic testing of natural gas storage tanks and pipelines, the hydrostatic testing and dewatering of petroleum storage tank systems and associated distribution equipment, and the hydrostatic testing of water storage tanks and pipelines. These wastewaters may be discharged from: excavation dewatering, conducting aquifer tests to characterize site conditions, pumping contaminated groundwater to remove free product, discharges resulting from another petroleum product, chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent, metals or other contaminated site cleanup, hydrostatic tests of natural gas and petroleum storage tanks or pipelines, hydrostatic tests and dewatering of storage tanks and associated distribution equipment, and hydrostatic tests of water storage tank systems or pipelines. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	September 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for Noncontact Cooling Water Discharges Of 50,000 Gallons Per Day or Less (9VAC25-196)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for noncontact cooling water discharges of 50,000 gallons per day or less, which expires on March 31, 2028. This general permit regulation authorizes the discharge of noncontact cooling water discharges of 50,000 gallons per day or less and ensures that existing and new discharges are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	September 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Regulations to Increase Fees for Land Application of Biosolids and Industrial Residuals (9VAC25-20)	
Brief Overview This action will amend the State Water Control Board's Fees for Permits and Certificates regulations to increase fees assessed by these regulations for land application of biosolids and industrial residuals. The fees assessed by these regulations were last revised 10 years ago.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	September 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Promulgation of a General Permit Regulation for Distribution and Marketing of Exceptional Quality Biosolids	
Brief Overview Exceptional Quality (EQ) biosolids are biosolids that have received an established level of treatment for pathogen control and vector attraction reduction and contain known levels of pollutants, such that they may be marketed or distributed for public use in accordance with the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Permit Regulation (9VAC25-32) or Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Regulation (9VAC25-31). EQ biosolids have been treated to a higher level of pathogen reduction than Class B biosolids. Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:3.A.1. requires that any person who land applies or markets and distributes any type of biosolids must do so under the authority of a VPA or VPDES permit. Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:3.C.1.) also specifies that regulations adopted by the State Water Control Board shall include requirements and procedures for the issuance and amendment of permits, including general permits, authorizing the land application, marketing or distribution of biosolids. Neither the VPA nor VPDES Permit Regulation include provisions for utilizing a general permit for marketing and distribution of EQ biosolids, hence the only vehicle currently available for DEQ to authorize marketing and distribution is an individual VPA or VPDES permit. This action will include revisions to the following related regulations: · Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Regulation [9VAC25-31] · Virginia Pollution Abatement Permit Regulation [9VAC25-32] · Fees for Permits and Certificates [9VAC25-20]	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Regulating activities through the issuance of general permit regulations is an alternative streamlined approach that is used to regulate entities that conduct similar activities. A benefit of this general permit would be 1) its lower cost to permittees relative to the cost of obtaining an individual VPA or modifying a current VPDES permit, 2) the shorter timeframe required to authorize the distribution and marketing activity through a general permit, and 3) the consistency of requirements among permittees, particularly when the material is in the marketplace. DEQ also expends less staff resources to issue coverage under a general permit.
Expected Date	September 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6730		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (PBR) to Include Mitigation for Forest Cores (9VAC15-60)		
Brief Overview DEQ was directed by Chapter 688 of the 2022 Acts of Assembly to amend the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (PBR), (9VAC15-60) regulation to consider significant adverse impacts to prime agricultural soils and forest lands. As part of that regulatory action, DEQ initially proposed requiring enhanced mitigation for C1 and C2 forest cores as identified through a ranking system previously developed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). DCR previously defined and ranked ecological cores into 5 categories (C1 through C5) in 2017 for use as a planning tool. Comments received on the proposed regulation identified several limitations of the available mapping tool and definition of C1 and C2 forest cores when used as a regulatory tool. DEQ has decided to initiate this regulatory action to address the issues concerning enhanced mitigation for forest cores with very high and outstanding ecological integrity. This regulatory action will be used to develop regulatory amendments to address enhanced mitigation for disturbance of forest cores with very high and outstanding ecological integrity using updated mapping and definitions which can be applied in the field to verify the mapped resources.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	November 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Definition of Volatile Organic Compound (Rev. C25)	
Brief Overview The general definitions of 9VAC5-10 impose no regulatory requirements in and of themselves but provide support to other provisions of the Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Air Pollution. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised the definition of volatile organic compound (VOC) to add cis-1,1,1,4,4,4-hexafluorobut-2-ene (also known as HFO-1336mzz-Z; CAS number 692-49-9) to the list of substances excluded from the definition of VOC on the basis that this substance makes a negligible contribution to tropospheric ozone formation. The state definition will now be revised accordingly.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☒ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Excluding this substance as a VOC will make it easier and less expensive for industry to use it. Companies that use this substance in place of more reactive substances may also benefit by reducing their VOC emissions and concomitant reductions in permitting and other regulatory requirements.
Expected Date	November/December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Air Regulations to Update Documents Incorporated by Reference (Rev. D25)	
Brief Overview This final exempt regulatory action will update the State Air Pollution Control Board's regulations in Title 9 Agency 5 of the Virginia Administrative Code that incorporate by reference certain federal regulations to reflect the Code of Federal Regulations as published on July 1, 2025.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This action will allow DEQ to continue to implement federally designated air programs, which will allow facilities to report to DEQ as opposed to both DEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
Expected Date	November/December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations to Update Federal Citations and Requirements (9VAC20-60)		
Brief Overview The Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (9VAC20-60), include citations to Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and incorporate by reference requirements from Title 40 of the CFR. This action will bring the citations up to date and incorporate the 2025 annual edition of Title 40 of the CFR published on July 1, 2025. Conforming this regulation to these federal regulations is necessary to maintain federally granted authority to implement the national program.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	November/December 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Regulations Governing the Transportation of Hazardous Materials to Update Federal Citations and Requirements Annual Update 2025 (9VAC20-110)		
Brief Overview Each year, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) makes several changes to the federal rules regarding the transportation of hazardous materials in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Virginia's regulations for transportation of hazardous materials (9VAC20-110) incorporate the federal regulations, with certain exceptions. This action will amend 9VAC20-110-110, which specifies the date of the federal regulations that are incorporated into Virginia's regulations. This update includes federal changes from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. Conforming this regulation to these federal regulations is necessary to maintain federally granted authority to implement the national program.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	November/December 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6642	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Regulations to Increase Fees Assessed by Waste Management Board Regulations	
Brief Overview The intent of this regulatory action is to amend or modify Virginia Waste Management Board regulations to increase fees assessed by 9VAC20-60, 9VAC20-90, and 9VAC20-160. The fees assessed by these regulations were last revised 11 years ago.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	November/December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6566		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Solid Waste Management Regulations in response to Chapter 235 of the 2024 Virginia Acts of Assembly to Implement SB 342 Open Burning of Vegetative Waste (9VAC20-81-95)		
Brief Overview Pursuant to Chapter 235 of the 2024 Virginia Acts of Assembly (SB 342, Sen. Stuart) this action will amend 9VAC20-81-95 of the Solid Waste Management Regulations to allow for vegetative waste to be transported to another location for open burning if it is impractical or unsafe to destroy such waste on the premises of private property.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	November/December 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulations to Reflect the Federal 316(b) Update (9VAC25-31)	
Brief Overview This action will update the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulations (9VAC25-31-100 and 9VAC25-31-165) to address requirements applicable to cooling water intake structures to add provisions that address existing facilities. The existing regulations under 9VAC25-31-165 includes definitions (Subsection A) and requirements that address new facilities (Subsection B). The requirements that address existing facilities (Subsection C) provides that such facilities must “meet requirements under section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act determined by the department on a case-by-case, best professional judgment (BPJ) basis.” This action will replace subsection C with regulatory requirements that reflect the federal Clean Water Act section existing facility regulation (40 CFR 125 Subpart J). As an authorized National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) state program, DEQ is required to implement regulations that are as stringent as federal regulations (40 CFR 123).	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This action will address the requirement in 40 CFR 125 Subpart J to include pre-approved compliance alternatives, which will be clearer and simpler to implement for both permittees and the Commonwealth than the current case-by-case approach.
Expected Date	November/December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Regulation Provisions for Surface Water Withdrawals to Correct Citations and Cross References (9VAC25-210)		
Brief Overview The Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Regulation's (9VAC25-210) provisions related to application requirements and preapplication procedures include inaccurate citations and cross references due to recently effective changes to the Local and Regional Water Supply Planning Regulation (9VAC25-780). This fast-track action will correct these citations and cross references.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☒ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	These technical corrections will reduce confusion for surface water permit applicants.	
