



## Stormwater Permitting for Construction Activities

### Regulatory Program Changes: SWPPP Inspections Procedures

**Effective January 1, 2025**

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities' Stormwater Quality Division (SLCDPU-SWQ) conducts regulatory oversight inspections of stormwater permit compliance at permitted construction sites on a monthly basis, or bi-weekly if prioritized for an increased inspections frequency based on certain criteria (such as the size/slope of the site, proximity to receiving waters, history of non-compliance, etc.). This has always been done in compliance with the City's MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Permit ([UTS000002](#)) with the State of Utah, and inspections will continue.

However, in response to (and in compliance with) recent legislation passed by the 2024 Utah Legislature (**HB507, which became law as Utah Code [19-5-108.3](#) and goes into effect **January 1, 2025****) there are significant changes to how the City's regulatory stormwater compliance and inspections program must be conducted, such as:

- 19-5-108.3(14) – A municipal system *shall* conduct an oversight inspection through an **electronic site inspection**.
  - 19-5-108.3(1)(e) – "**Electronic site inspection**" means geo-located and time-stamped photos taken, evaluated, and submitted electronically *by the applicant* to the municipal system.
  - 19-5-108.3(1)(g) – "**Oversight inspection**" means a construction site inspection performed by the municipal system to assess compliance with the permit.
- 19-5-108.3(15) – A municipal system **may conduct an on-site inspection if the municipal system has a documented reason** for justifying an on-site oversight inspection.

Of particular note here is the new law's requirement for "**Electronic site inspections,**" which limits our authority to conduct on-site inspections and puts the burden on permittees (not cities/MS4s) **to submit (to the MS4) photos that are time, date, and geo-location stamped** and that **adequately demonstrate SWPPP permit compliance is being achieved**.

**NOTE:** This is no small effort being required of permittees and one that will require thorough, thoughtful, and comprehensive photo documentation of construction sites (and associated SWPPP compliance activities) in order to adequately demonstrate compliance on the first try, each time (monthly or bi-weekly).

One issue that arose is that the law failed to dictate how those pictures/documents are to be submitted to cities/MS4s, **so a solution had to be found**. (Emails have file size

limits so email is not the best option; plus the pictures must be thorough so there will likely be quite a few pictures for each project, far too much for emails.) One solution identified is as follows:

Salt Lake City currently utilizes the **ComplianceGo software package** for conducting oversight inspections at projects permitted within our jurisdiction. It has been determined that **permittees who also use ComplianceGo for their own inspections and project/permit/SWPPP compliance tracking (used by a few 3<sup>rd</sup>-Party contractors) will be able to upload all documentation into your project webpage and simply provide SLCDPU-SWQ with a link (or via the QR-code) to the project's ComplianceGo webpage. This will allow the City to access your project's compliance information, which we need in order to be able to conduct our compliance audits.**

**However, this is true of any other submission methods, including other kinds of 3<sup>rd</sup> party compliance software or file sharing services; we simply ask that you provide us with instructions on how to access your documents and pictures.**

**However, if you do not have a means to submit them yourself, then we do have a method under development that will allow you to upload to Cityworks (a website that we will provide you with access to). Separate Cityworks pages will be set-up for each project and access will be given to a limited number of people at each site. If this is your preferred submission method, please reach out to 801-483-6729 to discuss.**

Additionally, in order to facilitate the timely receipt and oversight inspection (think of it as an audit) of submitted compliance documentation and pictures, rather than conducting on-site inspections as we always have:

**Salt Lake City (SLCDPU-SWQ) now requires you (as operators and owners of permitted construction sites) to **submit current compliance documentation** (including pictures) to us (or have them made available electronically, as described above) **by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month; unless your site is a priority site, in which case it will be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.****

**(If you're not sure about the priority status of your site, please contact [stormwaterquality@slc.gov](mailto:stormwaterquality@slc.gov) 801-483-6729.)**

Those deadlines allow SLCDPU-SWQ to conduct our oversight inspections in a timely manner that meets the inspection requirements of the City's MS4 Permit ([UTS000002](#)) with the State.

The **expectation** is that the **photos** (as required by the new law [19-5-108.3](#)), and all **SWPPP compliance documentation** (that has always been necessary to facilitate an audit of your SWPPP activities and adherence to your plans and permit, as required by our MS4 permit), **must be current and reflective of your actual site conditions near**

**the time of the electronic site inspection. To ensure the timeliness of those documents, it is required that your **SWPPP compliance documentation and photos can be no older than 7 calendar days** (as shown on the time/date/geo-location stamped photos).**

There are other changes to our regulatory program that have been dictated by the new law, but this notice was intended to focus on the inspections changes. Please let us know if you have any questions, we are here to help and want to make this transition as seamless as possible. Thank you for your time and attention this notice.

Regards,

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