In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B), and under authority of R.S. 30:2011, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality declares that an emergency action is necessary as a result of Act 399 of the 1999 Legislative Session requiring the execution of a surety bond for all privately-owned sewage treatment facilities, regulated by the Public Service Commission, prior to receiving discharge authorization. This Act applies to any issuance, renewal, modification, or transfer of such permits after July 1, 1999, and mandates that the Department establish by rule the acceptable forms of financial security and the amount of financial security required for the various types and sizes of facilities. Therefore, after July 1, 1999, and until the necessary rule is in effect, the Department would be required to withhold all new discharge permits, renewal of existing, modification of existing, and transfers of existing discharge permits to all privately-owned, for-profit community sewage treatment facilities.

The delays inherent in the normal rulemaking process would imperil public health, safety, and welfare by precluding the legal operation of some sewage treatment facilities subject to Act 399. The legal operation of those sewage treatment facilities is essential for the proper treatment of sewage, necessary to reduce disease-causing microorganisms and pollutants that are harmful to fish and other aquatic life. The cessation of operation of such a treatment facility, as would be required by law, would necessitate either bypassing the treatment facility (resulting in the discharge of untreated sewage) or blocking all flow of sewage through the collection system (rendering uninhabitable every building served by that system). The Department cannot ensure protection of public health, welfare, and the environment without the issuance of discharge permits with proper effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

The immediate impact of this rule is to give effect to the terms and conditions of Act 399, thus allowing the Department to continue regulating treated sanitary discharges from private treatment facilities which serve large segments of Louisiana's population.

This emergency rule is effective July 1, 1999, and shall remain in effect for a maximum of 120 days or until a final rule is promulgated, whichever comes first. For more information concerning WP035E, you may contact the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:661 (April 1999), amended by LR 23:723 (June 1997), amended by the Office of the Secretary, LR 25:661 (April 1999), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:

Subchapter D. Transfer, Modification, Revocation and Reissuance, and Termination

§2381. Transfer of Permits

The notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new permittees containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between them;

3. the state administrative authority does not notify the existing permittee and the proposed new permittee of his or her intent to modify or revoke and reissue the permit. A modification under this Subsection may also be a minor modification under LAC 33:IX.2385. If this notice is not received, the transfer is effective on the date specified in the agreement mentioned in LAC 33:IX.2381.B.2; and

4. additional requirements are met for privately-owned sewage treatment facilities regulated by the Public Service Commission when transferred after July 1, 1999.
The new permittee shall comply with the financial security requirements in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Resources, LR 21:945 (September 1995), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:

§2385. Minor Modifications of Permits

A. Upon the consent of the permittee, the state administrative authority may modify a permit to make the corrections or allowances for changes in the permitted activity listed in this Section, without following the procedures of LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapters E–G. Any permit modification not processed as a minor modification under this Section must be made for cause and with LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapters E–G draft permit and public notice as required in LAC 33:IX.2383. Minor modifications may only:

1. correct typographical errors;
2. require more frequent monitoring or reporting by the permittee;
3. change an interim compliance date in a schedule of compliance, provided the new date is not more than 120 days after the date specified in the existing permit and does not interfere with attainment of the final compliance date requirement; or
4. allow for a change in ownership or operational control of a facility where the state administrative authority determines that no other change in the permit is necessary, provided that a written agreement containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between the current and new permittees has been submitted to the state administrative authority. The new permittee of a privately-owned sewage treatment facility regulated by the Public Service Commission must additionally comply with the financial security requirements in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Resources, LR 21:945 (September 1995), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:

§2386. Modification or Revocation and Reissuance of Permits

C. Upon modification or revocation and reissuance of a permit for a privately-owned sewage treatment facility regulated by the Public Service Commission, the permittee shall comply with the financial security requirements in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in particular Sections 2074(B)(3) and (4) and 2075.2.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Resources, LR 21:945 (September 1995), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:

§2769. Additional Requirements for Permit Renewal and Termination

A. The following are causes, in addition to those found in LAC 33:IX.2387, for terminating a permit during its term or for denying a permit renewal:

1. due consideration of the facility's history of violations and compliance;
2. change of ownership or operational control (see LAC 33:IX.2381); and/or
3. failure to provide or maintain a surety bond in accordance with LAC 33:IX. Chapter 23.Subchapter W.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Resources, LR 21:945 (September 1995), amended by the Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:

Subchapter W. Financial Security

§2801. Applicability

A. This Subsection shall be applicable to the following actions, for privately-owned sewage treatment facilities regulated by the Public Service Commission, when taken after July 1, 1999:

