

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 125.90

These include source water inflows, other water withdrawals, managed water uses, wastewater discharges, and flow/level management practices (e.g., some reservoirs release water from below the surface, close to the deepest areas).

(i) For a facility that chooses Track I, you must review the Design and Construction Technology Plan required in §125.86(b)(4) to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of the technology proposed to minimize impingement mortality and entrainment of all life stages of fish and shellfish. In the first permit issued, you must put a condition requiring the facility to reduce impingement mortality and entrainment commensurate with the implementation of the technologies in the permit. Under subsequent permits, the Director must review the performance of the technologies implemented and require additional or different design and construction technologies, if needed to minimize impingement mortality and entrainment of all life stages of fish and shellfish. In addition, you must consider whether more stringent conditions are reasonably necessary in accordance with §125.84(e).

(ii) For a facility that chooses Track II, you must review the information submitted with the Comprehensive Demonstration Study information required in §125.86(c)(2), evaluate the suitability of the proposed design and construction technologies and operational measures to determine whether they will reduce both impingement mortality and entrainment of all life stages of fish and shellfish to 90 percent or greater of the reduction that could be achieved through Track I. If you determine that restoration measures are appropriate at the new facility for consideration of impacts other than impingement mortality and entrainment, you must review the Evaluation of Proposed Restoration Measures and evaluate whether the proposed measures will maintain the fish and shellfish in the waterbody at a substantially similar level to that which would be achieved through §125.84(b)(1) and (2). In addition, you must review the Verification Monitoring Plan in §125.86(c)(2)(iv)(D) and require that the proposed monitoring begin at the start

of operations of the cooling water intake structure and continue for a sufficient period of time to demonstrate that the technologies, operational measures and restoration measures meet the requirements in §125.84(d)(1). Under subsequent permits, the Director must review the performance of the additional and /or different technologies or measures used and determine that they reduce the level of adverse environmental impact from the cooling water intake structures to a comparable level that the facility would achieve were it to implement the requirements of §125.84(b)(1) and (2).

(2) *Monitoring conditions.* At a minimum, the permit must require the permittee to perform the monitoring required in §125.87. You may modify the monitoring program when the permit is reissued and during the term of the permit based on changes in physical or biological conditions in the vicinity of the cooling water intake structure. The Director may require continued monitoring based on the results of the Verification Monitoring Plan in §125.86(c)(2)(iv)(D).

(3) *Record keeping and reporting.* At a minimum, the permit must require the permittee to report and keep records as required by §125.88.

[66 FR 65338, Dec. 18, 2001]

Subpart J—Requirements Applicable to Cooling Water Intake Structures for Phase II Existing Facilities Under Section 316(b) of the Act

SOURCE: 69 FR 41683, July 9, 2004, unless otherwise noted.

§ 125.90 What are the purpose and scope of this subpart?

(a) This subpart establishes requirements that apply to the location, design, construction, and capacity of cooling water intake structures at existing facilities that are subject to this subpart (*i.e.*, Phase II existing facilities). The purpose of these requirements is to establish the best technology available for minimizing adverse environmental impact associated with the use of cooling water intake

structures. These requirements are implemented through National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued under section 402 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

(b) Existing facilities that are not subject to requirements under this or another subpart of this part must meet requirements under section 316(b) of the CWA determined by the Director on a case-by-case, best professional judgment (BPJ) basis.

(c) *Alternative regulatory requirements.* Notwithstanding any other provision of this subpart, if a State demonstrates to the Administrator that it has adopted alternative regulatory requirements in its NPDES program that will result in environmental performance within a watershed that is comparable to the reductions of impingement mortality and entrainment that would otherwise be achieved under §125.94, the Administrator must approve such alternative regulatory requirements.

(d) Nothing in this subpart shall be construed to preclude or deny the right of any State or political subdivision of a State or any interstate agency under section 510 of the CWA to adopt or enforce any requirement with respect to control or abatement of pollution that is not less stringent than those required by Federal law.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 72 FR 37109, July 9, 2007, §125.90(a), (c), and (d) were suspended.

§125.91 What is a “Phase II Existing Facility”?

(a) An existing facility, as defined in §125.93, is a Phase II existing facility subject to this subpart if it meets each of the following criteria:

- (1) It is a point source.
- (2) It uses or proposes to use cooling water intake structures with a total design intake flow of 50 million gallons per day (MGD) or more to withdraw cooling water from waters of the United States;
- (3) As its primary activity, the facility both generates and transmits electric power, or generates electric power but sells it to another entity for transmission; and
- (4) It uses at least 25 percent of water withdrawn exclusively for cooling purposes, measured on an average annual basis.

(b) In the case of a Phase II existing facility that is co-located with a manufacturing facility, only that portion of the combined cooling water intake flow that is used by the Phase II facility to generate electricity for sale to another entity will be considered for purposes of determining whether the 50 MGD and 25 percent criteria in paragraphs (a)(2) and (4) of this section have been exceeded.

(c) Use of a cooling water intake structure includes obtaining cooling water by any sort of contract or arrangement with one or more independent suppliers of cooling water if the supplier withdraws water from waters of the United States but is not itself a Phase II existing facility, except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section. This provision is intended to prevent circumvention of these requirements by creating arrangements to receive cooling water from an entity that is not itself a Phase II existing facility.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c) of this section, obtaining cooling water from a public water system or using treated effluent as cooling water does not constitute use of a cooling water intake structure for purposes of this subpart.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 72 FR 37109, July 9, 2007, §125.91 was suspended.

§ 125.92 [Reserved]

§ 125.93 What special definitions apply to this subpart?

In addition to the definitions provided in §122.3 of this chapter, the following special definitions apply to this subpart:

Adaptive management method is a type of project management method where a facility chooses an approach to meeting the project goal, monitors the effectiveness of that approach, and then based on monitoring and any other relevant information, makes any adjustments necessary to ensure continued progress toward the project’s goal. This cycle of activity is repeated as necessary to reach the project’s goal.

Annual mean flow means the average of daily flows over a calendar year.

All life stages means eggs, larvae, juveniles, and adults.