



Fast Track Proposed Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	State Water Control Board
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	9VAC25-240 et.seq.
Regulation title	Procedural Rule No. 3 – Certification Pursuant to 33 USC §1341
Action title	<i>Repeal of Procedural Rule No. 3 – Certification Pursuant to 33 USC, 1341</i>
Date this document prepared	November 8, 2012

This information is required for executive branch review and the Virginia Registrar of Regulations, pursuant to the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

Brief summary

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 2 short paragraphs) of the proposed new regulation, proposed amendments to the existing regulation, or the regulation proposed to be repealed. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes.

The State Water Control Board (Board) is proposing to repeal Procedural Rule No. 3 – Certification Pursuant to 33 USC §1341 (9VAC25-240) which provides for the issuance of a certification by the Board that a proposed activity that may result in a discharge to State waters meets the requirements of the Clean Water Act. This regulation has been superseded by the Virginia Water Protection Permit Regulation (9VAC25-210) and is therefore no longer necessary.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

The State Water Control Board at their December Board Meeting on December 6, 2012, voted to authorize the department to:

1. Promulgate the repeal proposal for public comment using the fast-track process established in § 2.2-4012.1 of the Administrative Process Act for regulations expected to be non-controversial with the understanding that the authorization constituted its adoption of the repeal at the end of the public comment period provided that (i) no objection to use of the fast-track process is received from 10 or more persons, or any member of the applicable standing committee of either house of the General Assembly or of the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules, and (ii) the department does not find it necessary, based on public comments or for any other reason, to make any changes to the proposal.
2. Set an effective date 15 days after close of the 30-day public comment period provided (i) the proposed repeal completes the fast-track rulemaking process as provided in § 2.2-4012.1 of the Administrative Process Act and (ii) the department does not find it necessary to make any changes to the proposal.

Legal basis

Please identify the state and/or federal legal authority to promulgate this proposed regulation, including (1) the most relevant citations to the Code of Virginia or General Assembly chapter number(s), if applicable, and (2) promulgating entity, i.e., agency, board, or person. The identification should include a reference to the agency/board/person's overall regulatory authority, as well as a specific provision authorizing the promulgating entity to regulate this specific subject or program; and a description of the extent to which the authority is mandatory or discretionary

Section 62.1-44.15(7) of the Code of Virginia authorizes the State Water Control Board: To adopt rules governing the procedure of the Board with respect to: (a) hearings; (b) the filing of reports; (c) the issuance of certificates and special orders; and (d) all other matters relating to procedure; and to amend or cancel any rule adopted. Public notice of every rule adopted under this section shall be by such means as the Board may prescribe.

Section 62.1-44.15(10) of the Code of Virginia authorizes the State Water Control Board: To adopt such regulations as it deems necessary to enforce the general water quality management program of the Board in all or part of the Commonwealth, except that a description of provisions of any proposed regulation which are more restrictive than applicable federal requirements, together with the reason why the more restrictive provisions are needed, shall be provided to the standing committee of each house of the General Assembly to which matters relating to the content of the regulation are most properly referable.

This regulation has been superseded by 9VAC25-210.

Purpose

Please explain the need for the new or amended regulation. Describe the rationale or justification of the proposed regulatory action. Detail the specific reasons the regulation is essential to protect the health, safety or welfare of citizens. Discuss the goals of the proposal and the problems the proposal is intended to solve.

The purpose of this action is to repeal an existing regulation that has been superseded.

Rationale for using fast track process

Please explain the rationale for using the fast track process in promulgating this regulation. Why do you expect this rulemaking to be noncontroversial?

Please note: If either an objection to the use of the fast-track process is received within the 30-day public comment period from 10 or more persons, or any member of the applicable standing committee of either house of the General Assembly or of the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules; or the Department finds it necessary, based on public comments or for any other reason, to make any changes to the proposal, the Department shall (i) file notice of the objection/reason with the Registrar of Regulations for publication in the Virginia Register, and (ii) proceed with the normal promulgation process with the initial publication of the fast-track regulation serving as the Notice of Intended Regulatory Action.

The fast track process is being used for this regulatory action since the regulation has been superseded and the certification requirements are governed by 9VAC25-210.

Substance

Please briefly identify and explain new substantive provisions (for new regulations), substantive changes to existing sections or both where appropriate. Note, more detail about all provisions or changes is provided in the "Detail of changes" section.

The substantive change is to repeal an existing regulation that has been superseded.

Issues

Please identify the issues associated with the proposed regulatory action, including:

- 1) the primary advantages and disadvantages to the public, such as individual private citizens or businesses, of implementing the new or amended provisions;*
- 2) the primary advantages and disadvantages to the agency or the Commonwealth; and*
- 3) other pertinent matters of interest to the regulated community, government officials, and the public.*

If there are no disadvantages to the public or the Commonwealth, please indicate.

There are no anticipated disadvantages to the public or the Commonwealth. The advantages to the public and the Commonwealth are the elimination of confusion on the appropriate procedures to be utilized to acquire the certification and the removal of an unnecessary regulation from the Virginia Administrative Code.

Requirements more restrictive than federal

Please identify and describe any requirement of the proposal which is more restrictive than applicable federal requirements. Include a rationale for the need for the more restrictive requirements. If there are no applicable federal requirements or no requirements that exceed applicable federal requirements, include a statement to that effect.

