Reissuance of the General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water from Construction Activities Five Acres or Greater

The general permit for discharges of storm water from construction activities five acres or greater (LPDES permit no. LAR100000) heretofore referred to as the “general permit,” will expire September 30, 2014. Due to the significance of the proposed changes in the upcoming reissuance, the LDEQ Water Permits Division is providing advanced notification of these changes to the regulated community and the general public. As part of the reissuance process, the department is proposing the following changes to the general permit. (1403Pot1)

The proposed changes under consideration include the following: (1) The owners and/or operators applying for coverage under the general permit shall select the time frame for which permit coverage is needed, a minimum of one year up to five years. Prior to receiving coverage, the applicant(s) must submit payment of the annual general permit fee(s) for the entirety of the selected coverage (LAC 33:IX.1309.F and N). As a result, permitted operators will no longer receive annual invoices and notices of termination will not be required to be submitted by the permittees. Permit coverage will be automatically terminated based on the number of years selected by the applicant. (2) Current permitted owners and/or operators in good financial standing with the department will automatically have their coverage extended under the reissued general permit for one year. Extensions of coverage beyond one year will be allowed for any permittee with written notification and payment of the additional annual permit fee(s). (3) Current permitted owners and/or operators that owe outstanding permit fees to the department will not be extended automatic coverage under the reissued general permit. All past due invoices must be paid by the effective date of the general permit in order to ensure automatic reauthorization.

Annual permit fees are not being increased. The proposed changes affect the timing and method of payment. The proposed changes to the payment method are expected to reduce the paperwork burden on both the permittee(s) and the department, eliminate duplicate billing due to the complications of invoicing permittee(s) based on the state fiscal year, and eliminate the need for permittee(s) to track when a notice of termination is due to be submitted.

A notification to solicit public comment on these proposed changes is anticipated to be published in the official state journals in July of 2014. If you wish to be notified of the public comment period, please subscribe to the statewide public notice list at http://louisiana.gov/Services/Email_Notifications_DEQ_PN/ or contact the LDEQ Public Participation Group at (225) 219-5337. Additionally, current permitted owners and/or operators that owe outstanding fees to the department will be notified by the Water Permits Division of their financial status in advance of the general permit reissuance. For further information regarding the general permit for discharges of storm water from construction activities five acres or greater, you may contact Ardrene Logan, Office of Environmental Services, Water Permits Division, at (225) 219-3203 or ardrene.logan@la.gov.

Herman Robinson, CPM
Executive Counsel

POTPOURRI
Department of Children and Family Services
Child Welfare Section

Social Services Block Grant Intended Use Report

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) announces opportunities for public review of the state’s pre-expenditure report on intended uses of social services block grant (SSBG) funds for the state fiscal year (SFY) beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015. The proposed SFY 2014-2015 SSBG intended use report has been developed in compliance with the requirements of section 2004 of the Social Security Act (SSA), as amended and includes information on the types of activities to be supported and the categories or characteristics of individuals to be served through use of the state’s allocation of SSBG funds. Section 2004 of the SSA further requires that the SSBG pre-expenditure report shall be “made public within the state in such manner as to facilitate comment by any person.” The DCFS, as the designated state services agency, will continue to administer programs funded under the SSBG in accordance with applicable statutory requirements and federal regulations. The DCFS, Child Welfare Section (CWS) will be responsible for provision of social services, by direct delivery and vendor purchase, through use of SFY 2014-2015 SSBG expenditures for adoption, child protection, and daycare for children, family services, and foster care/residential care services.

Louisiana, through DCFS/CWS, will utilize its allotted funds to provide comprehensive social services on behalf of children and families in fulfillment of legislative mandates for child protection and child welfare programs. These mandated services, and certain other essential social services, are provided without regard to income (WRI) to individuals in need. Individuals to be served also include low-income persons as defined in the intended use report who meet eligibility criteria for services provided through SSBG funding.
Services designated for provision through SSBG funding for SFY 2014-2015 are:

A. adoption (pre-placement to termination of parental rights);
B. child protection (investigation of child abuse/neglect reports, assessment, evaluation, social work intervention, shelter care, counseling, referrals);
C. daycare for children (direct care for portion of the 24-hour day as follow-up to investigations of child abuse/neglect);
D. family services (social work intervention subsequent to validation of a report of child abuse/neglect, counseling to high risk groups);
E. foster care/residential care services (foster, residential care, and treatment on a 24-hour basis). Definitions for the proposed services are set forth in the intended use report.

Persons eligible for SSBG funded services include:

A. persons WRI, who are in need of adoption services, child protection, family services, and foster care/residential services;
B. individuals WRI who are recipients of Title IV-E adoption assistance;
C. recipients of supplemental security income (SSI) and recipients of temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) and those persons whose needs were taken into account in determining the needs of TANF recipients;
D. low-income persons (income eligible) whose gross monthly income is not more than 125 percent of the poverty level. A family of four with gross monthly income of not more than $1963 would qualify as income eligible for services;
E. persons receiving Title XIX (Medicaid) benefits and certain Medicaid applicants identified in the proposed plan as eligible groups.