Expected Date	November/December 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6680	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document 2024 Triennial Review Rulemaking to Adopt New, Update, or Cancel Existing Water Quality Standards (9VAC25-260)	
Brief Overview The action will include updating numerical and narrative criteria, use designations, and other policies contained in the Water Quality Standards Regulation (9 VAC 25-260). This regulation must be reviewed once every three years pursuant to federal regulations at 40 CFR 131 and Va. Code § 62.1-44.15(3a). The last triennial review was completed in March 2023. The intent of this action is to protect designated and beneficial uses of state waters by adopting regulations that are technically correct, necessary, and reasonable. These standards will be used in setting Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit limits and for evaluating the waters of the Commonwealth for inclusion in the Clean Water Act 305(b) report and on the 303(d) list. Waters not meeting standards will require development of a Total Maximum Daily Load, effluent limitations, or further analysis of use removal under the Clean Water Act at 303(e) and Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:7. The last triennial review was completed in March 2023, and new scientific information is available to update the water quality standards. Changes to the regulation are also needed to improve permitting, monitoring, and assessment programs.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	November/December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6548		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation to Change the Statewide Permit Fee Schedule (9VAC25-875)		
Brief Overview This action will amend provisions of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation (9VAC25-875) to change the statewide permit fee schedule for the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities and municipal separate storm sewer system permits in accordance with Chapter 2 (Budget Bill, Item 363 J) of the 2024 Special Session I Acts of Assembly.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	November/December 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6640		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Renewable Energy Regulations to Increase Fees Assessed by DEQ Permit by Rule Regulations (9VAC15-40, 9VAC15-60, 9VAC15-70, 9VAC15-100)		
Brief Overview The intent of this regulatory action is to amend or modify Department of Environmental Quality regulations to increase fees assessed by the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Wind) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-40), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Combustion) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-70), and the Small Energy Storage Facilities Permit by Rule (9VAC15-100). The fees assessed by these regulations for wind, solar, and combustion small renewable energy projects were last modified over ten years ago and the fees for small energy storage facilities were last modified in 2022.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	January 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit Regulation for Potable Water Treatment Plants (9VAC25-860)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for potable water treatment plants, which expires on June 30, 2028. This general permit regulation governs the discharge of process wastewater from potable water treatment plants to surface waters. This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new water treatment plants are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	January 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Renewable Energy Regulations to Incorporate Interconnection Facilities Requirements (9VAC15-40, 9VAC 15-60, 9VAC15-70 and 9VAC15-100)		
Brief Overview DEQ was directed by Chapter 710 of the 2025 Acts of the Assembly to amend or modify Department of Environmental Quality regulations to incorporate requirements for the inclusion of interconnection facilities into the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Wind) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-40), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Combustion) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-70), and the Small Energy Storage Facilities Permit by Rule (9VAC15-100). DEQ is to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Corporation Commission by July 1, 2026.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	February 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6730		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (PBR) to Include Mitigation for Forest Cores (9VAC15-60)		
Brief Overview DEQ was directed by Chapter 688 of the 2022 Acts of Assembly to amend the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (PBR), (9VAC15-60) regulation to consider significant adverse impacts to prime agricultural soils and forest lands. As part of that regulatory action, DEQ initially proposed requiring enhanced mitigation for C1 and C2 forest cores as identified through a ranking system previously developed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). DCR previously defined and ranked ecological cores into 5 categories (C1 through C5) in 2017 for use as a planning tool. Comments received on the proposed regulation identified several limitations of the available mapping tool and definition of C1 and C2 forest cores when used as a regulatory tool. DEQ has decided to initiate this regulatory action to address the issues concerning enhanced mitigation for forest cores with very high and outstanding ecological integrity. This regulatory action will be used to develop regulatory amendments to address enhanced mitigation for disturbance of forest cores with very high and outstanding ecological integrity using updated mapping and definitions which can be applied in the field to verify the mapped resources.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	March 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Vehicle Wash Facilities and Laundry Facilities (9VAC25-194)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action is proposed to amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for vehicle wash and laundry facilities, which expires on December 31, 2027. This general permit regulation governs the discharge of wastewater from vehicle wash facilities and laundry facilities to surface waters. This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new facilities are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit Regulation for Discharges from Groundwater Remediation of Contaminated Sites, Dewatering Activities of Contaminated Sites, and Hydrostatic Tests (9VAC25-120)		
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Discharges from Groundwater Remediation of Contaminated Sites, Dewatering Activities of Contaminated Sites, and Hydrostatic Tests (9VAC25-120) to reissue the general permit for another term and update relevant provisions as appropriate. The current permit expires on February 29, 2028. This general permit covers the discharge of wastewaters from petroleum contaminated sites, non-petroleum contaminated sites, groundwater remediation discharges, dewatering activities, the hydrostatic testing of natural gas storage tanks and pipelines, the hydrostatic testing and dewatering of petroleum storage tank systems and associated distribution equipment, and the hydrostatic testing of water storage tanks and pipelines. These wastewaters may be discharged from: excavation dewatering, conducting aquifer tests to characterize site conditions, pumping contaminated groundwater to remove free product, discharges resulting from another petroleum product, chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent, metals or other contaminated site cleanup, hydrostatic tests of natural gas and petroleum storage tanks or pipelines, hydrostatic tests and dewatering of storage tanks and associated distribution equipment, and hydrostatic tests of water storage tank systems or pipelines. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.	
Expected Date	March 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for Noncontact Cooling Water Discharges Of 50,000 Gallons Per Day or Less (9VAC25-196)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for noncontact cooling water discharges of 50,000 gallons per day or less, which expires on March 31, 2028. This general permit regulation authorizes the discharge of noncontact cooling water discharges of 50,000 gallons per day or less and ensures that existing and new discharges are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Certification of Nonpoint Source Nutrient Credits Regulation in Response to the Periodic Review (9VAC25-900)		
Brief Overview This action will amend the Certification of Nonpoint Source Nutrient Credits Regulation, 9VAC25-900. In response to the periodic review, DEQ decided to move forward with a regulatory action to clarify aspects of the regulation.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	March 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Regulations to Increase Fees for Land Application of Biosolids and Industrial Residuals (9VAC25-20)	
Brief Overview The action will amend the State Water Control Board's Fees for Permits and Certificates regulations to increase fees assessed by these regulations for land application of biosolids and industrial residuals. The fees assessed by these regulations were last revised 10 years ago.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6571	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Impacts Less Than One-Half Acre (9VAC25-660)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Impacts Less Than One-Half Acre (9VAC25-660). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 1, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-660 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6572	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Facilities and Activities of Utility and Public Service Companies Regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the State Corporation Commission and Other Utility Line Activities (9VAC25-670)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Facilities and Activities of Utility and Public Service Companies Regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the State Corporation Commission and Other Utility Line Activities (9VAC25-670). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 2, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-670 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6573		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Linear Transportation Projects (9VAC25-680)		
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection General (VWP) Permit for Linear Transportation Projects (9VAC25-680). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 4, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-680 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.	
Expected Date	March 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6574	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) General Permit for Impacts from Development and Certain Mining Activities (9VAC25-690)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and reissue the Virginia Water Protection General (VWP) Permit for Impacts from Development and Certain Mining Activities (9VAC25-690). This general permit, authorized by Va. Code § 62.1-44.15:21, 9VAC25-210 et seq., and 9VAC25-690 et seq., will expire on August 1, 2026. In conjunction with reissuance of the VWP general permit, this action will amend the existing VWP General Permit regulations as necessary to implement the permit. If the existing VWP general permit is not reissued prior to expiration on August 1, 2026, no general permit coverage can be extended to applicants submitting new applications for the regulated activities, and these applicants would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain a VWP individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of this VWP general permit will provide a streamlined permitting process, greatly reducing the costs and time necessary to obtain project authorization, as well as reducing the administrative costs to the Commonwealth. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under a VWP general permit and may require applicants to obtain a VWP individual permit instead.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6561	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amendment of the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Permit Regulation, 9VAC25-32 as Required by 2024 Acts of Assembly Chapter 209 (HB 870)	
Brief Overview 2024 Acts of Assembly Chapter 209 (HB 870, Del. Bulova) requires the State Water Control Board, with the assistance of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Department of Health, to adopt regulations that include procedures for addressing administrative, staging, signage, and additional on-site and alternative storage site requirements when routine and on-site storage facility capacity and holding times are anticipated to be exceeded for the purpose of protecting against the release of sewage sludge (a.k.a. "biosolids") into state waters and to account for increased intensity, frequency, and duration of storm events.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Normally, entities that generate and store biosolids have sufficient capacity to store the material for several months, allowing end-users to land-apply during optimal times for nutrient application and uptake. Extended periods of precipitation or drought affect the timing of land-application. During 2018-2019, a record year for precipitation in some parts of the Commonwealth, many biosolids storage facilities reached or exceeded their capacity. At the time, owners of those facilities applied to DEQ on a case-by-case basis for variances to their permits to store and manage biosolids that could not be land-applied or stored in the usual manner. The amendments to the VPA Permit Regulation will give permittees a way to plan in advance for alternative storage and handling solutions when extreme weather conditions result in long periods of time when biosolids cannot be land-applied, creating situations when the amount of biosolids exceeds normal storage facility capacity.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Sewage Collection and Treatment (SCAT) Regulations (9VAC25-790)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend the existing Sewage Collection and Treatment (SCAT) Regulations (9VAC25-790). The current regulation establishes minimum requirements for the construction and operation of facilities designed to collect and treat sewage in Virginia. However, the procedures, technical specifications, and engineering design criteria are not reflective of current practices or current/developing treatment technologies. Potential revisions include updating the regulation to 1) incorporate a set of policy, procedural, and planning statements, and 2) include reference to the technical specifications and engineering design criteria or practices of one or more generally accepted wastewater treatment reference documents or engineering design manuals.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☒ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Amending the SCAT Regulations will provide the regulated community with clarity regarding current policy, procedures, and planning statements and incorporation by reference of current, industry established technical specifications and engineering design criteria and practices for wastewater treatment technologies. By referencing one or more generally accepted wastewater treatment reference documents or design manuals, the SCAT Regulations will be significantly reduced in size and will provide the regulated community a consistently updated set of design criteria.