There are no applicable federal requirements.

Localities particularly affected

Please identify any locality particularly affected by the proposed regulation. Locality particularly affected means any locality which bears any identified disproportionate material impact which would not be experienced by other localities.

There are no localities particularly affected by the repeal of this regulation.

Public Participation

Please include a statement that in addition to any other comments on the regulation, the agency is seeking comments on the costs and benefits of the proposal, the potential impacts on the regulated community and the impacts of the regulation on farm or forest land preservation.

In addition to any other comments, the Board is seeking comments on the costs and benefits of the proposal, the potential impacts on the regulated community and on any impacts of the regulation on farm and forest land preservation. Also, the agency/board is seeking information on impacts on small businesses as defined in § 2.2-4007.1 of the Code of Virginia. Information may include 1) projected reported, recordkeeping and other administrative costs, 2) probable effect of the regulation on affected small businesses, and 3) description of less intrusive or costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the regulation.

Anyone wishing to submit written comments for the public comment file may do so by mail, email or fax to William K. Norris, DEQ Office of Regulatory Affairs, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218; 804.698.4022; 804.698.4347; william.norris@deq.virginia.gov . Comments may also be submitted through the Public Forum feature of the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall web site at: www.townhall.virginia.gov. Written comments must include the name and address of the commenter. In order to be considered, comments must be received by 11:59 pm on the last day of the public comment period.

Economic impact

Please identify the anticipated economic impact of the proposed new regulations or amendments to the existing regulation. When describing a particular economic impact, please specify which new requirement or change in requirement creates the anticipated economic impact.

Projected cost to the state to implement and enforce the proposed regulation, including (a) fund source / fund detail, and (b) a delineation of one-time versus on-going expenditures	N/A
Projected cost of the new regulations or changes to existing regulations on localities.	
Description of the individuals, businesses or	N/A

<p>other entities likely to be affected by the <i>new regulations or changes to existing regulations</i>.</p>	
<p>Agency’s best estimate of the number of such entities that will be affected. Please include an estimate of the number of small businesses affected. Small business means a business entity, including its affiliates, that (i) is independently owned and operated and (ii) employs fewer than 500 full-time employees or has gross annual sales of less than \$6 million.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>All projected costs of the <i>new regulations or changes to existing regulations</i> for affected individuals, businesses, or other entities. Please be specific and include all costs. Be sure to include the projected reporting, recordkeeping, and other administrative costs required for compliance by small businesses. Specify any costs related to the development of real estate for commercial or residential purposes that are a consequence of the proposed regulatory changes or new regulations.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Beneficial impact the regulation is designed to produce.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

There is no anticipated economic impact from the repeal of this requirement.

Alternatives

Please describe any viable alternatives to the proposal considered and the rationale used by the agency to select the least burdensome or intrusive alternative that meets the essential purpose of the action. Also, include discussion of less intrusive or less costly alternatives for small businesses, as defined in §2.2-4007.1 of the Code of Virginia, of achieving the purpose of the regulation

The agency could leave this requirement in the Virginia Administrative Code even though it has been superseded. However, the benefits of repealing this would regulation would not be achieved. Therefore, the Board is proposing the repeal of this regulation.

Regulatory flexibility analysis

Please describe the agency’s analysis of alternative regulatory methods, consistent with health, safety, environmental, and economic welfare, that will accomplish the objectives of applicable law while minimizing the adverse impact on small business. Alternative regulatory methods include, at a minimum: 1) the establishment of less stringent compliance or reporting requirements; 2) the establishment of less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements; 3) the consolidation or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements; 4) the establishment of performance standards for small businesses to replace design or operational standards required in the proposed regulation; and 5) the exemption of small businesses from all or any part of the requirements contained in the proposed regulation.

There are no viable alternative regulatory methods.

Family impact

Please assess the impact of the proposed regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one’s spouse, and one’s children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.

There is no anticipated impact of the repeal of this regulation on the institution of the family and family stability.

Detail of changes

Please list all changes that are being proposed and the consequences of the proposed changes. If the proposed regulation is a new chapter, describe the intent of the language and the expected impact. Please describe the difference between existing regulation(s) and/or agency practice(s) and what is being proposed in this regulatory action.

If the proposed regulation is intended to replace an emergency regulation, please list separately (1) all differences between the pre-emergency regulation and this proposed regulation, and (2) only changes made since the publication of the emergency regulation.

For changes to existing regulation(s), use this chart:

Current section number	Proposed new section number, if applicable	Current requirement	Proposed change, intent, rationale, and likely impact of proposed requirements
9VAC25-240-10		Definitions.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25-210.
9VAC25-240-20		General requirements and purpose.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25-210.
9VAC25-240-30		Time of filing.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25-210.
9VAC25-240-40		Filing and content of application.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25-210.
9VAC25-240-50		Public notice; application for certification.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25-210.
9VAC25-240-60		Hearings and final decisions.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25.210.
9VAC25-240-70		Requests for modification or revocation; public notice.	Repeal Requirement – Superseded by 9VAC25-210.

This regulation can be repealed due to the lack of statutory authority.