

**TITLE 252. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHAPTER 656. WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION
STANDARDS**

RULEMAKING ACTION:

Notice of proposed PERMANENT rulemaking

PROPOSED RULES:

Subchapter 3. Permit Procedures

252:656-3-1 [AMENDED]

252:656-3-2 [AMENDED]

252:656-3-4 [AMENDED]

Subchapter 11. Lagoon Standards

252:656-11-2 [AMENDED]

Subchapter 13. Preliminary Treatment Standards

252:656-13-2 [AMENDED]

252:656-13-4 [AMENDED]

Subchapter 16. Biological Treatment Standards

252:656-16-1 [AMENDED]

252:656-16-3 [AMENDED]

Subchapter 17. Clarifier Standards

252:656-17-2 [AMENDED]

Subchapter 27. Water Reuse

252:656-27-1 [AMENDED]

SUMMARY:

The gist of this rule and the underlying reason for the rulemaking is to allow electronic submittal of plans and specifications and engineering reports; update references to Metcalf & Eddy; update Vortex-type grit chamber detention times language to allow other designs that may be authorized with engineering justification; update wet weather flow equalization basin construction to require wet weather Flow Equalization Basins (FEBs) be located with the same requirements as lagoons to provide for groundwater protection; update return sludge piping language to specify that 4-inch piping is a minimum requirement; and, specify that Category 6 reclaimed water must be drawn from the effluent of the final treatment process unit, with the intake located within or immediately downstream of the disinfection unit where disinfection is provided.

AUTHORITY:

Environmental Quality Board; 27A O.S. §§ 2-2-101, 2-6-103, and 2-6-203.

Water Quality Management Advisory Council; 27A O.S. § 2-2-201.

COMMENT PERIOD:

Written comments may be submitted to the contact person from October 15, 2025, through December 2, 2025. Oral comments may be made at the Water Quality Management Advisory Council meeting on December 2, 2025, and at the Environmental Quality Board meeting on January 21, 2026.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Before the Water Quality Management Advisory Council on December 2, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at the Department of Environmental Quality offices, First Floor, 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. If the Council recommends adoption, the proposed rules will be considered by the Environmental Quality Board at its meeting scheduled on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at the DEQ Headquarters, First Floor, 707 N. Robinson Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102.

REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS ENTITIES:

DEQ requests that business entities or any other members of the public affected by these rules provide to DEQ (during the comment period) the increase (in dollar amounts if possible) in the level of direct costs (e.g., fees) and indirect costs (e.g., reporting, record keeping, equipment, construction, labor, professional services, revenue loss), or other costs expected to be incurred due to compliance with the proposed rules.

COPIES OF PROPOSED RULES:

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained from the contact person, reviewed at the Department of Environmental Quality, 707 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, during normal business hours (8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday) or reviewed online at <https://oklahoma.gov/deq/divisions/executive-offices/office-of-communication-and-education/events/2025/december/wqmac-dec-2025.html>.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

Copies of the rule impact statement may be obtained from the contact person or may be reviewed online at <https://oklahoma.gov/deq/divisions/executive-offices/office-of-communication-and-education/events/2025/december/wqmac-dec-2025.html>.

CONTACT PERSON:

Brian Clagg, Water Quality Division, 707 N. Robinson, P.O. Box 1677, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677, email brian.clagg@deq.ok.gov, phone (405) 702-8100, or fax (405) 702-8101.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

Persons with disabilities who desire to attend the rulemaking hearing and need an accommodation should notify the contact person three (3) days in advance of the hearing. For hearing impaired, the TDD relay number is 1-800-522-8506 or 1-800-722-0353, for TDD machine use only.