Expected Date	May 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Renewable Energy Regulations to Incorporate Interconnection Facilities Requirements (9VAC15-40, 9VAC 15-60, 9VAC15-70 and 9VAC15-100)		
Brief Overview DEQ was directed by Chapter 710 of the 2025 Acts of the Assembly to amend or modify Department of Environmental Quality regulations to incorporate requirements for the inclusion of interconnection facilities into the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Wind) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-40), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60), the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Combustion) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-70), and the Small Energy Storage Facilities Permit by Rule (9VAC15-100). DEQ is to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Corporation Commission by July 1, 2026.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6642	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Regulations to Increase Fees Assessed by Waste Management Board Regulations	
Brief Overview This action will amend Virginia Waste Management Board regulations to increase fees assessed by 9VAC20-60, 9VAC20-90, and 9VAC20-160. The fees assessed by these regulations were last revised 11 years ago.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	June 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Promulgation of a General Permit Regulation for Distribution and Marketing of Exceptional Quality Biosolids		
Brief Overview Exceptional Quality (EQ) biosolids are biosolids that have received an established level of treatment for pathogen control and vector attraction reduction and contain known levels of pollutants, such that they may be marketed or distributed for public use in accordance with the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Permit Regulation (9VAC25-32) or Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Regulation (9VAC25-31). EQ biosolids have been treated to a higher level of pathogen reduction than Class B biosolids. Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:3.A.1. requires that any person who land applies or markets and distributes any type of biosolids must do so under the authority of a VPA or VPDES permit. Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:3.C.1.) also specifies that regulations adopted by the State Water Control Board shall include requirements and procedures for the issuance and amendment of permits, including general permits, authorizing the land application, marketing or distribution of biosolids. Neither the VPA nor VPDES Permit Regulation include provisions for utilizing a general permit for marketing and distribution of EQ biosolids, hence the only vehicle currently available for DEQ to authorize marketing and distribution is an individual VPA or VPDES permit. This action will include revisions to the following related regulations: · Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Regulation [9VAC25-31] · Virginia Pollution Abatement Permit Regulation [9VAC25-32] · Fees for Permits and Certificates [9VAC25-20]		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Regulating activities through the issuance of general permit regulations is an alternative streamlined approach that is used to regulate entities that conduct similar activities. A benefit of this general permit would be 1) its lower cost to permittees relative to the cost of obtaining an individual VPA or modifying a current VPDES permit, 2) the shorter timeframe required to authorize the distribution and marketing activity through a general permit, and 3) the consistency of requirements among permittees, particularly when the material is in the marketplace. DEQ also expends less staff resources to issue coverage under a general permit.	
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit Regulation for Potable Water Treatment Plants (9VAC25-860)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing general permit regulation for potable water treatment plants, which expires on June 30, 2028. This general permit regulation governs the discharge of process wastewater from potable water treatment plants to surface waters. This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new water treatment plants are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit. Potential revisions include revising the permit term, clarifying the scope of the permit, and reviewing any changes to relevant water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☒ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	June 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6680	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document 2024 Triennial Review Rulemaking to Adopt New, Update, or Cancel Existing Water Quality Standards (9VAC25-260)	
Brief Overview The action will include updating numerical and narrative criteria, use designations, and other policies contained in the Water Quality Standards Regulation (9 VAC 25-260). This regulation must be reviewed once every three years pursuant to federal regulations at 40 CFR 131 and Va. Code § 62.1-44.15(3a). The last triennial review was completed in March 2023. The intent of this action is to protect designated and beneficial uses of state waters by adopting regulations that are technically correct, necessary, and reasonable. These standards will be used in setting Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit limits and for evaluating the waters of the Commonwealth for inclusion in the Clean Water Act 305(b) report and on the 303(d) list. Waters not meeting standards will require development of a Total Maximum Daily Load, effluent limitations, or further analysis of use removal under the Clean Water Act at 303(e) and Va. Code § 62.1-44.19:7. The last triennial review was completed in March 2023, and new scientific information is available to update the water quality standards. Changes to the regulation are also needed to improve permitting, monitoring, and assessment programs.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	June 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) Action 6536	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend and Reissue the General Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Regulation for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus Discharges and Nutrient Trading in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Virginia (9VAC25-820)	
Brief Overview This regulatory action will amend and reissue the existing General Permit Regulation for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus Discharges and Nutrient Trading in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Virginia, which expires on December 31, 2026. This general permit regulation authorizes the discharge of total nitrogen and total phosphorus within the Chesapeake Bay watershed and is instrumental in meeting the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). This regulatory action is needed to ensure that existing and new nutrient discharges are covered under this general permit regulation. If the existing general permit is not reissued prior to expiration, no coverage can be extended to newly proposed nutrient dischargers. Any new dischargers would be required to wait for reissuance of the general permit or obtain an individual permit.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Reissuance of the general permit provides the regulated community with a streamlined approach to obtain permit coverage and reduces regulatory requirements and costs on the regulated community. Conversely, a delay or halt in this process may place a financial burden on an owner of an operation currently covered or seeking coverage under the general permit.
Expected Date	June 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation to include Total Maximum Daily Load Waste Load Allocations (9VAC25-720)		
Brief Overview This action will amend the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation (9VAC25-720) to include the wasteload allocations (WLA) for the following Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies developed to address the Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) fish consumption advisory impairments: • Upper and Middle James River, Jackson River, and Maury River This action will amend the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation (9VAC25-720) to include the WLA for the following TMDL studies developed to address aquatic life use impairments: • Greendale Creek and Unnamed Tributary to Fleenor Branch in Washington County • Middle Fork Holston and Tributaries in Smyth, Washington, and Wythe Counties • Black Creek and Hat Creek in Nelson County • Crooked Run, Stony Creek, and Pughs Run in Shenandoah County • James River Tributaries in Henrico and Goochland Counties and the City of Richmond • South Fork Rivanna River and its tributaries in Albemarle County • Wolf Creek in Washington County • Assawoman and Little Mosquito Creeks in Accomack County This action will also amend the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation (9VAC25-720) to include modified WLAs for the following TMDL study to address recreation use impairments: • Onancock Creek in in Accomack County TMDLs are developed in accordance with Federal Regulations (40 CFR Section 130.7) and are exempt from the provisions of Article II of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (Va. Code § 2.2-4006 A 14).		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation to include Total Maximum Daily Load Waste Load Allocations (9VAC25-720)		
Brief Overview As required by federal and state law, DEQ is conducting the following Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies to develop wasteload allocations (WLAs). This action will add those WLAs to the Water Quality Management Planning Regulation (9VAC25-720). This action will include WLAs for the following TMDL studies to address the Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) fish consumption advisory impairments: • PCB TMDL for the Bluestone River in the New River Basin. • PCB TMDL for the Lower James River This action will include WLAs for the following TMDL studies to address aquatic life use impairments: • Roanoke River and Tinker Creek in the Roanoke River Basin • Horsepen and Little Roanoke Creeks in the Roanoke River Basin • Layton, Grassy, Poplar, Reedy Creeks in Roanoke River Basin • Sand Branch in the Potomac River Basin • Broad Run in the Potomac River Basin • Appomattox River in the James River Basin • Powhite and Pocoshock Creeks in the James River Basin • Custis and Rattrap in Atlantic Basin • Powhatan Creek in the James River Basin • Buck Island and Carroll Creeks in the James River Basin • Stephens and Chapel in the Shenandoah River Basin • Big Reed Island Creek in New River Basin • Catharpin Creek in Potomac River Basin • Chuckatuck Creek in James River Basin • Mill Creek and Little Cedar Creek in Tennessee and Big Sandy River Basin • Elk Creek and Turkey Fork in New River Basin TMDLs are developed in accordance with Federal Regulations (40 CFR Section 130.7) and adoption of WLAs is exempt from the provisions of Article II of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (Va. Code § 2.2-4006 A 14).		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amendments to Regulations Governing the Discharge of Sewage and Other Wastes from Boats (9VAC25-71)		
Brief Overview This amendment will update Code of Federal Regulation references as well as add water bodies in Richmond, Lancaster, Northumberland, and Westmoreland counties to the No-Discharge Zone (NDZ) list. An NDZ creates the area in a waterbody where no discharge of sewage is permitted; vessels would instead use pump-out facilities (often located at marinas) or travel outside of the NDZ to discharge treated sewage. The action to include these additional water bodies is based upon strong support by the localities and other stakeholders in the affected areas. This regulatory action is a final exempt action under the Administrative Process Act (Va. Code § 2.2-4006.A.4.c of the Code of Virginia) as it is necessary to amend the regulations to conform to changes in the federal regulations, namely with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) anticipated approval of the NDZs. The NDZs were developed in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act's Section 312 and Va. Code § 62.1-44.33 and will be included in Section 70 of 9VAC25-71 as a designated NDZ in Virginia. The NDZ application was subject to public participation during its development. EPA will also seek public comment on its affirmative determination.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☒ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☒ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☒ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Virginia Petroleum Storage Tank Fund Reimbursement Manual – Volume VII, 3 rd Edition		
Brief Overview The Virginia Petroleum Storage Tank Fund (VPSTF) Reimbursement Guidance Manual – Volume VII, 3 rd Edition, updates the Usual and Customary Rate Schedule used to claim reimbursement from the VPSTF for reasonable and necessary cleanup work performed on or after October 1, 2025. The UCR Schedule provides maximum reasonable reimbursement rates for tasks or items associated with the cleanup of a petroleum storage tank release.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Resiliency Guidance		
Brief Overview This guidance document will assist local governments subject to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act with administering the requirements in the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations (9VAC25-830) with implementing the requirements in 9VAC25-830-155 for addressing resilience and adaptation when considering proposed development in Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Guidance Document for Nutrient Reduction Crediting Protocol for Shoreline Management Projects		
Brief Overview This new guidance document will provide clarity and consistency to DEQ's activities to determine the appropriate credits to attribute to shoreline management projects.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	July 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-HW-18-2002		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind LPR-HW-18-2002 - Financial Assurance Procedures in Support of the Hazardous Waste Permitting Program		
