

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Lower Mississippi Valley Division, Corps of Engineers
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39180

LMVED-WR
Regulation
No. 1110-2-205

Engineering and Design
WATER CONTROL MANAGEMENT
WATER QUALITY

10 November 1975

1. Purpose. This regulation provides guidance on water quality management and establishes policy for conducting and reporting water quality activities in the Lower Mississippi Valley Division.
2. Applicability. This regulation is applicable to all Districts in the Lower Mississippi Valley Division.
3. References.
 - a. ER 1130-2-334, Water Quality Management at Corps Civil Works Facilities, 1 May 1974.
 - b. ER 1110-1-8100, Laboratory Investigations and Materials Testing, 30 August 1974.
 - c. Federal Water Pollution Control Act, P.L. 92-500.
 - d. 40 CFR 230, Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material in Navigable Water 5 September 1975.
 - e. DIVR 1110-2-204 Water Control Management, Reporting Prevailing Conditions, 15 September 1975.
 - f. WES Miscellaneous Paper C-74-4, Development of In-House Capabilities for Determination of Quality of Water and Sediments, March 1974.
4. General. Basic guidance for management of water quality programs at Corps of Engineers Civil Works facilities is given in ER 1130-2-334 (reference 3a). Additional guidance is provided herein for water quality activities in the Lower Mississippi Valley Division.
5. Responsibilities. District Engineers should develop and implement a water quality management program for Corps Civil Works facilities that is responsive to the provisions of ER 1130-2-334. A coordinated sense of

This regulation supersedes DIVR 1130-2-10, 21 December 1972.

direction is necessary to insure an efficient and effective water quality program that is consistent with water control management activities in general. To provide such a sense of direction, District Engineers will designate a single organizational element, preferably in connection with water control management, the responsibility for coordination and major conduct of water quality activities of the District. The designated element should be consulted for direction and assistance in matters pertaining to water quality during pre-and post-authorization planning, construction, and operating phases of water resources projects. The River & Reservoir Control Center, LMVED-WR, will serve as the coordination point for water quality activities in the Division office.

6. Cooperation with Other Agencies. Cooperation with Federal and state agencies responsible for water quality activities will be necessary to prevent needless duplication of effort. Emphasis of the District's water quality program should be directed toward evaluating and reporting with surveillance and monitoring activities limited to the degree practicable, i.e., to the extent that Corps' water quality activities lend themselves to accomplishment by other agencies. Contacts with directors and staffs of those agencies concerned should be made or renewed to apprise them of the major role of the Corps (i.e., evaluation and reporting) and to inform them of the District's water quality program. Through such contacts the District's program for water quality management at existing and near future projects can be coordinated with those of other Federal agencies, and with state programs for water quality and pollutant source monitoring. All practicable methods for sharing burdens and costs of water quality management activities with other agencies will be explored to accomplish reductions in manpower and funding requirements where possible.

7. Procurement of Water Quality Related Services. When laboratory or other water quality related services are required, which cannot be acquired through cooperation with other agencies, the Districts should consider all other means available including use of Corps of Engineers facilities or contracting with commercial, state, or other Federal agencies for such services. Cost effectiveness and practicability should be major considerations governing selection of the method used. Guidance for water analyses services and technical support that are available from Corps of Engineers laboratories is provided in ER 1110-1-8100 (reference 3b). WES has been designated the supporting laboratory for LMVD and a publication (reference 3f) of its services in this regard will be furnished under separate cover.

a. Laboratory Analytical Services. Proper management of laboratory analytical services to be provided by WES will require timely estimates of District needs. The annual Water Quality Reports required by ER 1130-2-334 should include estimated water quality laboratory needs for the forthcoming fiscal year which, as determined by the District, can best be met by WES.

b. Quality Control and Verification Testing. Technical support provided by WES in accordance with ER 1110-1-8100 entails technical supervision of quality control and verification testing connected with water and wastewater investigations performed at District, commercial and other Federal agency laboratories. Supplemental information concerning quality control and verification testing will be issued at a later date.

8. Sampling Frequencies. Information on the frequency of various parameter sampling in Appendix A of ER 1130-2-334 should be considered as a guide, and individual project requirements shall be determined from evaluation of local conditions. In general, guidance contained in Appendix A is to be applied with discretion to avoid nonproductive effort.

