



## The Certified Inspector of Sediment and Erosion Control Newsletter

### Special Interest Articles:

- California Has a New Construction General Permit
- Dealing with Conflict
- Meet Joe Crea, CISEC Board Member and Vice President
- Help Wanted: CISEC Editor

## What are EPA's New Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards?

By J.S. Fifield, Ph.D.  
CISEC #0006

On December 1, 2009, EPA published its new effluent limitations guidelines (ELG) and performance standards for the construction and development (C&D) point source category, which included the following:

- Beginning February 1, 2010, projects requiring an individual permit (e.g., a sensitive watershed or large controversial plan) must be in compliance with new non-numeric requirements that include:
  - Increased performance standards on sediment and erosion control,
  - Immediate soil stabilization of disturbed lands,
  - Stringent controls on discharges from dewatering activities,
  - Increased measures to minimizing the discharge of pollutants,
  - Prohibiting the discharge of concrete washouts, construction materials, fuels, and soaps and solvents from vehicle washing, and
  - Draining contained waters at a pond surface instead of within the water column.

- Beginning August 1, 2011, monitoring of point discharges (e.g., sediment pond releases) is to occur to verify average turbidity does not exceed 280 Nephelometric turbidity units (NTUs) for any calendar day when 20 acres or more are disturbed.
- Beginning February 1, 2014, monitoring of point discharges (e.g., sediment pond releases) is to occur to verify average turbidity does not exceed 280 NTUs for any calendar day when 10 acres or more are disturbed.

The monitoring requirements and 280 NTU limitations do not apply to discharges associated with interstate natural gas pipeline construction activity.

The 280 NTU limitations is not required for storm water discharges in any day when the storm is larger than the local 2-year, 24-hour event. However, continuing monitoring will be required.

EPA is providing time for permitting authorities to revise their CGP's to include the new non-numeric requirements as well as numeric limitation and monitoring requirements applicable to stormwater discharges from active construction sites. Full nationwide implementation is anticipated by 2015.

In a nutshell, the new requirements mean inspectors and designers of sediment and erosion control practices are going to have to be more accountable for their activities.

Aren't you glad that you are a CISEC?



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## California Has a New Construction General Permit

By J. Duarte  
CISEC #0160



When I last wrote about the new California CGP, it was proposed. Now, we have an adopted CGP. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the new CGP on September 2, 2009. In order to allow dischargers with sufficient time to implement the new requirements, the Board delays the implementation date to July 1, 2010.

This permit includes a risk assessment that categorizes the project as a Low, Medium or High Risk site. Based on the risk assessment, your site could be subject to effluent limits for pH and Turbidity, with limits of 6.0-9.0 for pH, and an effluent limit of 500 NTUs



for Turbidity. The permit also requires receiving water sampling and bioassessments be conducted for some larger, riskier sites. The risk assessment is based on sediment risk of the site and the risk to the receiving water. Through a RUSLE calculation, the risk is determined and the requirements for compliance are specific to the project risk.

This permit has increased fines for non-compliance, as well as many "stealth" effluent limits such as a narrative requirement to reduce trash and debris by 100%. The penalties for violations of permit conditions have been increased from \$10,00/day/violation to

\$37,500/day/violation.

A component of the new program requires certain registrations or certifications to design or implement a SWPPP program. CISEC, Inc. is one of the certifications accepted for the Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (inspector). CISEC, Inc. has already begun setting up classes in California in anticipation of the new certification requirements. Our first class is set up in March in Pasadena, California.

Review information found at [www.cisecinc.org](http://www.cisecinc.org) if you want to sponsor a class/exam in your area, or know of those who may need to pursue the CISEC certification.

## Dealing with Conflict

By P. Taylor  
CISEC #0008

To steal a line from a popular children's book, have you ever felt like "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day"? I think we all have those occasionally. Oft times in the construction business we feel like we have more than our fair share of these.

There is the day when you show up at the site to do your inspection and everything seems to be falling apart at the seams. None of the BMPs are working right, the site superintendent is on the war path and is upset

about something and wants to take it out on you, the EPA shows up for a surprise visit, the weather forecast predicts an 80% chance of showers, the project is behind schedule and over budget and you are taking the hit... the list goes on.