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-HW-18-2002. Published on August 22, 2002, the purpose of these procedures is to guide DEQ staff on reviewing financial assurance documentation required as part of a hazardous waste permit. These procedures were designed to document the process to ensure consistency and outline staff roles. This document was designed as a document for internal use only and assists DEQ staff within the Office of Financial Responsibility and Waste Programs keep abreast of the most recent regulations and procedures by removing or adding pages to the manual. This document does not constitute guidance and should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document was developed entirely for internal DEQ staff use and is not "guidance." It should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 23 pages of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SW-17-2002		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind LPR-SW-17-2002 - Solid Waste Financial Assurance Procedures		
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SW-17-2002. Published on August 22, 2002, the purpose of these procedures is to guide DEQ staff on reviewing financial assurance documentation required as part of a solid waste permit, permit-by-rule or for an unpermitted solid waste facility with financial assurance requirements. These procedures were designed to document the process to ensure consistency and outline staff roles. This document was designed as a document for internal use only and assists DEQ staff within the Office of Financial Responsibility and Waste Programs keep abreast of the most recent regulations and procedures by removing or adding pages to the manual. Consequently, it should not be considered guidance and should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document should not be considered guidance and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 28 pages of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-03-2012	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind LPR-SRR-03-2012 - Case Closure Evaluation of Sites with Free Product Guidance	
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SRR-03-2012. Published on December 28, 2012, this document is an expansion of Section 5.5 of the Storage Tank Program Technical Manual and was developed to assist Storage Tank Program Case Managers in evaluating the feasibility and practicality of free product removal and to recognize when a case can be closed with no increased risk to human health and the environment. It is an internal procedure and should not be considered guidance. Consequently, LPP-SRR-03-2012 should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document was developed for internal use by Department of Environmental Quality staff and should be removed as a guidance document. Doing so will rescind 11 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-01-2013	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind LPR-SRR-01-2013 - Provision of Alternate Water Supplies to Operators of Petroleum-Impacted Water Supplies Guidance	
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SRR-01-2013. Published on June 13, 2013, the purpose of this document is to provide information for Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff regarding the provision and termination of CFU coverage at a site. It is an internal procedure and should not have been classified as a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document was developed for internal use by DEQ staff and should be removed as a guidance document. Doing so will rescind 29 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-2014-01	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind LPR-SRR-2014-01 - State Lead Procedures Manual, First Edition	
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SRR-2014-01. The purpose of the State Lead Procedures Manual is to provide DEQ staff with standard operating procedures for managing sites within the State Lead Program. This document will be redone and will be an internal procedure instead of a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document will be rewritten and will be an internal manual for DEQ staff. It should be removed as a guidance document. Doing so will rescind 80 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-2015-02	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind LPR-SRR-2015-02 - Instructions for Completing the State Lead Acceptance Form and Contractor Evaluation Tab	
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SRR-2015-02. This document provides instructions for DEQ staff when completing the State Lead Acceptance Form (AAF). It superseded the guidance found in LPR-SRR-2014-01 and was meant to be incorporated into the next revision of that manual. It is an internal procedure.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document will be included in the State Lead Manual which will be an internal procedure. It should be removed as a guidance document. Doing so will rescind nine (9) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-2018-2A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind the Risk Based Inspection Strategy (RBIS) For Underground Storage Tanks	
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SRR-2018-2A. Originally published on June 13, 2019, this document is an internal business procedure explaining how to evaluate alternative methods for establishing annual inspection schedules. Consequently, it should be removed as guidance.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document should be removed from Town Hall as it is internal procedures. Doing so will rescind five (5) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-2014-03	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind Quality Assurance Plan for the Alternate Water Supply Program – Revision 3	
Brief Overview This action will rescind LPR-SRR-2014-03. Published on March 27, 2017, the purpose of the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the Alternate Water Supply Program is to ensure that procedures used and data collected by Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff and DEQ-hired contractors are of sufficient quality to support the decisions about the need to provide alternate water supplies to persons having wells that are impacted by petroleum. It is an internal procedure, and it is obsolete. Consequently, its should be removed as guidance.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This is an outdated quality assurance plan for internal use. It should be removed as a guidance document. Doing so will rescind 77 pages of guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 01-2024D		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise the Storage Tank Technical Manual – Volume 4: Site Work and Pre-Approval and Verification Process (01-2024D)		
Brief Overview This guidance manual is currently being updated from the 2011 version. The updated version will eliminate obsolete links and processes as well as provide better procedural clarification for staff and stakeholders. This includes how to manage scope of work and facilitate the reimbursement of site costs through pre-approval and verification of site work where applicable. This document is an internal job aid for tank remediation staff that introduces electronic documentation as well as administrative troubleshooting. The guidance will be streamlined from the current version for procedural clarity.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM06-2005	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM06-2005, Biosecurity Procedures for Poultry Farm Visits	
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM06-2005, a four-page document issued on May 24, 2006. DEQ staff used this document for internal instruction on the necessary biosecurity procedures to be used when inspecting facilities subject to regulation under the Virginia Pollution Abatement permit program. This document does not interpret any laws or regulations for the public. Therefore, this document should be rescinded as a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document will be rescinded because DEQ has determined that it is strictly procedural and should not be classified as a guidance document. This action will remove four (4) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 02-2001	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind Guidance Memo No. 02-2001 - Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Inspection Checklist	
Brief Overview This action will rescind Guidance Memo No. 02-2001. Published on January 23, 2002, DEQ staff use this form when conducting CAFO inspections. It does not provide information or guidance of general applicability to the staff or public to interpret or implement any laws or regulations; therefore, it should be rescinded as a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document will be rescinded because DEQ has determined that it is for Agency internal use and should not be classified as a guidance document. This action will remove 15 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM05-2001		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind Guidance GM05-2001 – Final 316(b) Phase II Rule Implementation		
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM05-2001. Published on January 25, 2005, this document describes DEQ's role in implementing the Phase II Rule. The Phase II rule was remanded and subsequently withdrawn by EPA (2007). This rule is no longer in effect, thus there is no need for the Phase II 316(b) guidance, and it can be rescinded immediately.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM07-2013	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM07-2013, CEDS DMR Data Entry Rules	
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM07-2013. Published on October 23, 2007, this document provided DEQ staff with data entry rules to ensure consistency across Agency offices. As it is outdated and details only internal DEQ procedures and does not interpret any laws or regulations, this document should be removed as a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As it is outdated and details only internal DEQ procedures and does not interpret any laws or regulations, this document should be removed as a guidance document. Rescinding GM07-2013 will remove four (4) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 90-011		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 90-011, Interpretation of Nutrient Policy		
Brief Overview This action will rescind guidance document 90-011. Published on April 20, 1990, this document provided agency staff and the regulated community guidance on the implementation of the State Water Control Board's "Nutrient Policy." This guidance is outdated and no longer accurate. Consequently, it should be removed as guidance.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This action will rescind four (4) pages of outdated guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) WQS-3		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind WQS-3, Water Quality Standards Interpretation of Fecal Coliform Bacteria and Mixing Zones		
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance WQS-3 Water Quality Standards Interpretation of Fecal Coliform Bacteria and Mixing Zones. Published on April 20, 1993, this document provides an outdated interpretation of the applicability of mixing zones to fecal coliform bacteria standards. As this guidance is outdated and no longer applicable, it should be removed as guidance.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This action will rescind two (2) pages of outdated guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM11-2004	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind Amendments to the Virginia Water Protection Permit Program Regulation 9 VAC 25-210 (Effective July 25, 2007) Regarding Surface Water Withdrawal Permitting	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance GM11-2004. Published on March 17, 2011, this guidance was originally meant to summarize the effects of amendments made to the Virginia Water Protection Permit (VWP) Program Regulation 9VAC25-210 et seq.) related to application review and the issuance, reissuance, or modification of a permit for surface water withdrawal projects. The information contained in this document is now outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 18 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 98-2011	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 98-2011, Inspection Checklists for Analyses of Mercury by Cold Vapor and Metals	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 98-2011. Originally published on November 4, 1998, this form only outlined internal data collection and sampling procedures. It does not interpret existing laws or regulations for the public and therefore should be rescinded as a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this form should not be classified as "guidance," it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 10 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 03-2007	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 03-2007, Implementation of bacteria standards in VPDES Permits	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 03-2007. Originally published on March 27, 2003, this guidance was meant to describe the application of E.coli and enterococci bacteria water quality standards.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this guidance is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 12 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 00-2008	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 00-2008, Notification of Acceptance for Coverage by a General Permit	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 00-2008. This document, published on May 12, 2000, informs the regulated community that filing a registration statement to a general permit with the State Water Control Board requires a response from the Board or the Director but that those responses are not rulings by either the Board or the Agency. The information in this document is outdated and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so would rescind three (3) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 01-2020		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 01-2020, Implementation of Amendments to the VPDES Permit Regulation and General VPDES Permit for Domestic Sewage Discharges of Less Than or Equal to 1,000 GPD - Local Government Ordinance Form		