1. issuance of a new discharge permit;
2. renewal of an existing discharge permit;
3. modification of an existing discharge permit; and
4. transfer of an existing discharge permit to a different permittee.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 30:2001 et seq., and in particular Sections 2074(B)(3) and (4) and 2075.2.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, LR 25:

§2803. Acceptable Form of Financial Security

A. Financial security required by R.S. 30:2075.2 shall consist exclusively of a surety bond conforming to the requirements of this Subchapter. The bond must be executed by the permittee and a corporate surety licensed to do business in Louisiana. The surety must, at a minimum, be among those listed as acceptable sureties on federal bonds in Circular 570 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury and approved by the administrative authority.

B. The wording of the surety bond must be identical to the following, except that material in brackets is to be replaced with the relevant information and the brackets deleted:
PERFORMANCE BOND

Date bond was executed: _________________________
Effective date: _________________________

Principal: [legal name and business address of permit holder or applicant]
Type of organization: [insert "individual," "joint venture," "partnership," or "corporation"]
State of incorporation: _________________________
Surety: [name(s) and business address(es)]
[Site identification number, site name, facility name, facility permit number, facility address, amount for each facility guaranteed by this bond]
Total penal sum of bond: $________________
Surety's bond number: _________________________

Know All Persons By These Presents That we, the Principal and Surety hereto, are firmly bound to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality in the above penal sum for the payment of which we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, jointly and severally, provided that, where Sureties are corporations acting as cosureties, we, the Sureties, bind ourselves in such sum "jointly and severally" only for the purpose of allowing a joint action or actions against any or all of us and, for all other purposes, each Surety binds itself, jointly and severally with the Principal, for the payment of such sum only as is set forth opposite the name of such Surety, but if no limit of liability is indicated, the limit of liability shall be the full amount of the penal sum.

WHEREAS, said Principal is required, under the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq., to have a permit in order to discharge wastewater from the facility identified above; and
WHEREAS, the Principal is required by law to provide financial assurance for the conditions specified in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W, as a condition of the permit; and

THEREFORE, the conditions of this obligation are such that if the Principal shall faithfully perform, in a timely manner, the requirements of LAC 33:IX applicable to the facility for which this bond guarantees the requirements of LAC 33:IX, in accordance with the other requirements of the permit as such permit may be amended and pursuant to all applicable laws, statutes, rules, and regulations, as such laws, statutes, rules, and regulations may be amended;

OR, if the Principal shall provide other financial assurance as specified in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W and obtain written approval of the administrative authority of such assurance within 90 days after the date of notice of cancellation of this bond is received by both the Principal and the administrative authority, then this obligation shall be null and void; otherwise, it is to remain in full force and effect.

The Surety shall become liable on this bond obligation only when the Principal has failed to fulfill the conditions described hereinabove.

Upon notification by the administrative authority that the Principal has been found in violation of the requirements of LAC 33:IX or of its permit, for the facility for which this bond guarantees performances of the requirements of LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W, the Surety shall either perform the requirements of LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W, or place the closure amount guaranteed for the facility into the standby trust fund as directed by the administrative authority.

The Surety hereby waives notification of amendments to permit, applicable laws, statutes, rules, and regulations and agrees that no such amendment shall in any way alleviate its obligation on this bond.

The liability of the Surety(ies) shall not be discharged by any payment or succession of payments hereunder, unless and until such payment or payments shall amount in the aggregate to the penal sum of the bond, but in no event shall the obligation of the Surety hereunder exceed the amount of the penal sum.

The Surety may cancel the bond by sending notice of cancellation by certified mail to the Principal and to the administrative authority. Cancellation shall not occur before 120 days have lapsed, beginning on the date that both the Principal and the administrative authority received the notice of cancellation as evidenced by the return receipts.

The Principal may terminate this bond by sending written notice to the Surety and to the administrative authority, provided, however, that no such notice shall become effective until the Surety receives written authorization for termination of the bond by the administrative authority.

Principal and Surety hereby agree to adjust the penal sum of the bond for inflation yearly, based upon the inflation factor derived from the Annual Implicit Price Deflator for Gross Domestic Product, as published by the U. S. Department of Commerce in its Survey of Current Business. The penal sum shall not decrease without the written permission of the administrative authority.

The Principal and Surety hereby agree that no portion of the penal sum may be expended without prior written approval of the administrative authority.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Principal and the Surety have executed this PERFORMANCE BOND on the date set forth above.