So how do you deal with it? One way is to simply go with the flow. If you are having a bad day let everybody know. Don't hold it in. That just causes stress, right? Well, it's not quite that easy. You are a professional and you need to act in a professional manner. That is the trick. Here are a few

suggestions that might help you deal with those days:

Take a deep breath and step away from things for a minute or two

Don't take the attacks personally – easier said than done, but if you can remove the emotion it makes things easier to deal with

Make a list and prioritize – you can't do everything all at once – so set priorities and tackle the highest priority first

Remain professional and calm – yelling and getting mad only escalates the problem

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## Meet Joe Crea, CISEC Board Member and Vice President, CISEC #0007

Since 1991 through 1994 during his college years, Joe Crea's life consisted of academics and football. It was during these years when Joe found his niche in the soils industry while maintaining a status as a Mid-Atlantic Scholar Athlete at Delaware Valley College.

After his college years Joe served several stints at Conservation Districts in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. During these years, he discovered that he had a unique talent within the stormwater industry as if he had a "crystal ball" when it came to land development and vertical building.

Since 2000, Joe has been involved with the consulting industry throughout California and Colorado and soon became a teacher and troubleshooter, assisting folks throughout the public and private industries.

Joe moved back to his roots in Pennsylvania during the Fall of 2009 finding himself as the new District Manager for the Berks County Conservation District. He is not only involved with the construction stormwater realm but now serves the Agriculture and Watershed aspects of the conservation industry.

Joe's involvement with

CISEC via a nationwide experience throughout his years has not only enabled him to understand the EPA rules and regulations but has also enabled him to learn various state and local-wide regulations throughout the United States. His inspection experience has also enabled him to realize that what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas and may not be applicable in Texas.

Joe feels both fortunate and privileged to serve as your Vice President of the CISEC program and looks forward to continuing his service with this great certification program.

## Dealing with Conflict...(cont.)

*(Continued from Page 2)*

Find a way to exercise or expend some energy in a positive way

Find a way to laugh at the situation without using

sarcasm

Stress is a fact of life. We all have to deal with it. Staying calm and in control can really help. As a CISEC you are

expected to be professional and to set the example. Good luck!

## Help Wanted: CISEC Editor

CISEC, Inc. is seeking a CISEC registrant to coordinate activities associated with producing its newsletter twice a year. Qualifications sought include:

- Professional writing and editing skills
- Familiarity with developing a newsletter layout

- Familiarity with computer graphics
  - Familiarity with MSWord and Excel
  - Able to seek, obtain, and edit pertinent articles from CISEC registrants
  - Familiarity with sending information to CISEC registrants via the web
- Pay: \$0.00/hour. However, 6 CDUs per year will be awarded. Please send a letter of inquiry and resume to [cisec\\_inc@yahoo.com](mailto:cisec_inc@yahoo.com) or to CISEC, Inc., P.O. Box 188, Parker, CO 80134. Due Date: March 31, 2010

## CISEC, Inc.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.cisecinc.org](http://www.cisecinc.org)

Date of Training Modules	Date of Examination	Sponsor	Location	Instructors
March 8 & 9, 2010	March 9, 2010	ERO-TEX Ground Control Conference	Bloomington, IL	John Price Jerry Fifield
March 16 & 17, 2010	March 17, 2010	New Hampshire LTAP	Somersworth, NH	Tina Evans Brock Peters
March 24 & 25, 2010	March 25, 2010	CISEC, Inc.	Pasadena, CA	Jane Nelson Michael Alberson
April 7 & 8, 2010	April 8, 2010	Michigan LTAP	Kalamazoo, MI	John Price Jerry Fifield
April 20 & 21, 2010	April 21, 2010	CISEC/MS-CIECA	Sandy, UT	TBA
August 1 & 2, 2010	August 2, 2010	StormCon	San Antonio, TX	Zac Martin Alex Zimmerman



## ***CISEC Training Modules and Certification Examination***

***The nationwide certification program that  
recognizes abilities, skills, experience, and  
knowledge of SWPPP inspectors***

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professionals  
having an  
accumulation  
of over 100  
years of  
stormwater  
compliance  
inspection  
experience***



***Corporate  
member of  
and a  
certification  
partner with  
IECA***

***CISEC, Inc. is  
partnered with the  
Michigan Tech  
Transportation Institute  
(MTTI) to facilitate  
professional training  
and certification for  
inspectors of bridge,  
roadway, and other  
construction sites***

***Find out how to bring the  
CISEC program to your area  
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