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 01-2020. Published on July 17, 2001, this document describes the implementation of amendments to State Water Control Law requiring local government review of all new individual VPDES permit applications for discharge of sewage, industrial waste, or other waste. The information in this document is outdated and it should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so would rescind eight (8) pages of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM07-2011	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM07-2011, Issuing a Certificate to Construct from a Final Engineering Report	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance GM07-2011. Published on July 30, 2007, this document was meant to provide a method that may facilitate nutrient projects in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The procedure allows for issuance of a Certificate to Construct (CTC) from a Final Engineering Report as opposed to waiting until the engineering plans and specifications are complete. This procedure does not relieve the owner from producing the plans and specifications but does allow the owner to begin purchasing long-lead equipment items and initiate construction before the final documents are completed and approved. Pursuant to the guidance, use of the process ended on January 1, 2011. The information in this document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will remove three (3) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 95-008	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 95-008, General Permits	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 95-008. Published on June 4, 2003, this document instructed DEQ staff to send a copy of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for domestic sewage dischargers of $\leq 1,000$ gallons per day to facility owners after receiving a registration statement indicating the facility in question will be able to meet certain requirements un the general permit regulation.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind five (5) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM06-2008	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM06-2008, Local Government Certification for New VPDES Permitted Landfills	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance GM06-2008. Published on June 29, 2006, this document provided guidance on DEQ's implementation of the requirement for new or modified VPDES permits for municipal solid waste landfills to contain a certification from the local governing body that the discharge is consistent with the city's ordinance that established and designated the local watershed protection district in order to be considered complete. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind seven (7) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM06-2009	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM06-2009, Review and Approval of Operation and Maintenance Manuals for Municipal Sewage Treatment Works	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance GM06-2009. Published on July 5, 2006, this document Provides guidance on the procedure for review and approval of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manuals for municipal sewage treatment works. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	As this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind three (3) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 01-2008		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 01-2008, Numbering of Outfalls for VPDES Permits		
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 01-2008. Published on March 21, 2001, this document details the requirements for numbering and recording outfalls within VPDES areas. As the information in this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind one (1) page of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 91-028		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 91-028, Procedure for Assigning Numbers to Permits		
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 91-028. Published on December 10, 1991, this document describes the procedures for assigning numbers to corrective action permits. As the information in this document is outdated, it should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind one (1) page of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM08-2001		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM08-2001, Processing of Priority Permits, Administrative Continuance of Expired Permits and Permitting		
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance GM08-2001. Published on January 24, 2008, this document was meant to provide instructions for minimizing the expiration of VPDES permits while accounting for personnel reductions, new EPA criteria defining “priority permits,” and accommodating facilities that have been recognized under the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 12 pages of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 96-001	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 96-001, Storm Water Permitting	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 96-001. Published on March 15, 1996, this document is meant to provide an overview DEQ's stormwater permitting procedures. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind three (3) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM07-2007	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM07-2007, Threatened and Endangered Species Screening for VPDES Permits	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance GM07-2007. Published on May 2, 2007, this document was meant to describe new procedures for screening VPDES applications for impacts to threatened and endangered species during the permit drafting procedure. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind eight (8) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 90-016	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 90-016, Use of State Model by Consultants	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 90-016. Published on July 2, 1990, this document detailed the procedures for reviewing submissions to the department that utilize state models. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind one (1) page of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 91-020	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 91-020, Modifications to September 8, 1989 Guidance Memo VPDES Permitting Strategy for Discharges Resulting from UST Remediation Projects and Similar Projects	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 91-020. Published on October 1, 1991, this document provided guidance on VPDES permitting for underground storage tank discharge remediation projects. The information contained in this document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind one (1) page of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 98-2010	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 98-2010, Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit and Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Permit Ground Water Monitoring Plans	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 98-2010. Published on September 30, 1998, this document provides guidance for review of groundwater monitoring plans under the VPDES and VPA permitting programs. The information in this document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 106 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 93-008	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind 93-008, DEQ Water Division Water Purification Systems Contaminants	
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance 93-008. Published on April 20, 1993, this document provided DEQ staff with procedures for handling samples to ensure they were not contaminated. Additionally, the document only outlined internal procedures and did not interpret existing laws or regulations for the public and therefore should be rescinded as a guidance document.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is both outdated and improperly classified as guidance. Consequently, it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind four (4) pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) WQS-1		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind WQS-1, Water Quality Standards Interpretation - New Standards (1992)		
Brief Overview This action will rescind the outdated guidance WQS-1. Published on February 24, 1992, the document provided clarity of various questions regarding the water quality standards. The information in this document is outdated and it should be removed from Town Hall.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document is outdated, and it should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind three (3) pages of unnecessary guidance.	
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM24-2001 V 1.1	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook, and Issue Version 1.2	
Brief Overview This action will amend and update the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook, Version 1.1 (Handbook). Last updated on August 15, 2024, the Handbook provides guidance to implement water quantity and water quality criteria in the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation, 9VAC25-875, effective July 1, 2024. As detailed in Section 1.4.2 of the currently approved Handbook, Virginia had an array of outdated handbooks and reference materials that have been a source of confusion for the regulated community and inefficiency in DEQ's permitting process. The Handbook replaced the outdated materials, but DEQ must periodically update it to provide ongoing and current information to stormwater designers, permit applicants, and their consultants. Building on the process used to develop the Handbook, DEQ plans to use a similar process to update the Handbook yearly. The Handbook, as a guidance document, can be revised to remain consistent with statutory and regulatory changes.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This guidance provides clarity, consistency, and time savings for design professionals preparing erosion and sediment control plans and post-construction stormwater management plans by ensuring all programmatic requirements are in a single, up-to-date document. This guidance streamlines the process DEQ, and local authorities follow for reviewing erosion & sediment control and stormwater management plans.
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop 2026 Water Quality Assessment Guidance (Replaces GM 23-2002)	
Brief Overview This guidance document will replace and update existing guidance (GM23-2002) that establishes the procedures that DEQ staff follow for conducting water quality assessments to generate the Virginia's 2026 305(b)/303(d) Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report. Section 62.1-44.19:5 C of the Code of Virginia requires DEQ to develop and publish the procedures used for defining and determining impaired waters and provide for public comment on the procedures. The replacement guidance will contain updates to water quality assessment procedures to account for revisions to water quality standards or to incorporate assessment process improvements.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute ☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	August 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Managing Flagged or Qualified Data in VPDES Permit Discharge Monitoring Reports		
Brief Overview DEQ implements Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permits issued to industrial and municipal permittees. Generally, monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or alternative U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved methods. Part III of the VPDES Permit Regulation, 9VAC25-31-190 L, requires that all monitoring results be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). Additionally, subsection L states that if the permittee monitors any pollutant specifically addressed by the permit more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, the results of the monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR. Thus, individual VPDES permittees are required to report all data collected and analyzed. There are situations where data or one datum may be considered qualified or flagged due to any reason such as, but not limited to, failing any aspect of QA/QC criteria; improper preservation or holding times; or presentation of “>” or “<” numerical results. When DEQ reviews a DMR, staff evaluate qualified (or flagged) data to assess its quality and determine whether it should be included or excluded from the specified calculation(s) on the DMR. The existing VPDES Permit Regulation does not include guidelines for managing “qualified” or “flagged data” and thus creates uncertainty for both permittees and DEQ. The purpose of this Guidance Memo is to provide clarity to stakeholders on how to manage and submit “flagged” or “qualified” data through DMRs required by their VPDES permits and to establish procedures for DEQ to evaluate that data to determine its inclusion or exclusion in the calculations on the DMR.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM18-2012, Amd 1		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend Guidance Memo 18-2012, Amendment No. 1 - Points Assessment for Alleged Violations of the Construction General Permit Criteria and Enforcement Referral Guidance		
Brief Overview This action will amend Guidance Memo 18-2012 (GM18-2012), and the applicable attachment. GM18-2012 was last amended on November 1, 2024, and became effective on January 30, 2025. Since becoming effective, DEQ staff have discovered some inconsistencies and language which is vague in nature; thus, revisions are needed to provide clarity and consistency for both DEQ staff and permit holders. This document provides directions for evaluating noncompliance with the General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities Regulations (9VAC25-880), the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program Regulation (9VAC25-875), and the State Water Control Law (§§ 62.1-44.2 through 62.1-44.34:33 of the Code of Virginia) and provides a point system for determining the appropriate compliance response, including when to refer cases to the Division of Enforcement. The point system allows DEQ Stormwater Compliance staff to consistently assess and respond to alleged noncompliance.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM14-2003	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM14-2003 March 2014 Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Manual Revisions	
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM14-2003. Published on March 27, 2014, this document notified water permitting staff of a VPDES Permit Manual revision and replaced GM10-2003. GM14-2003 is outdated and many aspects have been replaced by internal procedural documents. The parts of the document that are actually guidance will be retained in a separate guidance action.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Removing the aspects of this 524 page document that do not meet the definition of guidance will result in an easier to navigate document for the regulated community.
