What is a No Exposure Certification?

The No Exposure Certification is an exemption from General Permit coverage requirements (SWPPP, Monitoring, Record Keeping, Renewal Fee).
How does a facility attain No Exposure status?

By submitting the application form and waiting for an inspection from DEQ Regional Office staff.
No Exposure Certification

Where do I find the No Exposure Application?

https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/npdes-no-exposure
No Exposure Certification

Submission of this No Exposure Certification constitutes notification that your facility does not require a permit for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity in the State of North Carolina because it qualifies for a no exposure exclusion. A condition of no exposure at an industrial facility means all industrial materials and activities are protected by a storm resistant shelter (with some exceptions) to prevent exposure to rain, snow, snowmelt, and/or runoff.

For permitted facilities in North Carolina, DEMLR must approve your application for No Exposure Certification before this exclusion is effective. Until you are issued a No Exposure Certification and your NPDES permit is rescinded, your facility must continue to abide by the terms and conditions of the current permit.

Industrial materials or activities include, but are not limited to: material handling equipment or activities, industrial machinery, raw materials, intermediate products, by-products, final products, or waste products. Material handling activities include the storage, loading and unloading, transportation, or conveyance of any raw material, intermediate product, final product or waste product. A storm resistant shelter is not required for the following industrial materials and activities: drums, barrels, tanks, and similar containers that are tightly sealed, provided those containers are not deteriorated and do not leak. “Sealed” means banded or otherwise secured and with locked or non-operational taps or valves; adequately maintained vehicles used in material handling; and final products, other than products that would be mobilized in stormwater discharges (e.g., rock salt).

A No Exposure Certification must be provided for each facility qualifying for the no exposure exclusion. In addition, the exclusion from NPDES permitting is available on a facility-wide basis only—not for individual outfalls. If any industrial activities or materials are, or will be, exposed to precipitation, the facility is not eligible for the no exposure exclusion. By signing and submitting this No Exposure Certification form, you certify that a condition of no exposure exists at this facility or site and are obligated to comply with the terms and conditions of 40 CFR 122.26(g).

If approved, your conditional No Exposure Exclusion has no expiration date. BUT MUST BE self-re-certified at least annually.

Please look for information about self-certification under the No Exposure section on this page:

https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/energy-mineral-land-resources/npdes-no-exposure

Department of Environmental Quality
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If approved, your conditional No Exposure Exclusion has no expiration date BUT MUST BE self re-certified at least annually.
No Exposure Certification

1) Mailing address of owner/operator (address to which all certification correspondence will be mailed):

Name
Contact
Street Address
City
Telephone No.

State
ZIP Code
Fax:
No Exposure Certification

1) **Mailing address of owner/operator (address to which all certification correspondence will be mailed):**

- **Name:**
- **Contact:**
- **Street Address:**
- **City:**
- **Telephone No.:**
- **State:**
- **ZIP Code:**
- **Fax:**

2) **Location of facility producing discharge:**

- **Facility Name:**
- **Facility Contact:**
- **Street Address:**
- **City:**
- **County:**
- **Telephone No.:**
- **State:**
- **ZIP Code:**
- **Fax:**
3) Physical location information:

Please provide a narrative description of how to get to the facility (use street names, state road numbers, and distance and direction from a roadway intersection). 

(A copy of a map with the facility clearly located on it should be included with the certification application.)

4) Is the facility located on Native American Lands? □ Yes □ No

5) Is this a Federal facility? □ Yes □ No

6) Latitude ____________ Longitude ____________ (deg., min., seconds)

7) This NPDES No Exposure Exclusion application applies to which of the following:

□ New or Proposed Facility Date operation is to begin ______________

□ Existing Date operation began ______________

□ Renewal of existing No Exposure Certification Certification No.: NCGNE____________

8) Was this facility or site ever covered under an NPDES Stormwater Permit? □ Yes □ No

If yes, what is the NPDES Permit Number?__________________________

9) Standard Industrial Classification:

Provide the 4-digit Standard Industrial Classification Code (SIC Code) that describes the primary industrial activity at this facility

SIC Code: ______ ______ ______ ______

10) Provide a brief description of the types of industrial activities and products produced at this facility:

__________________________________________________________________________

11) Does this facility have any Non-Discharge permits (ex: recycle permits)?

□ No

□ Yes

If yes, list the permit numbers for all current Non-Discharge permits for this facility: ____________________________
No Exposure Certification

Exposure Checklists (12. - 14.)

12) Are any of the following materials or activities exposed to precipitation, now or in the foreseeable future? (Please check either “Yes” or “No.”) If you answer “Yes” to any of these items, you are not eligible for the no exposure exclusion.
No Exposure Certification

Exposure Checklists (12. - 14.)