9. Water Quality at Corps Dredging Sites. Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (reference 3c) requires evaluation of the discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters by application of guidelines developed by the Administrator, EPA, in conjunction with the Secretary of the Army. These guidelines are contained in 40 CFR 230 (reference 3d). Detailed evaluation, sampling and testing procedures in the form of a joint EPA-Corps manual are being prepared and will be available to the Districts upon publication. Additional supplemental information will be provided as it becomes available. Determination of the testing and evaluation requirements at Corps of Engineers projects in LMVD which involve discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters will be by application of criteria contained in 40 CFR 230. A program should be established to monitor water quality at Corps of Engineers confined and unconfined disposal areas where water quality control measures are instituted to determine the effectiveness of such measures, and at other sites specified by the Regional Administrator EPA pursuant to Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Results of testing and other evaluations conducted prior to dredging and guidance from the Regional Administrator should be considered in establishing critical water quality parameters to be monitored. Sampling locations should be selected to best represent ambient conditions, the effects of dredging effluents on ambient conditions, and the effectiveness of water quality control measures. Sampling in connection with monitoring activities should be conducted by Corps inspectors on the sites, whenever practicable, to reduce costs. Discussion of water quality activities conducted relative to Corps dredging activities should be included in the annual Water Quality Report.

10. Emergency Situations. Emergency situations are defined as sudden changes in the quality of water that would present a hazard to life or adversely affect the ecology of the area. Such situations could arise as a result of spills (oil, chemical, pesticide, etc.), other accidents, floods, excessive rainfall, and other natural disasters. As in other phases of this program, Corps activities will be directed to evaluating and reporting such emergency situations to the applicable Federal and state agencies. The Corps will assist in monitoring the hazard and identifying the source when necessary.

DIVR 1110-2-205
10 Nov 75

Advisories on potential and actual emergency events adversely affecting the quality of water should be reported to LMVED-WR in accordance with paragraph 5a of DIVR 1110-2-204 (reference 3e).

11. Funding. Resources allocations and budget requests should include consideration for systematic progress toward comprehensive and responsive water quality management programs. Pre-authorization studies that include water quality activities will be funded by the appropriate survey authority. Water quality investigations for authorized projects and projects under construction will be charged to the appropriate feature account. Water quality programs conducted at completed projects will normally be funded with MR&T, Maintenance or O & M, General, as appropriate. Costs for these activities will be included in the Water Control Management budget summary table and the Water Control Management feature (609) of the PB-2a for submission in the "Annual Budget Request for Civil Works Activities." The budget should include water quality programs for Corps dredging sites that are adequate to meet provisions of 40 CFR 230. Water Quality programs for dredging sites should be funded under O & M General, Construction General, MR&T Maintenance, or MR&T Construction, as appropriate.

12. Annual Report (RCS DAEN-CWE-15). District Engineers will submit two copies of the Annual Water Quality Report to this office, ATTN: LMVED-WR by 1 September of each year. A single report should be submitted which includes concise summaries of water quality activities that were conducted at all projects in the District during the current fiscal year, and planned activities for the forthcoming year. However, sufficient detail should be furnished for significant items to permit their inclusion in the Division Engineer's summary report. Guidance furnished in Appendix A of ER 1130-2-334 will be followed in preparation of the report with the following exceptions:

a. The initial Annual Water Quality Report should furnish the basic information required by Appendix A to ER 1130-2-334. Subsequent reports need not repeat basic information already furnished by the initial report for paragraphs 3-5 of Appendix A, but should update this information and report any changes that have occurred.

b. Tabulations of routine data should not be included in the annual report. Such data should be maintained by the District to be readily available upon request.

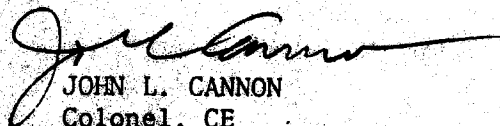
c. The report should include discussions on items a through f in the following paragraph.

13. Action Required. A summary of major actions required of the Districts by this regulation follows:

a. Designate a single organizational element with responsibility for coordination and major conduct of water quality activities.

- b. Develop and maintain a water quality management program responsive to ER 1130-2-334 that is directed toward evaluation and reporting, with limited activity in surveillance and monitoring when practicable.
- c. Establish and renew contacts with other agencies for coordination of water quality management activities.
- d. Determine laboratory needs for each forthcoming FY that can most effectively be met by WES.
- e. Include consideration for water quality management activities in resource allocations and budget requests.
- f. Develop and program for water quality activities at dredging sites.
- g. Submit two copies of the Annual Water Quality Report to this Division, ATTN: LMVED-WR by 1 September of each year.

FOR THE DIVISION ENGINEER:


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