

Extraordinary



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

NO.61

Lagos – 7th October, 2009

Vol.96

Government Notice No. 282

The following is published as Supplement to this Gazette:

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Printed and Published by The Federal Government Printer, Lagos, Nigeria

FGP 105/1020091/1,000 (OL 55)

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (ESTABLISHMENT) ACT, 2007**

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL (PERMITTING AND LICENSING SYSTEM)
REGULATIONS, 2009**



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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL (PERMITTING AND LICENSING SYSTEM) REGULATIONS 2009

In exercise of powers conferred on me by Section 34 of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (Establishment) Act 2007 and all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I, John Odey, Minister of Environment, hereby make the following Regulations --

30th September, 2009

1. The purpose of these Regulations is among others, to enable consistent application of Environmental Laws, Regulations and Standards in all sectors of the economy and geographical regions.

PART I – APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2. An application for a Permit shall be –
 - a) submitted in two paper copies along with an electronic version of commonly used word processing software as may be prescribed by the Agency.
 - b) Signed and dated by the Applicant; and
 - c) Delivered by hand or sent by registered mail or courier to the Agency;
3. An application for a Permit shall contain all the information specified in the appropriate Form relating to the specific Permit being applied for.
4. The Agency shall fix various fees which include –
 - a) application fees;
 - b) processing fees;
 - c) permit fees;
 - d) amendment fees;
 - e) renewal fees;
 - f) re-hearing fees;
 - g) appeal fees.
5. All applications shall be acknowledged by the Agency within seven working days of receipt.

6. The Agency may upon assessment of an application require the applicant to furnish, within a specified period, any additional information.
7. After due consideration of the application, the Agency may grant or refuse the issuance of a Permit.
8. The period between the acknowledgement of receipt of the application as specified in regulation 5 of these Regulations and the date on which the Agency notifies the applicant of its decision to approve or refuse the issuance of permit as the case may be, shall not exceed thirty working days.
9. Where an application is approved, the Agency shall inform the applicant of such approval and conditions of the permit.
10. If the Agency refuses the grant of a permit, it shall notify the applicant in writing stating the reasons for the decision.
11. The applicant shall have an opportunity to appeal to the Agency within twenty one working days from the date of receipt of such notification by the Agency.
12. The decision of the Agency on such appeal shall be communicated to the applicant within fourteen working days.

PART II – AMENDMENT AND RENEWAL OF PERMIT

13. The terms and conditions of a permit granted by the Agency may be amended –
 - a) on application by the holder for an amendment of the terms and conditions of the permit, stating the reasons for the required amendment.
 - b) Upon the Agency receiving a complaint from any person; and
 - c) On the Agency's own initiative.
14. Each application for an amendment made by a permit holder shall be accompanied by a receipt of payment of an amendment fee.
15. An application for amendment of permit shall be submitted with all relevant documents stating reasons for the required amendment to the initial permit and payment shall be made for –
 - a) application for amendment of permit;
 - b) processing fee for an amendment of permit; and
 - c) payment for amendment of permit.

16. An application for renewal of a permit granted by the Agency shall be made at least ninety days before the expiration of the permit and shall be in a form as specified by the Agency.
17. Each application for renewal shall be accompanied by a receipt of payment of renewal fee.
18. The procedure prescribed in Part I of these Regulations for grant of permit shall apply to renewal of permit.

PART III – SUSPENSION AND CANCELLATION OF PERMIT

19. The Agency may on its own initiative or upon receiving a complaint or information from any person, initiate an inquiry into the conduct or activities of any permit holder.
20. The Agency, if satisfied in her own opinion that enough grounds exist which may warrant the suspension of a permit, may suspend a permit on the grounds that –
 - a) the permit holder is unable to fully discharge the functions or perform the duties imposed on it by the terms and conditions of its permit and other applicable legislations, Rules and Regulations;
 - b) the permit holder has defaulted in complying with any order or direction issued by the Agency;
 - c) the permit holder is carrying out its Permit business in a form and manner which constitutes an immediate threat to public health and safety or ecosystem integrity;
 - d) the permit holder refuses to submit itself to investigations or inquiry by the Agency or obstructs any officer assigned to do so, or fails to produce documents for inspection purposes as directed by the Agency; or
 - e) any other circumstance exists which renders it necessary in the public interest to suspend the permit.
21. Where the Agency decides to suspend a permit, it shall notify the permit holder in writing stating reasons for the suspension.
22. Where the permit holder chooses to make a representation or rectification of the grounds that gave rise to the suspension of the permit; it shall make its representation or rectification within twenty one working days from the date of its receipt of the Agency's letter informing it of the grounds upon which the Agency has suspended its permit.
23. The Agency shall take into cognizance the representation made by the permit holder in making a decision and such decision shall be communicated to the permit holder in writing.

