ABSTRACT

Title: Stormwater BMP Technology Assessment Protocols – Preliminary Findings

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is developing effluent guidelines applicable to discharges of stormwater from new construction and land development activities. As part of the effluent guidelines development process, EPA conducted two interrelated assessments. First it conducted an evaluation of the environmental impacts attributable to the land development industry. Second it conducted a related assessment of the effectiveness of erosion and sediment controls, post construction stormwater BMPs and low-impact development practices to determine the ability of these practices to mitigate impacts attributable to construction and development activities which were identified in the first assessment.

This paper describes the protocols that were used to conduct the assessment of the effectiveness of the post construction BMP’s and summarizes the preliminary findings of the assessment. The effectiveness assessment was conducted for two broad categories. The first category evaluated the control strategies associated with various BMPs. These strategies include; flood control, peak discharge control, water quality control, multi-parameter control approaches and finally ecologically sustainable control approaches.

The second broad category evaluated individual BMPs. For each individual BMP it identified the control strategies that are incorporated in the BMP and results of analytical and field monitoring data.

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