

CHAPTER 7

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES: COASTAL PERMIT PROGRAM RULES

Authority

N.J.S.A. 12:5-1 et seq., 13:1D-1 et seq., 13:9A-1 et seq., 13:9B-1 et seq., and 13:19-1 et seq.

Source and Effective Date

R.1994 d.378, effective June 24, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date

The expiration date of Chapter 7, Division of Coastal Resources: Coastal Permit Program Rules, was extended by gubernatorial directive from June 24, 1999 to June 24, 2000. See: 31 N.J.R. 1923(a).

Chapter Historical Note

Originally, subchapter one of this chapter contained rules on Riparian Grants and Leases, which were adopted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 12:7-1 et seq. On October 7, 1980, R.1980 d.433 repealed this text. See: 12 N.J.R. 454(b), 12 N.J.R. 643(a). On August 26, 1980 rules concerning Waterfront Development Permits were adopted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 12:5-3 and 13:10-9 and filed as R.1980 d.375. This text was codified at subchapter two and became operative on September 26, 1980. See: 12 N.J.R. 252(a), 12 N.J.R. 576(a). Subsequently, amendments to this subchapter were filed as R.1981 d.355, effective July 9, 1981. See: 13 N.J.R. 73(c), 13 N.J.R. 401(b). On May 7, 1984 subchapter two was repealed by R.1984 d.164. See: 16 N.J.R. 1073(a). The chapter was substantially amended effective May 18, 1987 as R.1987 d.217. See: 18 N.J.R. 2056(a), 19 N.J.R. 861(b).

The current Coastal Permit Program Rules are based on the CAFRA rules formerly found at N.J.A.C. 7:7D and include elements of the repealed Waterfront Development Permit rules (N.J.A.C. 7:7-2) and Wetlands Management rules (N.J.A.C. 7:7A-1). The wetlands maps listed at N.J.A.C. 7:7-2.2(c) were recodified from N.J.A.C. 7:7A-1.13. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 7 was readopted as R.1989 d.309, effective May 12, 1989 (operative June 5, 1989). See: 21 N.J.R. 369(a), 21 N.J.R. 1526(a). Public Notice: Notice of Routine Program Implementation. See: 25 N.J.R. 1010(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 7 was readopted as R.1994 d.276 effective May 10, 1994. See: 26 N.J.R. 917(a), 26 N.J.R. 2413(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 7 was readopted as R.1994 d.378. See: Source and Effective Date: Subchapter 7, General Permits and Permits-By-Rule, was adopted as part of R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994. See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a). See, also, section annotations.

Notice of Routine Program Change. See: 30 N.J.R. 2087(a), 30 N.J.R. 2780(b), 30 N.J.R. 4284(a).

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SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

7:7-1.1 Purpose and scope

(a) This chapter establishes the procedures by which the Department of Environmental Protection will review permit applications and appeals from permit decisions under the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA, N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq.), the Wetlands Act of 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:9A-1 et seq.) and the Waterfront Development Law (N.J.S.A. 12:5-3). These procedures also govern the reviews of Federal Consistency Determinations issued pursuant to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq., and Water Quality Certificates issued pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., when the approvals are sought in conjunction with any of the foregoing permit applications.

(b) The following types of activities are regulated under each of these laws:

1. CAFRA: The construction of any development defined in Section 3 of the Act (N.J.S.A. 13:19-3) or in N.J.A.C. 7:7-2.1, within the coastal area described in Section 4 of the Act (N.J.S.A. 13:19-4).

2. Wetlands Act of 1970: The draining, dredging, excavation, or deposition of material, and the erection of any structure, driving of pilings or placing of obstructions in any coastal wetlands which have been mapped or delineated pursuant to the Wetlands Act of 1970. A list of these maps and a full list of regulated activities appears in N.J.A.C. 7:7-2.2.

3. Waterfront Development Law: The filling or dredging of, or placement or construction of structures, pilings or other obstructions in any tidal waterway, or in certain upland areas adjacent to tidal waterways outside the area regulated under CAFRA. These requirements are fully explained in N.J.A.C. 7:7-2.3.

Amended by R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

Case Notes

Validity. In re Loveladies Harbor, Inc., 176 N.J.Super. 69, 422 A.2d 107 (App.Div.1980), certification denied 85 N.J. 501, 427 A.2d 588 (1981).

Regulated activity without permit prior to promulgated order. Loveladies Prop. Owners Ass'n v. Raab, 137 N.J.Super. 179, 348 A.2d 540 (App.Div.1975).

Power of D.E.P. to regulate use of marshes and wetlands. Sands Point Harbor, Inc. v. Sullivan, 136 N.J.Super. 436, 346 A.2d 612 (App.Div.1975).

7:7-1.2 (Reserved)

Repealed, R.1987 d.217, effective May 18, 1987.
See: 18 N.J.R. 2156(a), 19 N.J.R. 861(b).
This section "Authority" was repealed.

7:7-1.3 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Beach" means a gently sloping area of sand or other unconsolidated material found on tidal shorelines, including ocean, inlet, bay and river shorelines, that extends landward from the mean high water line to either: the vegetation line; a man-made feature generally parallel to the ocean, inlet, bay or river waters such as a retaining structure, seawall, bulkhead, road or boardwalk, except that sandy areas that extend fully under and landward of an elevated boardwalk are considered to be beach areas; or the seaward or bayward foot of dunes, whichever is closest to the ocean, inlet, bay or river water.

"CAFRA" means the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq.).

"City of the fourth class" means a city as defined at N.J.S.A. 40A:6-4d which borders on the Atlantic Ocean and which is a seaside or summer resort.

