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| **QUESTION** | **Application** |
| **SS6.1** | Is Straw Mulch applied as required? |
| **CGP, Attachment C.D.2, D.D.2, E.D.2** | Risk Level 1, 2 and 3 dischargers shall provide effective soil cover for inactive1 areas and all finished slopes, open space, utility backfill, and completed lots.  1 Inactive areas of construction are areas of construction activity that have been disturbed and are not scheduled to be re-disturbed for at least 14 days. |
| **CGP, Attachment D.E.3, E.E.3** | Risk Level 2 and 3 dischargers shall implement appropriate erosion control BMPs (runoff control and soil stabilization) in conjunction with sediment control BMPs for areas under active2 construction.  2 Active areas of construction are areas undergoing land surface disturbance. This includes construction activity during the preliminary stage, mass grading stage, streets and utilities stage and the vertical construction stage. |
| **13-1.03A General** | Install soil stabilization materials for water pollution control practices in all work areas that are inactive or before storm events. |
| **SPECs, 13-5.03A General** | Apply temporary soil stabilization materials within 24 hours after an area is ready to receive temporary soil stabilization or before a forecasted storm event. |

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|  | **Installation** |
| **SS6.2** | Is Straw Mulch installed properly? |
| **SPECs, 13-5.03A General** | Do not use hydraulically-applied materials under the following conditions:  1. During precipitation 2. Whenever water is standing on or moving across the soil surface 3. Soil is frozen  4. Air temperature is below 40 degrees F during the tackifier's curing period unless allowed by the tackifier manufacturer and authorized |
| **SPECs, 21-1.03H Straw** | Apply straw by spreading it uniformly without clumping or piling at the rates shown, based upon slope measurements. Once straw work is started in an area, apply all materials for that area in the same working day. |
| **SPECs, 13-5.03H Temporary Tacked Straw** | If rates are not shown, apply temporary tacked straw at the following rate:  1. Straw at 2.0 tons/acre 2. Fiber at 2,000 lb/acre 3. Tackifier under the manufacturer's instructions for the slope, soil, and wind conditions |

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|  | **Materials** |
| **SS6.3** | Does Straw Mulch consist of the proper materials? |
| **SPECs, 13-5.03H Temporary Tacked Straw** | Fiber for temporary tacked straw must be at least 50 percent wood fiber. The remaining percentage must be cellulose fiber, alternate fiber, or a combination. |
| **SPECs, 21-1.02I Straw** | Straw must be stalks from wheat, rice, or barley furnished in air-dry condition with a consistency compatible for application with commercial straw-blowing equipment. Wheat and barley straw must be derived from irrigated crops.  Straw must be free of plastic, glass, metal, rocks, and refuse or other deleterious material.  Straw must have not have been used for stable bedding. |
| **SPECs, 21-1.02F(1) Tackifier, General** | Tackifier must be (1) free from growth or germination inhibiting factors, (2) nonflammable, (3) nontoxic to aquatic organisms, and (4) functional for a minimum of 180 days.  General purpose tackifier may be either a plant based product or a polymeric emulsion blend as follows:  1. Plant based tackifier must be a natural high molecular weight polysaccharide, a high viscosity hydrocolloid that is miscible in water, and labeled as either guar, psyllium, or starch, as follows:  1.1. Guar gum based product must be derived from the ground endosperm of the guar plant, Cyanmopsis tetragonolobus. It must be treated with dispersing agents for easy mixing. It must be able to be diluted at the rate of 1 to 5 pounds per 100 gallons of water.  1.2. Psyllium based product must be manufactured from the finely ground, mucilloid coating of Plantago ovata or Plantago ispaghula seeds and able to dry and form a firm but rewettable membrane.  1.3. Starch based product must be a nonionic, water-soluble, granular material derived from corn, potato, or other plant-based source.  2. Polymeric emulsion blend tackifier must be a prepackaged liquid or dry powder, anionic formulation with a residual monomer content not exceeding 0.05 percent by weight. The tackifier must contain and be labeled with one of the following as the primary active ingredients:  2.1. Acrylic copolymers and polymers. 2.2. Polymers of methacrylates and acrylates. 2.3. Copolymers of sodium acrylates and acrylamides.  2.4. Polyacrylamide and copolymer of acrylamide. 2.5. Hydrocolloid polymers. |

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|  | **Maintenance** | |
| **SS6.4** | Is Straw Mulch maintained properly? | |
| **CGP, Order IV.E Proper Operations and Maintenance** | The discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain any facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with the conditions of this General Permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. Proper operation and maintenance may require the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems installed by a discharger when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this General Permit. |