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Writers' Manual	
Brief Overview This action will replace GM14-2003, the VPDES Permit Manual, with updated guidance that provides information to DEQ staff about the implementation of the VPDES permit program and permit issuance.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Purely procedural information for staff has been removed from the VPDES Permit Writers' Manual, leaving only parts that interpret or help implement the VPDES Permit Regulation, 9VAC25-31. The VPDES Permit Writers Manual will be several hundred pages shorter than the VPDES Permit Manual, making it more streamlined and easier for the regulated community to use.
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise the Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Manual		
Brief Overview The purpose of this guidance document is to provide DEQ water withdrawal permitting staff a framework for processing requests for new, expanded, or modified groundwater withdrawals and is intended to provide the overall process for reviewing and issuing individual groundwater withdrawal permits. This revised manual will contain updates and clarifications to the permit processing framework and supersedes previous manuals for drafting groundwater withdrawal permits.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM21-2003		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM21-2003 and Reissue "Implementation Guidance for the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Discharges Resulting From the Application of Pesticides to Surface Water, VAG87"		
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM21-2003 and reissue guidance for the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit Regulation for Discharges Resulting from the Application of Pesticides to Surface Water, 9VAC25-800 (effective March 1, 2024). The reissued guidance will identify changes that had been made to the General Permit VAG87, provide Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff with instructions on implementation of these changes, provide information on aspects of the permit that have raised questions, and provide example letters that staff may use for the administration of the regulation.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document provides information to DEQ staff and the regulated community on the interpretation and implementation of the General Permit. General permits are less burdensome than having to apply for and issue an individual permit for each facility that is subject to regulation. The guidance ensures the permitting process is timely, efficient, and transparent. Rescinding GM14-2017 and reissuing guidance that is specific to the permit regulation that is currently effective reduces confusion and provides more certainty to DEQ staff and the regulated community.	
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM21-2004		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM21-2004 and Reissue "Implementation Guidance for the General VPDES Permit for Nonmetallic Mineral Mining Facilities VAG84"		
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM21-2004 and reissue guidance for the Implementation of the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for Nonmetallic Mineral Mining Facilities, VAG84, to reflect the permit that became effective on July 1, 2024. Published on June 30, 2021, GM21-2004 provided staff information to interpret and implement the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Nonmetallic Mineral Mining Facilities, 9VAC25-190, which was effective for a 5-year term beginning July 1, 2019. The reissued guidance document will identify changes that have been made to General Permit VAG84, which was effective July 1, 2024, and provide Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff with instructions on implementation of these changes, provide information on aspects of the permit that have raised questions, and provide example letters that staff may use for the administration of the regulation.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document provides information to DEQ staff and the regulated community on the interpretation and implementation of the General Permit. General permits are less burdensome than having to apply for and issue an individual permit for each facility that is subject to regulation. The guidance ensures the permitting process is timely, efficient, and transparent. Rescinding GM21-2004 and reissuing guidance that is specific to the permit regulation that is currently effective reduces confusion and provides more certainty to DEQ staff and the regulated community.	
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM14-2017		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM14-2017 and Reissue guidance for the Implementation of the Virginia Pollution Abatement (VPA) Regulation and General Permit for Animal Feeding Operations and Animal Waste Management Amendments, VPG1		
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM14-2017 and reissue guidance for the VPA Regulation and General Permit for Animal Feeding Operations, 9VAC25-192. Published on November 12, 2014, GM14-2017 contained Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) interpretation of the VPA Regulation and General Permit for Animal Feeding Operations and procedures for processing VPA general permits for animal feeding operations using a liquid manure management system. It also included procedures for obtaining a complete registration statement, determining eligibility for coverage under the general permit, transmittal of the general permit to registrants, and inspection procedures. The General Permit regulation was amended and reissued, effective November 16, 2024. DEQ will replace GM14-2017 with updated guidance.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document provides information to DEQ staff and the regulated community on the interpretation and implementation of the General Permit. General permits are less burdensome than having to apply for and issue an individual permit for each facility that is subject to regulation. The guidance ensures the permitting process is timely, efficient, and transparent. Rescinding GM14-2017 and reissuing guidance that is specific to the permit regulation that is currently effective reduces confusion and provides more certainty to DEQ staff and the regulated community.	
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Guidance Document for Development of Aluminum Criteria for Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit Issuance		
Brief Overview This action will create guidance to address the following: Virginia adopted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommended aluminum criteria into the Water Quality Standards regulation, effective June 2024. These criteria are to be integrated into requirements for the issuance of certain Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permits in the Commonwealth. The VPDES permit program and the water quality monitoring and assessment programs are the primary programs which will be charged with implementing the criteria once effective. Water quality assessment procedures are established every two years coinciding with development and publication of the biennial Water Quality Assessment 305(b)/303(d) Integrated Report (IR). These procedures are established in guidance which entails a public comment period. DEQ will develop a guidance document regarding aluminum limits in reissued and new VPDES permits. DEQ will need to develop implementation guidance clearly explaining the application of Virginia's freshwater aluminum criteria, including calculation of site-specific criteria using site-specific measurements of pH, hardness, and dissolved oxygen concentrations that consider seasonal and hydrological variability and proposed methodology for using the most conservative inputs for criteria calculation in waters with federally listed species.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This Guidance Document will assist the regulated community and stakeholders with regards to permit condition expectations as well as to assist DEQ staff in providing consistency for permitting decisions regarding these conditions.	
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Ammonia Guidance Document		
Brief Overview DEQ will develop a guidance document regarding ammonia limits in reissued Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permits. This guidance document will describe a phased implementation program for use in applying the recently revised ammonia freshwater criteria (9VAC25-260-155 subsections B and C). These Virginia water quality criteria are more stringent in response to changes in the federal criteria that were published in 2013; the revised criteria became effective on October 8, 2020. State law provides that a phased implementation program must be established as part of adoption of the revised criteria (§ 62.1-44.15:1 C). This phased implementation program is intended to provide qualifying permittees with additional time where needed to comply with new effluent limits, resulting from the revised criteria. This phased implementation program provides permittees that discharge or have the potential to discharge ammonia with the option to request an extended schedule of compliance regarding ammonia limits that are revised based on the revised criteria. The phased implementation program is applicable to any existing permittee that discharges or has the potential to discharge ammonia. This includes both existing municipal and existing industrial facilities.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This guidance document will assist the regulated community and stakeholders with regards to permit condition expectations as well as to assist DEQ staff in providing consistency for permitting decisions regarding these conditions.	
Expected Date	August 2025 (or later)	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 7145		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise DEQ's Manual for Processing Requests Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act		
Brief Overview DEQ intends to revise its Manual for Processing Requests Pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to reflect the agency's transition to new Freedom of Information Act management software and to adjust its policy for charging to recover its costs for processing requests as permitted by the Code of Virginia.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	September 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Guidance on Disclosure Statements (DEQ Forms DISC-01, DISC-02, and DISC-03)	
Brief Overview This action will create a new guidance document that will provide solid waste management facilities and Department of Environmental Quality staff with instructions on submission of Disclosure Statements required by the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations, 9VAC20-81.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This new guidance document will clarify that permit applicants who have previously conducted waste operations in Virginia are subject to less comprehensive disclosure requirements than permit applicants who have not previously conducted waste operations in Virginia.
Expected Date	October 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Implementation Guidance for 9VAC25-260-140.G - Use of the Biotic Ligand Model for Copper Criteria Amendments		
Brief Overview This action will develop guidance on the implementation of 9VAC25-260-140.G. Guidance is necessary to provide clarity to permittees about the implementation of the proposed amendments to the Water Quality Standards (WQS) regulations for case-by-case implementation of the biotic ligand model (BLM) for copper. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers Virginia's current WQS regulation language regarding the copper BLM-derived criteria to be a process for developing site-specific criteria. Each BLM-derived criteria value would need to be promulgated before using the value in permitting evaluations. EPA stated it cannot accept a BLM-derived copper permit limit until site-specific copper criteria have been promulgated, or unless a more prescriptive approach is provided for in the WQS and sufficiently detailed guidance provides for criteria implementation. Guidance to be developed concurrent with a rulemaking to amend language in the WQS regulation to allow a performance-based approach to establishing water quality endpoints to be applied in permitting evaluations.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This will provide permittees and DEQ staff additional flexibility in permitting decisions related to freshwater copper.	
