

# Stormwater: Category 14 BMPs – Managing Collected Rain Water in Containments, Sumps, Vaults

Department: Environmental Protection

Program: Stormwater

Owner: Program Manager, Darrin Gambelin

Authority: ES&H Manual, Chapter 26, Stormwater

*Category 14* best management practices (BMPs) describe how to manage rain water that may collect in secondary containments, utilities and electrical vaults, and other structures. Contained or accumulated water is collected for reuse in the cooling towers or discharged directly to the sanitary sewer. If this cannot be implemented, contained rain water will be sampled for expected contaminants, and if meeting water quality objectives, it may be discharged to the storm drain. Contained water discharged to the storm drain must be observed and documented at the time of discharge.<sup>1</sup>

## **BMPs**

- 14.1 Reduce the amount of rain that collects in containments, sumps, and vaults where possible. Place a roof over open utility shafts and install angle irons or equivalent to prevent run-on from entering utility tunnels and vaults. Inspect and repair annually prior to the wet season.
- 14.2 Periodically clean utility tunnels and vaults of debris and sediment.
- 14.3 Containments must be monitored to the degree necessary to ensure that secondary containment capacity is maintained and that collected rain water does not overflow and enter the storm drain system.
- 14.4 Monitoring will be conducted by security during off-hours and shut-down conditions, and by the Conventional and Experimental Facilities (CEF) Department and/or area/building managers during business hours to ensure that collected rain water is not allowed to overflow to the storm drain outside the restrictions of the general industrial activity permit (general permit).
- 14.5 Pump all containments as soon as reasonably possible after each storm event during the wet season (October through May). Special provisions must be made for off-hours and shut-down periods (such as pumping prior to off-time, back-ups that can pump during off-hours, or emergency call-in capability.)
- 14.6 Reuse or discharge contained water to the sanitary sewer if at all possible. Contained water must be characterized as meeting water quality objectives and observed and documented at the time of discharge to a storm drain.<sup>2</sup> Contact the stormwater program manager for guidance.

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1 Stormwater: Contained Water Release Form (SLAC-I-750-0A16J-004), <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/forms/>

2 Stormwater: Contained Water Release Form (SLAC-I-750-0A16J-004), <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/forms/>

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- 14.7 Containments that overflow will be treated as a possible release and documented using a stormwater observation form. Samples will be taken by the Environmental Protection (EP) Department until it can be verified the containment is not a potential pollutant source.

*Note For a complete list of all BMP categories, see Stormwater: Best Management Practices Index.*<sup>3</sup>

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3 Stormwater: Best Management Practices Index (SLAC-I-750-0A16V-001), <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/eshmanual/references/stormIndexBMP.pdf>