24. If the Agency suspends a permit, it shall notify the permit holder of the date on which the suspension shall take effect and the Agency may make orders regarding the suspension of such permit.
25. The Agency may, within twenty one working days after the imposition of the suspension order, review such order and either cancel the permit in accordance with provisions of these Regulations or lift the suspension of the permit and restore the undertaking to the permit holder.
26. The Agency may on its own initiative or upon receiving a complaint or information from any quarters, initiate an inquiry into the conduct or activities of any Permit Holder.
27. The Agency shall cancel a permit if it is satisfied that the Permit –
 - a) was issued through fraud or the misrepresentation or non-disclosure of a material fact;
 - b) holder has willfully or unreasonably contravened any provision of the Act that is applicable to the permit holder;
 - c) holder has failed to comply with any term or condition of the permit the breach of which is expressly declared to render it liable to cancellation;
 - d) holder has become insolvent or adjudged bankrupt;
 - e) Holder is unable to fully and efficiently discharge the duties and obligations imposed by the permit; and
 - f) Holder has altered or transferred the permit.
28. The Agency, if satisfied that enough grounds exist for the cancellation of the permit, shall give notice of proceedings for the cancellation to the permit holder and to such other persons, group of persons or body as it may consider necessary.
29. The proceedings by the Agency on the cancellation of the permit, shall be in the manner prescribed by the Agency –
 - a) the Agency shall notify the permit holder in writing of its intention to cancel the permit and the reasons for doing so; and
 - b) the permit holder shall be given the opportunity to demonstrate, within twenty one working days of the delivery of such notification, that the circumstances have changed such that the cancellation may no longer be necessary.

30. The Agency may instead of cancelling the permit, make an order imposing further terms and conditions subject to which the permit holder is allowed to operate thereafter.
31. Where the Agency decides to cancel the permit, the Agency shall notify the Permit holder specifying the effective date of the cancellation.
32. The Agency may upon the cancellation of a permit, make an order in regard to the undertaking of the permit holder, as are in the opinion of the Agency necessary for public health and safety, as well as for ecosystem integrity.

PART IV – RE-HEARING AND APPEALS

33. Any person who is dissatisfied by any decision of the Agency may apply to the Director-General for a review, rehearing or appeal on such decision.
34. The Agency shall, in accordance with its Rules of Proceedings re-affirm, reconsider, vary or rescind its decision before issuing a final order.
35. Such review or reconsideration shall be completed within thirty working days from the date of application for such request.
36. An application for re-hearing or appeal regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit may be withdrawn in writing by an applicant at any stage.
37. An Application for re-hearing or appeal regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit which has been withdrawn cannot be reactivated; such an application may, however be submitted as a new application for review, re-hearing or appeal regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit, with all the necessary fees paid which includes –
 - a) application fees for re-hearing regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit;
 - b) processing fees for application for re-hearing regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit;
 - c) re-hearing fees regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit;
 - d) application fees for appeal regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit;
 - e) processing fees for the application for appeal regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit;
 - f) appeal fees regarding the suspension or cancellation of a permit.
38. The applicant may, however re-apply as a new applicant.
39. In these Regulations –

“Act” means the National environmental Standards and Regulations enforcement Agency (Establishment) Act, 2007.

“Agency” means National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency established under section 1 of the Act;

“Applicant” includes an individual, a company, partnership or any association of individuals who submits application to the Agency;

“Application” means a request for the issuance of a permit, or an amendment of a permit under these Regulations;

“Director-General” means the Director-General of the National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency;

“Facility” means industry, factory or any physical set up or equipment for manufacturing, production and processing, including treatment plants.