Expected Date	October 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Hazardous Substance Facility Response Plans & Discharge Reporting Guidance		
Brief Overview This action will create new guidance. Chapter 279 of the 2025 Acts of Assembly (HB 2516, Del. Lopez) requires DEQ to develop guidance regarding implementation of the requirements applicable to certain facilities storing hazardous substances. This new guidance document will outline applicability and provide instructions for compliance with recordkeeping and reporting requirements.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☒ Action required by state statute	☐ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	November 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Nutrient Offset Fund Guidance Memorandum – Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Program.	
Brief Overview This action will create guidance for the Nutrient Offset Fund, a subfund of the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund administered by DEQ in accordance with § 10.1-2128.2 of the Code of Virginia. Money in the subfund is used to acquire nutrient credits or allocations from point or nonpoint sources that achieve equivalent point or nonpoint source reductions in the same tributary beyond those reductions already required by or funded under federal or state law or the Watershed Implementation Plan prepared for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load. This guidance will provide details and provisions on the use of the Fund to purchase, transfer, or terminate nutrient credits or wasteload allocation as required by the Nutrient General Permit. This guidance will be developed in collaboration with the Virginia Nutrient Credit Exchange Association.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This action will provide clarification and additional procedures for staff and the regulated community.
Expected Date	November 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SW-2016-01	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise LPR-SW-2016-01 - Management of Sharps Guidance	
Brief Overview This action will update LPR-SW-2016-01. Published April 22, 2016, this guidance clarifies the management requirements for sharps in compliance with the Virginia Regulated Medical Waste Management Regulations. This is an existing guidance document on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall and is being updated for consistency with Amendment 3 to the Regulated Medical Waste Management Regulations (9VAC20-121). This guidance document is used by Department of Environmental Quality staff, the regulated community and the general public concerning the packaging, labeling, management and disposal of sharps.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM23-2002	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind Guidance Memo 23-2002 - Final 2024 Water Quality Assessment Guidance Manual	
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM23-2002 once the 2026 Water Quality Assessment Guidance Manual is effective. Published on November 25, 2023, Virginia's 2024 Water Quality Assessment Guidance Manual establishes the procedures that DEQ staff follow for conducting water quality assessments to generate Virginia's 2024 305(b)/303(d) Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report. Section 62.1-44.19:5 C of the Code of Virginia requires DEQ to develop and publish the procedures used for defining and determining impaired waters and provide for public comment on the procedures. The guidance manual was applicable for the 2024 Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report (IR) and will be superseded by the 2026 Water Quality Assessment Guidance. It is therefore being proposed for removal once the 2026 Guidance is made effective.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document will be outdated once the 2026 Water Quality Assessment Guidance Manual is effective and should be removed from Town Hall. Doing so will rescind 112 pages of unnecessary guidance.
Expected Date	December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 01-2024D	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise the Storage Tank Technical Manual – Volume 2: Release Reporting Requirements (01-2024D)	
Brief Overview This action will amend and update guidance document 01-2024D. Originally published on May 10, 2011, this guidance manual is being updated. The updated version will eliminate obsolete links and processes as well provide better procedural clarification for staff and stakeholders regarding when and how to report releases to the Department of Environmental Quality. This document is an internal job aid for tank remediation staff that provides a standard framework for handling release reporting consistently administratively statewide. The document will also expand on language from the 2011 document to provide clarity to all stakeholders.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	January 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM20-2003		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise Guidance Memo No. 20-2003 – Chesapeake Bay TMDL Special Condition Guidance		
Brief Overview The intent of this February 6, 2021 guidance document is to provide DEQ staff and permittees in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed with background information and procedures to meet the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Special Condition requirements in municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permits. This document may also be used as a reference to meet the Chesapeake Bay TMDL load allocation for unregulated urban entities, as well as local TMDL waste load allocations for nutrients and sediment. This document currently references the 2018-2023 General Permit cycle. All of the Phase I and Phase II MS4 permits have been reissued since the origination of this guidance document; therefore, it is out of date and not consistent with the reissued permit language. Thus, this guidance document needs to be amended for consistency with the reissued MS4 permits.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	January 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Guidance Document for Inclusion of U.S. EPA Clean Water Act Section 316(b), Cooling Water Intake Structures Requirements in Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permits for Large Facilities	
Brief Overview This action will create guidance to address the following: The 316 (b) Existing Facility rule of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was promulgated and finalized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2014 and requires the inclusion of certain best technology available (BTA) considerations and requirements for cooling water intake structures at facilities that have Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permits. Facilities that withdrawal greater than two million gallons per day and use 25% or more of the water withdrawn from an adjoining waterbody exclusively for cooling purposes must meet the requirements specified in the rule. This guidance document will assist staff in determining the requirements for existing facilities that are at or above the thresholds stated above. The guidance reflects the criteria and requirements EPA has included in the Existing Facility regulation for minimizing impingement mortality and entrainment of aquatic organisms. EPA requires DEQ to include the consideration of technology that achieves one of seven options for reducing fish impingement and a case-by-case approach for reducing entrainment. This guidance document will provide public transparency about how DEQ is making these recommendations, enable the regulated community to appropriately prepare their permit applications/reapplications and facilitate multi-agency coordination on this rule. This guidance document needs to be developed because the reissuance of affected VPDES permits is occurring and DEQ is required by federal law to incorporate these requirements into the VPDES program.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	
Expected Date	January 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Guidance Document for Inclusion of U.S. EPA Clean Water Act Section 316(b), Cooling Water Intake Structures Requirements in Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permits for Small Facilities		
Brief Overview This action will create guidance to address the following: The 316 (b) Existing Facility rule of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was promulgated and finalized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2014 and requires the inclusion of certain best technology available (BTA) considerations and requirements for cooling water intake structures at facilities that have Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permits. Facilities that withdrawal two million gallons per day or less, or that use less than 25% of the water withdrawn from an adjoining waterbody exclusively for cooling purposes, must meet BTA determined on a best professional judgment basis. This guidance document will assist staff in determining the requirements for existing facilities that are below the thresholds stated above. The guidance reflects consideration of the criteria and requirements EPA has included in the Existing Facility regulation for minimizing impingement mortality and entrainment of aquatic organisms to the extent these requirements are appropriate for smaller facilities. This guidance document will provide public transparency about how DEQ is making these recommendations, enable the regulated community to appropriately prepare their permit applications/reapplications and facilitate multi-agency coordination on this rule. This guidance document needs to be developed because the reissuance of affected VPDES permits is occurring and DEQ is required by federal law to incorporate these requirements into the VPDES program.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	January 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) Pollution Minimization Plan Guidance	
Brief Overview This guidance document will detail procedures to develop Pollutant Minimization Plans (PMPs) for implementing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Waste Load Allocations. The guidance will include guidelines for Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff to request, review and approve a PMP, as well as track plan implementation and compliance, to measure progress in attaining PCB reductions. The guidance will also assist applicable Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permitted facilities listed as PCB sources in a TMDL with preparing a complete and approvable PMP.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This guidance will remove confusion and uncertainty for permitted facilities and the public.
Expected Date	January 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SW-SI-30		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Submission Instructions No. 30: Guidelines for Landfill Topographic Survey Submissions (LPR-SW-SI-30)		
Brief Overview This action will create guidance to provide landfill permittees instruction on submission of annual/biennial landfill topographic surveys. This is a guidance document that will be used by Department of Environmental Quality staff and permitted landfills to assist with submission of the annual/biennial landfill topographic survey.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	March 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SW-04-2009		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise LPR-SW-04-2009 - Solid Waste Management Plan 5-year Update Guidance		
Brief Overview This guidance document was developed to clarify regulatory requirements applicable to solid waste planning units under the Virginia Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Regulations (9VAC20-130). This is an existing guidance document on Virginia Regulatory Town Hall and is being updated for consistency with the 2019 amendment to the solid waste planning regulations.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	May 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) LPR-SRR-2016-03		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise Storage Tank Program Compliance Manual, Vol 3: Underground Storage Tank Inspections (LPR-SRR-2016-03)		
Brief Overview This action will amend and update LPR-SRR-2016-03. Originally published on July 29, 2016, this volume of the Storage Tank Program Compliance Manual provides guidance for DEQ staff on how to perform underground storage tank (UST) inspections. This guidance provides inspection procedures, technical information regarding UST system components, regulatory and statutory framework and interpretations, instructions for the mobile inspection application, and supporting documentation. This guidance document will be amended to incorporate the following guidance documents: LPR-SRR-2018-3: New Underground Storage Tank (UST) Requirements Effective January 1, 2018; and LPR-SRR-2020-01: New Underground Storage Tank (UST) Requirements Effective January 1, 2021.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Permitting and Coordination of Construction General Permits and Erosion and Sediment Control at Solid Waste Landfills Guidance		
Brief Overview This action will create new guidance, clarifying DEQ's implementation and permitting issuance procedures for solid waste landfills under the Virginia Waste Management Act (VWMA). DEQ implements the program and permitting under a solid waste permit. In addition, DEQ has implementation and permitting issuance responsibility for state-wide nonpoint source pollution control and pollutant discharges into surface water. Thus, a solid waste landfill may also be subject to permitting under a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity during its active operation and/or a General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities during construction. The purpose of this guidance document is to provide clarity on when such permitting may be applicable and how these programs will coordinate on overlapping permitting and compliance issues at solid waste landfills.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component		
Expected Date	June 2026	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM21-2001	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM21-2001 and Reissue guidance for the Implementation of the 2021 Reissuance of the VPDES General Permit Regulation for Seafood Processing Facilities, VAG52	
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM21-2001 and reissue guidance for the Seafood Processing Facilities General Permit (VAG52), 9VAC25-115, to reflect the reissued general permit which becomes effective on July 1, 2026. Published on April 15, 2021, GM 21-2001 applied to the General Permit that was effective July 24, 2021. The reissued guidance will identify changes that have been made to the General Permit VAG52 that become effective July 1, 2026 and provide DEQ staff with instructions on implementation of these changes, provide information on aspects of the permit that have raised questions, and to provide example letters that staff may use for the administration of the regulation.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document provides information to DEQ staff and the regulated community on the interpretation and implementation of the General Permit. General permits are less burdensome than having to apply for and issue an individual permit for each facility that is subject to regulation. The guidance ensures the permitting process is timely, efficient, and transparent. Rescinding GM21-2001 and reissuing guidance that is specific to the permit regulation that is currently effective reduces confusion and provides more certainty to DEQ staff and the regulated community.
