

INTERIM ANTIDegradATION POLICY GUIDANCE
January 15, 2002

- These guidelines apply to all NPDES and 401 Certification approvals being sent to Headquarters for signature after January 15, 2002.
- Parameters of Concern - are only parameters that have numerical criteria established by the Environmental Quality Board (EQB).
- The phrases "regulated activity is a new or expanded activity" or "proposed activity will result in a new or expanded discharge" will apply to the outlet only and not the entire permit. Antideg review will only occur on the outlet(s) that are being added or being modified (expanded). The remaining outlets will not be required to under go an antideg review at this time.
- Remember an antideg review and the effluent limits that come out of the review are water quality based effluent limits. Therefore, Effluent Type "I" needs to be selected for these outlets. There will be no alternate precipitation limits for the metals for these types of outlets.
- Section 3.1 Antidegradation Policy.
- Section 3.2 Determining level of protection (Tier).
- Section 3.3 Uses. Set forth in 46 CSR 1 Section 6.
- Section 3.4 Baseline Water Quality (BEQ). BWQ Guidance.
- Section 3.5 Determining Tier. Parameters of concern.
- Section 3.6 Findings. Rationale page.
- Section 3.7 General Permits. Require Individual Permit on discharges to trout streams and do antideg review. Otherwise General Permit process remains the same.
- Section 3.8 401 Certifications. Require Individual Certification on fill activity in trout streams. If significant degradation, do antideg significant degradation review (Section 5.6.g). All Individual 404 Permits will require Individual 401 Certifications and significant degradation review (Section 5.6.g). Corps of Engineers makes the call on the filling activity whether or not the impacts are minimal. If the Corps declares the impacts not minimal then the applicant must apply for an Individual 404 Permit. We will declare this significant degradation and must conduct a significant degradation review (Section 5.6.g).
- Section 3.9 Guidance.

- Section 4.0 Tier I Protection. Parameter by parameter. For activities that will discharge into TMDL (303d) listed streams, assign the numerical criteria for the parameter of concern as the wasteload. Then enter the number into the TSD to calculate the effluent limits.
- Section 5.0 Tier II Protection. Interim Permitting Guidance for Antidegradation Implementation.
- Section 5.1 High Quality Waters.
- Section 5.6 Tier II Antidegradation Review.
- Section 5.6.d Significant degradation. Discharges that use more than 10% of the assimilative capacity.
- Section 5.6.e Parameter by parameter.
- Section 5.6.g Significant degradation review.
- Section 5.7 Alternatives.
- Section 5.7.c Cost effective (less degrading) alternatives.
- Section 5.8 Social and economic importance.
- Section 5.9 Intergovernmental coordination.
- Section 9.0 Public participation.