Post expenditure reports for the SSBG program for SFY 2012-2013 are included in the SSBG intended use report for SFY 2014-2015. Free copies are available by telephone request to (225) 341-7319 or by writing to the Administrator, Child Welfare Section, P.O. Box 3318, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. The report is available for public review online at http://www.dss.state.la.us/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=131, then select the 2013 SSBG link. Inquiries and comments on the plan may be submitted in writing to the DCFS, Attention Administrator, P.O. Box 3318, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. The deadline for receipt of comments is May 7, 2014 at 4 p.m.

All interested persons will have the opportunity to provide comments and/or recommendations on the plan, orally or in writing, at a public hearing scheduled for May 7, 2014 at 10 a.m. in Room 1-127 of the Iberville Building located at 627 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge. Individuals with disabilities who require special services should contact the Bureau of Appeals at least seven working days in advance of the hearing. For assistance, call (225) 342-4120 (voice and TDD).

Suzy Sonnier  
Secretary

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**POTPOURRI**

**Department of Children and Family Services**

**Division of Programs**

Louisiana’s 2014 Annual Progress and Services Report (final report for year five of CFSP) and Louisiana’s 2015-2020 Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP)

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) announces opportunities for public review of the state’s 2014 annual progress and services report (APSR). The APSR is a report on the fifth and final year of the 2010-2014 child and family services plan (CFSP) as well as the new five year CFSP. These plans address the use of Title IV-B, Subpart 1 and Subpart 2, Title IV-E Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP), educational and training vouchers (ETV), and Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) funds. The APSR is the report on the achievement of goals and objectives and/or outcomes for the 2010-2014 CFSP and the new 2015-2020 CFSP sets forth new goals and objectives for the next five years.

Louisiana, through the DCFS, provides services that include child abuse prevention, child protection investigations, family services, foster care, adoption and the youth transition services. The department will use its allotted funds provided under the Social Security Act, Title IV-B, Subpart 1, entitled the “Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program,” to provide child welfare services to prevent child abuse and neglect, to prevent foster care placement, to reunite families, to arrange adoptions, and to ensure adequate foster care. Title IV-B, Subpart 2, entitled “Promoting Safe and Stable Families,” funds services to support families and prevent the need for foster care. The CFCIP funds services to assist foster children 15 years of age and older who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age. Former foster care recipients who are 18 years of age who have aged out of foster care, and those who were adopted or entered guardianship at age 16 years of age or older, are also eligible for services. The services include basic living skills training and education and employment initiatives. The CAPTA funding is used to complement and support the overall mission of child welfare with emphasis on developing, strengthening, and carrying out child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment programs.

The DCFS is encouraging public participation in the planning of services and the writing of the document. The report can be found for review on the internet under http://www.dss.state.la.us/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=132 then the 2013 APSR link. Inquiries and comments on the plan may be submitted in writing to the DCFS, Attention: Child Welfare Administrator, P.O. Box 3318, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. The deadline for receipt of written comments is May 7, 2014 at 4 p.m.

All interested persons will have the opportunity to provide comments and/or recommendations on the plan, orally or in writing, at a public hearing scheduled for May 7, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 1-127 of the Iberville Building located at 627 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge.
Individuals with disabilities who require special services should contact the Bureau of Appeals at least seven working days in advance of the hearing. For assistance, call (225) 342-4120 (voice and TDD).

Suzy Sonnier
Secretary

POTPOURRI

Department of Natural Resources
Office of the Secretary
Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund

Underwater Obstruction—Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that 13 claims in the amount of $59,233.75 were received for payment during the period February 1, 2014-February 28, 2014. There were 11 paid and 2 denied.

Latitude/longitude coordinates, in degree decimal minutes, of reported underwater obstructions are:

29 08.958  90 27.841  Terrebonne
29 13.058  89 03.719  Plaquemines
29 14.461  89 27.251  Plaquemines
29 17.134  89 53.216  Plaquemines
29 18.129  89 46.365  Plaquemines
29 21.429  90 59.297  Terrebonne
29 22.145  89 55.986  Plaquemines
29 27.505  89 59.185  Jefferson
29 27.808  90 07.107  Lafourche
29 41.177  89 31.034  Saint Bernard
29 46.119  93 17.607  Cameron
29 46.321  89 37.650  Saint Bernard
30 01.354  89 20.973  Saint Bernard

A list of claimants and amounts paid can be obtained from Gwendolyn Thomas, Administrator, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 44277, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 or you can call (225) 342-9388.

Stephen Chustz
Secretary

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