

**Colorado Discharge Permit System (CDPS)**  
**NOTICE OF CEASING GENERAL PERMIT RENEWAL AND SETTING END DATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE  
EXTENSION**

**DRAFT STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH ACTIVE AND INACTIVE METAL MINING INDUSTRIAL  
ACTIVITY/STORMWATER DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH METAL MINING OPERATIONS AND MINE-WASTE  
REMEDIATION**  
**CDPS PERMIT NUMBER COR040000, Statewide**

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2022**

The Water Quality Control Division (division) is providing notification that it is rescinding the above referenced COR040000 general permit from the renewal process and no longer intends to renew this permit. The permit will remain administratively extended and current permittees will continue to have permit coverage under the general permit. **The division will work on developing new individual permits for those facilities still covered by COR040000, consistent with the Watershed (basin) permitting schedule.** For facilities that already have individual permits, the stormwater discharges covered under the certification will be incorporated into the individual permit. For facilities that do not have an individual permit, the division will convert permit coverage to an individual permit. Following this process, the division will terminate the administratively extended general permit for stormwater discharges associated with metal mining operation and mine-waste remediation (COR040000). The division estimates completion of this process by December 31, 2026.

**Note that with this notice it is no longer necessary to submit responsive comments on the draft general permit that were previously due by October 6, 2022.**

In the spring of 2022, the division notified its intent to renew this general permit to current permittees and interested parties. The division also provided notice at the April 2022 Permits Webinar. The division held a pre-public notice stakeholder meeting on June 2, 2022 to discuss the anticipated changes from the previous permit.

The general permit was subject to renewal as the permit term had expired. The general permit was administratively extended by the division on September 30, 2011. In 2021, the division ceased issuing new certifications under the existing COR040000 general permit ([see here](#)).

The general permit renewal process enables the division to complete the EPA-mandated routine review, which would include addressing existing errors in the general permit, adding clarity to the permit, and updating permit requirements to include new policies.

The draft renewal general permit and associated fact sheet were public noticed on July 1, 2022. Following review and consideration of the public comments, the division re-evaluated the appropriateness of a general permit for stormwater discharges from metal mining facilities, and decided instead to convert general permit certifications into individual permits that would each go through the public notice process. Part of this consideration was based on the small number of certifications under this general permit, the site specific nature of many metal mining facilities, and the complexity of comments received on the draft permit (many of which would not apply to the majority of the current facilities). In addition, the division received several public comments raising concerns about general permit certifications not being subject to the public notice process. Therefore, the division will not issue a renewal of this general permit.