40. These Regulations may be cited as the National Environmental (Permitting and Licensing System) Regulations, 2009.

SCHEDULE

APPLICATION FOR EFFLUENT DISCHARGE PERMIT

1.0 PARTICULARS OF APPLICANT

1.1 Names, Physical and Postal Address of Applicant

- a) Name
- b) Physical Address
.....
- c) Postal Address
.....
- d) Telephone (land line)
- e) Fax
- f) Mobile Phone
- g) E-mail
- h) Website

1.2 Name and details of Contact Person

- a) Name
- b) Physical Address
.....
- c) Postal Address
.....
- d) Telephone (land line)
- e) Fax
- f) Mobile Phone
- g) E-mail
- h) Website

2.0 LEGAL STATUS OF ORGANISATION AND NATURE OF BUSINESS

2.1 Indicate Legal Status of Organization (Tick relevant option)

- Sole Proprietorship
- Partnership
- Public Limited Liability Company
- Private Limited Company
- Others (please specify)

(Attach Certificate of Registration, Certificate of Incorporation, Memorandum and Articles of Associations, Deed of Partnership, Deed of Trust, as applicable)

2.2 Nature of Business

State nature of business and type of products or services produced or rendered by organization.

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3.0 TYPE AND NATURE OF PERMIT REQUIRED

3.1 State the type of permit required

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3.1 State whether application is fresh, for renewal or amendment.

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3.2 State whether organization has an existing permit issued by the Agency.

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3.3 If answer to 3.2 is yes, state the nature of the permit, the date of issue and license number.

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3.4 Does the organization own more than ten (10 per cent) shareholding in another entity that has applied for permit or has been granted license by the Agency?

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3.5 If the answer to 3.4 is yes, state the name of the entity, the nature of business, the nature of applied for permit or has been granted license by the Agency?

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3.6 Has the Applicant ever been denied a license or has its permit ever been suspended or revoked by the Agency?

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3.7 If answer to 3.6 is yes, give details of the denial, suspension or revocation.

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4.0 TECHNICAL CAPACITY AND MANAGERIAL EXPERIENCE

4.1 Provide detailed statement of Applicant's technical competence and experience with regard to the permit applied for.

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4.2 Provide detailed statement of Applicant's managerial competence and experience with regard to the permit applied for.

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4.3 Describe any technical or financial support from internal and external sources with regard to the permit applied for (if any).

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4.4 State the name and brief resume of the Agency's accredited consultant(s) or contractor(s) involved in pollution control programmes in your organization (attach details if possible).

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4.5 State the number, qualifications and experience of staff involved with pollution control programmes at the facility.

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5.0 NATURE OF OPERATIONS IN THE FACILITY

5.1 Describe plant facilities and production figures (please attach engineering drawings and layout of factory and process line).

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5.2 State results of quantitative and qualitative sampling of liquid and gaseous effluents from the facility for at least the past one year (if available)

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5.3 List all the toxic substances used or manufactured on the site.

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5.4 Describe pollution abatement or monitoring facilities on site (including details year of installation, capacity, etc.)

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5.5 List all chemicals in use at the facility (no trade names).

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5.6 List all intermediates and final products at facility, including details of storage conditions(s).

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5.7 State the distance and specific location of facility from residential areas, other sensitive ecosystems such as freshwater bodies and vegetation (attach map), and other existing industries (include name of such industries).

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5.8 State effluents characteristics, discharge (outfall) locations, and possible compliance monitoring and inspection points (attach illustration).

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5.9 Describe in detail the waste disposal methods available at the facility.

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5.10 State any safety or contingency plant(s) operational at the facility (attach details).

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5.11 Provide any other relevant information that could support and facilitate the processing of your application (attach details if necessary).

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(Attach an environmental Impact Assessment Report if the application is for a new facility)

6.0 DECLARATION BY THE APPLICANT

(Notary Public or Commission of Oaths' Seal and Attestation required)

I/we hereby declare that the details stated above are, to the best of my/our knowledge, true and correct.

Dated this day of200.....

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE WITHIN NAMED APPLICANT

.....

Has hereunto been affixed in the presence of:

Sign

Sign.....

Name:

Name:

Director-General or CEO

Secretary

Sworn to this Day of200 at

BEFORE ME

.....

Notary Public or Commissioner of Oaths

For Official Use Only

1.0 Date of submission of application

2.0 Fees paid and receipt Processing Fee.....

3.0 Results of verification for competence

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4.0 Recommendation by In-house Committee

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5.0 Decision or Approval by the Director-General:

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6.0 Issue Date of Permit

7.0 Expiry Date of Permit

8.0 Permit Number

9.0 Other Relevant Information

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Dated at Abuja this 30th day of September, 2009

Mr. John Odey,
Honourable Minister
Ministry of Environment