12) Are any of the following materials or activities exposed to precipitation, now or in the foreseeable future? (Please check either “Yes” or “No.”) If you answer “Yes” to any of these items, you are not eligible for the no exposure exclusion.

   a. Using, storing, or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment, and areas where residuals from using, storing or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment remain and are exposed to stormwater

   □ Yes □ No □ N/A
No Exposure Certification

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a. Using, storing, or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment, and areas where residuals from using, storing or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment remain and are exposed to stormwater

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

b. Materials or residuals on the ground or in stormwater inlets from spills/leaks

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A
### No Exposure Certification

**Exposure Checklists (12. - 14.)**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Using, storing, or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment, and areas where residuals from using, storing or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment remain and are exposed to stormwater</th>
<th>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</th>
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<td>b. Materials or residuals on the ground or in stormwater inlets from spills/leaks</td>
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<td>c. Materials or products from past industrial activity</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
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No Exposure Certification
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- b. Materials or residuals on the ground or in stormwater inlets from spills/leaks
- c. Materials or products from past industrial activity
- d. Material handling equipment (except adequately maintained vehicles)
No Exposure Certification

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- b. Materials or residuals on the ground or in stormwater inlets from spills/leaks
- c. Materials or products from past industrial activity
- d. Material handling equipment (except adequately maintained vehicles)
- e. Materials or products during loading/unloading or transporting activities

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

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- c. Materials or products from past industrial activity
- d. Material handling equipment (except adequately maintained vehicles)
- e. Materials or products during loading/unloading or transporting activities
- f. Materials or products stored outdoors (except final products intended for outside use [e.g., new cars] where exposure to stormwater does not result in the discharge of pollutants)
No Exposure Certification

Exposure Checklists (12. - 14.)

12) Are any of the following materials or activities exposed to precipitation, now or in the foreseeable future? (Please check either “Yes” or “No.”) If you answer “Yes” to any of these items, you are **not** eligible for the no exposure exclusion.

a. Using, storing, or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment, and areas where residuals from using, storing or cleaning industrial machinery or equipment remain and are exposed to stormwater

b. Materials or residuals on the ground or in stormwater inlets from spills/leaks

c. Materials or products from past industrial activity

d. Material handling equipment (except adequately maintained vehicles)

e. Materials or products during loading/unloading or transporting activities

f. Materials or products stored outdoors (except final products intended for outside use [e.g., new cars] where exposure to stormwater does not result in the discharge of pollutants)

g. Materials contained in open, deteriorated or leaking storage drums, barrels, tanks, and similar containers
No Exposure Certification

h. Materials or products handled/stored on roads or railways owned or maintained by the discharger

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

i. Waste material (except waste in covered, non-leaking containers [e.g., dumpsters])

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A
No Exposure Certification

h. Materials or products handled/stored on roads or railways owned or maintained by the discharger

i. Waste material (except waste in covered, non-leaking containers [e.g., dumpsters])

j. Application or disposal of process wastewater (unless otherwise permitted)

k. Particulate matter or visible deposits of residuals from roof stacks and/or vents not otherwise regulated (i.e., under an air quality control permit) and evident in the stormwater outflow
**No Exposure Certification**

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<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
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<td>l. Empty containers that previously contained materials that are not properly stored (i.e., not closed and stored upside down to prevent precipitation accumulation)</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. For any exterior ASTs, as well as drums, barrels, tanks, and similar containers stored outside, has the facility had any releases in the past three (3) years?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
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13) Above Ground Storage Tanks (ASTs): If you answer “No” to any of the following items, you are not eligible for the no exposure exclusion.

a. Are exterior ASTs or piping free of rust, damaged or weathered coating, pits, or deterioration, or evidence of leaks?

b. Is secondary containment provided for all exterior ASTs? If so, is it free of any cracks, holes, or evidence of leaks, and are drain valves maintained locked shut?

14) Secondary Containment: If you answer “No” to any of the following items, you are not eligible for the no exposure exclusion.

a. Is secondary containment provided for single above ground storage containers (including drums, barrels, etc.) with a capacity of more than 660-gallons?

b. Is secondary containment provided for above ground storage containers stored in close proximity to each other with a combined capacity of more than 1,320-gallons?

c. Is secondary containment provided for Title III Section 313 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) water priority chemicals**?

d. Is secondary containment provided for hazardous substances** designated in 40 CFR §116?

e. Are release valves on all secondary containment structures locked?
16) Other information: If you answer “Yes” to any of the following items, you might not be eligible for the no exposure exclusion. A more in-depth evaluation of the site circumstances may be required.

a. Does your facility store used, recycled, or otherwise reclaimed pallets outside? □ Yes □ No □ N/A

b. Does your facility have coal piles on site? □ Yes □ No □ N/A

c. Does your facility store other fuel sources outside in piles, such as wood chips, sawdust, etc.? □ Yes □ No □ N/A
Main Takeaway on No Exposures

1. Do a self inspection before applying.
Main Takeaway on No Exposures

1. Do a self inspection before applying.
2. Once certified, self inspect once a year using the NCDEQ Self Re-Certification Form.
Main Takeaway on No Exposures

1. Do a self inspection before applying.
2. Once certified, self inspect once a year using the NCDEQ Self Re-Certification Form.
3. Pay close attention to housekeeping.
Main Takeaway on No Exposures

1. Do a self inspection before applying.
2. Once certified, self inspect once a year using the NCDEQ Self Re-Certification Form.
3. Pay close attention to housekeeping.
4. Staff training WILL be necessary to prevent dumpsters being left uncovered and used pallets being stored outside.
Questions?

Isaiah Reed, EI, CPSWQ, MS4CECI
Land Quality Section
Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources
Asheville Regional Office
(828) 296-4614
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