CITY OF CHULA VISTA

Department of Engineering & Capital Projects

September 15, 2026

TO: All Developers, Contractors, and Subcontractors Working in the City of Chula Vista

SUBJECT: CITY OF CHULA VISTA CONSTRUCTION STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS DURING THE WET SEASON 2026-2027 (Wet Season Letter)

The purpose of this letter is to inform all construction projects that the "official" wet season begins on October 1, 2026, and continues through April 30, 2027. All projects are required to continuously implement and maintain Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion and sediment control and to prevent the discharge of pollutants and/or non-stormwater to the City of Chula Vista's stormwater conveyance systems, with additional provisions implemented during the wet season. These requirements are in place to protect public and environmental health and to comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. These requirements are included in one or more of the following documents:

- Your Land Development Permit and associated plans
- City of Chula Vista Grading Ordinance (Chapter 15.04 of the Chula Vista Municipal Code)
- City of Chula Vista Stormwater Management and Discharge Control Ordinance (Chapter 14.20 of the Chula Vista Municipal Code)
- City of Chula Vista BMP Design Manual
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance (Construction General Permit (CGP)), Order WQ 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002

During the wet season, you are required to fully implement all actions necessary to protect disturbed areas and prevent erosion and sedimentation. Slopes must be stabilized before October 1 or immediately upon completion of grading activities occurring between October 1 and April 30.

NOAA has indicated that El Niño is strengthening, with a greater than 90% chance of a very strong event during fall and winter 2026-2027. Although El Niño does not guarantee heavy rainfall, these conditions increase the need for heightened awareness and advanced preparation throughout this wet season. Closely monitor weather forecasts and anticipate storm conditions early enough to implement all necessary BMPs before rainfall begins. Confirm that erosion and sediment controls are properly installed, maintained, and ready for wet-weather conditions, and keep additional BMP materials available on site to address unexpected rainfall or changing conditions.

Implementing and maintaining appropriate BMPs is essential to prevent the discharge of pollutants and/or non-stormwater to the City's stormwater conveyance systems. For more information regarding BMPs, please see Appendix K of the City of Chula Vista BMP Design Manual. Additional BMPs may be required depending on site-specific conditions.

Where construction sites discharge to permanent structural BMPs, developers must, to the maximum extent practicable, prevent sediment or other pollutants from discharging to those BMPs. Permanent BMPs are not designed to handle excessive sediment or construction-related pollutants, and their performance may be impaired if such discharges occur.

A site, or portion of a site, is considered inactive if construction activities have ceased for 14 or more consecutive days. At any time of the year, inactive areas must be fully protected from erosion and discharges of sediment. If your construction project is wholly or partially inactive at this time, or an inactive period is expected, you may be required by the City to develop a Construction Site Stabilization Plan. This plan must be provided to City staff upon request.

The Construction Site Stabilization Plan must include:

1. Project name and a description of inactive or anticipated inactive areas
2. Description of the stage of work at which the project became inactive
3. Estimated duration of inactivity
4. Description of BMPs to stabilize inactive areas
5. A site plan illustrating inactive areas and all erosion, sediment, and non-stormwater BMPs to be implemented

Projects with CGP coverage must remain in compliance with permit requirements, including sampling and monitoring. All Permit Registration Documents (PRDs) shall be electronically filed as required through the State Water Board's Stormwater Multi-Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS) website. In addition, ensure that your Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is amended or revised by a Qualified SWPPP Developer and that the site's required self-inspections are conducted by a Qualified SWPPP Practitioner or Developer to demonstrate compliance with the CGP.

During the wet season, City of Chula Vista Building Inspectors, Public Works Inspectors, and Stormwater Management staff will continue to inspect construction sites for compliance with City stormwater regulations. Non-compliance with these regulations or this letter may result in enforcement action, including but not limited to Notices of Violation (NOVs), Stop Work Orders, and Civil Penalties of up to $10,000 per day per violation.

Thank you for your cooperation in complying with federal, state, and local laws and regulations during the 2026-2027 wet season. Should you have any questions concerning the above, please feel free to contact the Stormwater Management Section at stormwater@chulavistaca.gov.



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