Expected Date	June 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) GM21-2005	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM21-2005 and Reissue "Implementation Guidance the VPDES General Permit for Domestic Sewage Discharges of Less Than or Equal to 1,000 Gallons Per Day"	
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM21-2005 and reissue "Implementation Guidance for the VPDES General Permit for Domestic Sewage Discharges of Less Than or Equal to 1,000 Gallons Per Day" to reflect the new general permit that will take effect in August 2026. Published on May 27, 2021, GM21-2005 provided DEQ staff information on the implementation of the Domestic Sewage Discharges General Permit (VAG40) based on the amendment of 9VAC25-110 and the 2021 reissuance of the general permit. This reissued guidance will cover the general permit regulation that becomes effective on August 1, 2026. The purpose of the new guidance is to identify changes that have been made to the Regulation (9VAC25-110) and General Permit (VAG40), and to provide DEQ staff with instructions on the implementation of these changes.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This document summarizes the changes made in the reissuance of 9VAC25-110 and VAG40 and serves as a quick reference and training document for DEQ staff. General permits are less burdensome than having to apply for and issue an individual permit for each facility that is subject to regulation. The guidance ensures the permitting process is timely, efficient, and transparent. Rescinding GM14-2017 and reissuing guidance that is specific to the permit regulation that is currently effective reduces confusion and provides more certainty to DEQ staff and the regulated community.
Expected Date	June 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60) to Correct the Definition of "Mitigation District"		
Brief Overview The Small Renewable Energy Projects (Solar) Permit by Rule (9VAC15-60) will be amended to correct the listing of planning district commissions listed in the definition of "mitigation district" in section 9VAC15-60-10. This change is non-controversial and will be made using the fast-track regulatory process.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☒ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	These technical corrections will reduce confusion for users of this regulation.	
Expected Date	November 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Amend the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation (9VAC25-875) to update Documents Incorporated by Reference	
Brief Overview The Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management (VESM) Regulation (9VAC25-875) will be amended to update the Documents Incorporated by Reference by replacing Version 4.1 of the Virginia Runoff Reduction Method (VRRM) with a new version. Version 4.1 of the VRRM needs to be updated to correct an error involving soil properties. The effective date for the VRRM in 9VAC25-875-590 will be revised to reflect the effective date of the new version. This change is non-controversial and will be made using the fast-track regulatory process.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☒ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☐ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	These technical corrections will reduce confusion for users of this regulation.
Expected Date	March 2026

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) 2798	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop APG578 Sudden and Reasonably Unforeseeable Events in the Context of Planned Electric Outages	
Brief Overview Guidance Memo APG578 addresses the use of emergency generators in the case of “sudden and reasonably unforeseeable events” as the result of a planned electric outage. It clarifies this definition includes the use of on-site emergency generators when a primary power provider notifies a source (14 days or less notice) of a pending outage and no other options to provide power at the source are available.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This guidance document clarifies that “sudden and reasonably unforeseeable events” as a result of planned electric outage by a primary power provider, under situations described in the guidance, is an acceptable use of emergency generators to maintain continuous power at the source.
Expected Date	October 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Develop Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Monitoring and Reporting Guidance	
Brief Overview Article 13 of Virginia State Water Control Law sets out requirements for certain facilities to monitor discharges for PFAS and share the resultant data with DEQ (see §§ 62.1-44.34:32 & 62.1-44.34:34, specifically). This guidance will clarify the applicable data quality standards and methodology to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the monitoring and reporting process.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	This guidance will streamline the PFAS monitoring process across the Commonwealth.
Expected Date	November 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Issue Guidance Regarding Common Plan of Development or Sale		
Brief Overview Any land disturbing activity in the Commonwealth of Virginia that 1) disturbs one acre or more; or 2) disturbs less than one acre but is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that disturbs one acre or more; and 3) is not subject to an exemption, is required to have coverage under a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) individual permit or the General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities (CGP). A VPDES individual permit specifically for construction activities or CGP coverage authorizes the permit holder to discharge stormwater associated with construction activities to surface waters within the boundaries of the Commonwealth under the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Act and a corresponding Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program. Determining whether a land disturbing activity is, or is not, part of a “common plan of development or sale” (CPOD) is not always apparent because of the type of development that is occurring, the timing of development, the proximity of other development or land-disturbing activities, and other factors. The purpose of this guidance is to 1) provide information to Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Stormwater Program staff about the legal authority, application, and interpretation of “common plan of development or sale”; and 2) provide scenarios that demonstrate this information where DEQ is the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) or Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program (VESMP) Authority.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	These technical corrections will reduce confusion for users of this regulation.	
Expected Date	December 2025	

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Issue Guidance Regarding Sequencing Erosion and Sediment Controls to Prevent Sediment from Leaving Construction Sites	
Brief Overview The foundation for construction sequencing of erosion and sediment controls is established by Minimum Standard 4 (9VAC25-875-560 A 4 of the Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation). The intent of this guidance is to provide the statutory and regulatory basis for persons who engage in land-disturbing activity to install controls in a particular sequence to ensure that sediment does not leave the perimeter of the site and area where construction will occur once site clearing, grading, and construction commence.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	The guidance document will reduce confusion for users of this regulation and ensure better environmental protection of construction sites and surrounding areas.
Expected Date	December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A	
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Revise GM24-2002 Virginia Runoff Reduction Method Compliance Spreadsheet User's Guide & Documentation	
Brief Overview The Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Regulation (VESM Regulation, 9VAC25-875-590) requires the use of the Virginia Runoff Reduction Method (VRRM) or another equivalent methodology that is approved by the department to demonstrate compliance with the water quality technical criteria Article 3, Part V (9VAC25-875-570 et seq.). This guidance will revise GM24-2002 Virginia Runoff Reduction Method Compliance Spreadsheet User's Guide & Documentation (Version 4.1, April 2024) to correct a technical error, update the VRRM Excel spreadsheets, and confirm that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approves the use of the revised VRRM in conjunction with the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook, Version 1.1 (effective August 15, 2024), or Version 1.2 (when effective), as an equivalent methodology under 9VAC25875-590 A of the VESM Regulation. After this guidance is effective, the VESM Regulation will be amended to update the Documents Incorporated by Reference by replacing VRRM Version 4.1 with this version.	
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final ☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action ☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute ☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	These technical corrections will reduce confusion for users of this regulation.
Expected Date	December 2025

Action/Stage or Guidance Document Forum ID (if available) N/A		
Title of Proposed Regulatory Action or Guidance Document Rescind GM24-2002 Virginia Runoff Reduction Method Compliance Spreadsheet User's Guide & Documentation (Version 4.1, effective April 2024)		
Brief Overview This action will rescind GM24-2002 Virginia Runoff Reduction Method (VRRM) Compliance Spreadsheet User's Guide & Documentation (Version 4.1, April 2024) once a new version of the guidance becomes effective. The new version of the VRRM will correct a technical error, update the VRRM Excel spreadsheets, and confirm that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approves the use of the revised VRRM in conjunction with the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook, Version 1.1 (effective August 15, 2024), or Version 1.2 (when effective), as an equivalent methodology under 9VAC25875-590 A of the VESM Regulation.		
Regulatory Stage (check one box)	☐ NOIRA ☐ Proposed ☐ Final	☐ Emergency or Emergency/NOIRA ☐ Revised Proposed ☐ Fast-Track
Additional Description	☐ Expedited Review Requested ☐ Exempt Action	☒ Guidance Document
Legal Authority	☐ Action required by federal statute ☐ Action required by state statute	☒ Discretionary action
Deregulatory Component	Removing guidance that is out-of-date or that contains incorrect information reduces confusion for users of this regulation.	
Expected Date	December 2025	