

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION
WASTEWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RECLAMATION PROGRAM**

NOTICE OF FINAL DETERMINATION

General Permit for Discharges from Swimming Pools and Spas

The Department is reissuing the State/NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) General Permit for Discharges from Swimming Pools and Spas, State Permit Number 12SI (NPDES No. MDG76) as the new State Permit Number 17SI. The 17SI permit applies to discharges of wastewater from draining, drawdown, cleaning, filter backwash, overflow, splashout, and spraydown from swimming pools, spas, baptismal fonts, splash pads, water slides, and other similar facilities in the state of Maryland.

A public notice on the tentative determination to reissue the discharge permit was published on July 1, 2022 in the Maryland Register and in newspapers throughout Maryland. The Department held a public hearing concerning the tentative determination on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 1 pm in the Terra Conference Room at the Maryland Department of the Environment, 1800 Washington Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21230, and received comments through Wednesday, August 10, 2022. After considering all comments received either in writing or through oral testimony during the comment period, the Department has made a final determination to issue the permit.

Listed below are the revisions included in the Department's final determination:

- The Department will not require submission of a Notice of Intent for facilities which discharge to groundwater only and which would not be subject to any numerical limitations. Instead, these facilities will be authorized under the permit without submission of a Notice of Intent – similar to how the Department regulates discharges from pools of private homeowners.
- The Department has clarified the requirements for the first 30 seconds of discharge of filter backwash wastewater. Such requirements were intended to apply solely to surface water discharges and the final permit makes this explicitly clear.

Any person adversely affected by this final determination may file a petition for judicial review. Petitions for judicial review of a final determination or permit decision subject to judicial review must be filed in accordance with §1-605 of the Environment Article within 30 days after publication of a notice of final determination, and must be filed in a circuit court in Maryland. Petitions for judicial review must conform to the applicable Maryland Rules of Civil Procedure. Failure to file a petition for judicial review within 30 days after publication of a notice of final determination will constitute a waiver of any right to a judicial review of this final determination.

The final permit, responses to comments, and other documents associated with the final permit may be downloaded from the Department's website for the SI permit at <https://mdewwp.page.link/SIGP>. Any questions regarding this final determination should be directed to Jonathan Rice (jonathan.rice@maryland.gov) or Michael Richardson (michael.richardson@maryland.gov) or by calling the Industrial and General Permits Division at (410) 537-3323. Persons seeking to review the final permit and associated file may also do so by contacting Mr. Rice or Mr. Richardson to make an appointment. Copies of documents may be obtained at a cost of \$0.36 per page.