Those persons whose signatures appear below hereby certify that they are authorized to execute this surety bond on behalf of the Principal and Surety, that each Surety hereto is authorized to do business in the state of Louisiana, and that the wording of this surety bond is identical to the wording specified in LAC 33:IX.Chapter 23.Subchapter W, effective on the date this bond was executed.

PRINCIPAL

[Signature(s)]
[Name(s)]
[Title(s)]

CORPORATE SURETY

[Name and address]
State of incorporation: _________________________
Liability limit: $________________
[Signature(s)]
[Name(s) and title(s)]
[For every cosurety, provide signature(s) and other information in the same manner as for Surety above.]
Bond premium: $________________
§2805. Amount of Required Financial Security
A. For the calendar year 1999 the penal sum of any bond issued must be equal to or greater than $2 per gallon of wastewater discharge per day from the facility, as determined by the administrative authority.

B. After December 31, 1999, the penal sum of any bond issued or renewed must be equal to or greater than $2 per gallon of wastewater discharge capacity per day for the facility, as determined by the administrative authority, plus an adjustment for inflation since December 31, 1999, based upon the inflation factor derived from the Annual Implicit Price Deflator for Gross Domestic Product, as published by the U.S. Department of Commerce in its Survey of Current Business.

§2807. Conditions for Forfeiture
A. The secretary or his designee may enter an order requiring forfeiture of all or part of the bond or other financial security, if he determines that:
   1. the continued operation or lack of operation and maintenance of the facility covered by this Subsection represents a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment because the permittee is unable or unwilling to adequately operate and maintain the facility or the facility has been actually or effectively abandoned by the permittee.
      Evidence justifying such determination includes, but is not limited to:
      a. the discharge of pollutants exceeding limitations imposed by applicable permits;
      b. failure to utilize or maintain adequate disinfection facilities;
      c. failure to correct overflows or backups from the collection system;
      d. a declaration of a public health emergency by the state health officer; and
      e. a determination by the Public Service Commission that the permittee is financially unable to properly operate or maintain the system;
   2. reasonable and practical efforts under the circumstances have been made to obtain corrective actions from the permittee; and
   3. it does not appear that corrective actions can or will be taken within an appropriate time as determined by the secretary.

§2809. Use of Proceeds
The proceeds of any forfeiture shall be used by the secretary, or by any receiver appointed by a court under R.S. 30:2075.3, to address or correct the deficiencies at the facility or to maintain and operate the system, as deemed necessary by the secretary under LAC 33:IX.2807.

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Alligator Season—1999

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967(D) of the Administrative Procedure Act, which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set seasons, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1999 wild alligator harvest season.

The 1999 wild alligator harvest season shall be from official sunrise September 1, 1999 through official sunset September 30, 1999. Alligators taken from the wild may be removed from hook and line and taken with other legal capture devices only during daylight hours between official sunrise and official sunset.

Emergency procedures are necessary to allow Department biologists adequate time to gather the biological data required to recommend season dates and harvest quotas.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby also authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to delay, extend, close or reopen this season based on technical data or if enforcement problems develop.

Bill A. Busbice, Jr.
Chairman

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Shrimp Season Closure—Zone 2

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act...
Act, which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters, and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on May 6, 1999, which authorized the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 1999 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, the Secretary hereby declares:

The 1999 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season in that portion of Zone 2 from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island east to the western bank of Bayou Lafourche, shall close at 6:00 a.m., Monday, June 28, 1999. The remainder of Zone 2, i.e., the waters from the western bank of Bayou Lafourche east to the South Pass of the Mississippi River shall close at 6 a.m., Tuesday, July 6, 1999.

Zones 1 and 3 will remain open until further notice.

The State Territorial Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line, as described in R.S. 56:495, shall remain open.

Substantial numbers of small white shrimp have been taken west of Bayou Lafourche in recent shrimp samples by Department personnel. These small white shrimp are widely distributed throughout the western portion of Zone 2, and the number of white shrimp in the remainder of the Zone is expected to increase substantially over the next few weeks.

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary

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DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Shrimp Season Closure—Zone 3

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on May 6, 1999 which authorized the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 1999 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, the Secretary hereby declares:

That the 1999 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season shall be closed in all of Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island west to the Louisiana/Texas State Line, at 6:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 6, 1999.

Small white shrimp have begun to occur in shrimp samples taken by Department personnel throughout Zone 3. The number of white shrimp has increased substantially since the previous week, and is expected to continue to increase over the next few weeks.

James H. Jenkins, Jr.
Secretary