"Coastal Permit" means a CAFRA, Wetlands or Waterfront Development Permit.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection or designated representative.

5. A water quality certificate not issued in conjunction with other State permits shall be effective for five years or for the original duration of the underlying Federal permit (without renewals), whichever is shorter.

(e) The Department may, after public notice, issue a general permit for activities which are substantially similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative environmental impacts. The process for issuance of General Permits and the process for authorizing various activities under the issued General Permits is detailed at N.J.A.C. 7:7-7.

Amended by R.1987 d.217, effective May 18, 1987.
See: 18 N.J.R. 2156(a), 19 N.J.R. 861(b).

Substantially amended.

Amended by R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

Case Notes

Permit granted while permit application was still pending was invalid. In re Waterfront Development Permit No. WD88-0443-1, Lincoln Harbor Final Development, Weehawken, Hudson County, 244 N.J.Super. 426, 582 A.2d 1018 (A.D.1990) certification denied 126 N.J. 320, 598 A.2d 880.

Conditional approval of construction permit for large scale development, permitting no construction until statutory standards satisfied, improper. (citing former N.J.A.C. 7:7D-2.5). *Crema v. Dept. of Environmental Protection*, 182 N.J.Super. 445, 442 A.2d 630 (App.Div. 1982), affirmed as modified 94 N.J. 286, 463 A.2d 910 (1983).

7:7-1.6 Provisional permits

(a) The Department may issue a provisional permit if it finds that the beginning of construction prior to the completion of the full permit review process is necessary to meet the regulatory or funding requirements of a Federal or State agency.

(b) The issuance of a provisional permit shall not exempt the permittee from any of the requirements of this chapter. A permit application must be submitted before a provisional permit can be issued, and all permit review procedures shall be complied with following issuance of the provisional permit.

Amended by R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

7:7-1.7 Emergency permit authorization

(a) The Department may issue an emergency permit authorization if it determines that there is an imminent threat to lives or property if regulated construction activities are not immediately commenced. Potential for severe environmental degradation will also constitute a basis for issuing an emergency permit authorization. The procedure for obtaining an emergency permit authorization is as follows:

1. The requesting party shall notify the Department's Bureau of Coastal and Land Use Enforcement by telephone of any situation which may constitute an imminent threat to lives, property or the environment. In response

to this notification, the Bureau of Coastal and Land Use Enforcement will inspect the subject site whenever feasible to determine the condition of the property, and the extent of the imminent threat. The determination of imminent threat will be made solely by the Department, based on the condition of the property at the time of inspection. The findings of the inspection will be provided to the Land Use Regulation Program, together with a recommendation regarding the request for emergency permit authorization.

2. The requesting party shall notify the Administrator of the Land Use Regulation Program, in writing, of the imminent threat, including details of the condition of existing structures, the vulnerability of people and/or property, or the imminent threat to the environment, and the proposed construction activities for which the emergency permit authorization is being sought. This written notification shall concurrently be provided to the Department's Bureau of Coastal and Land Use Enforcement.

3. The Land Use Regulation Program will make the final determination on the issuance of an emergency permit authorization. The emergency permit authorization may be oral or in writing. If oral authorization is given, the Department shall issue a subsequent written authorization within five working days. In the event that the construction activities deviate from those which have been approved by the oral or written emergency permit authorization, prior authorization of those deviations must be obtained from the Land Use Regulation Program. Any unauthorized deviation in construction from that which has been authorized will constitute a violation of this section, and may be cause for suspension and revocation of the authorization, and/or other enforcement actions.

4. Within 10 working days of the issuance of an emergency permit authorization, the property owner shall submit a complete coastal permit application to the Land Use Regulation Program. This application must include the standard application (CP-1) form, appropriate permit fee, construction plans, compliance statement, and public notice, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:7-4.2. Upon receipt and review of the permit application in accordance with these rules and the Rules on Coastal Zone Management, N.J.A.C. 7:7E, the Land Use Regulation Program shall issue a coastal permit, or permits, for the activities covered by the emergency permit authorization. This permit may contain conditions which must be satisfied by the permittee in accordance with the time frames established in the permit.

New Rule, R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

7:7-1.8 Procedure where more than one permit is required

(a) When a proposed development or project requires more than one coastal permit, the Department will require only one application, but that application must comply with

the requirements of each applicable permit program. This does not preclude an applicant from submitting separate applications if the timing or magnitude of a project requires it.

(b) The Department shall assess a single permit fee for a project which requires more than one of the following permits, if the permit applications are submitted and processed simultaneously: CAFRA permits; waterfront development permits; coastal wetlands permits; stream encroachment permits; or freshwater wetlands permits (including individuals permits, general permits, and transition area waivers) issued under N.J.A.C. 7:7A. The permit fee for the project shall be calculated in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:1C-1.5(c).

Amended by R.1993 d.111, effective March 1, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2768(a), 25 N.J.R. 924(a).

Deleted "... the highest of any ..." and added "calculated in accordance with ...".

Recodified from 7:7-1.7 and amended R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

7:7-1.9 Permit fees

Permit fees are established by the Department pursuant to the 90 Day Construction Permit Law (N.J.S.A. 13:1D-29 et seq.) and are published at N.J.A.C. 7:1C-1.5. The Department will maintain a printed fee schedule for public use.

Amended by R.1987 d.217, effective May 18, 1987.

See: 18 N.J.R. 2056(a), 19 N.J.R. 861(b).

Added text "(N.J.S.A. 13:1D-29 et seq.)".

Recodified from 7:7-1.8 and amended by R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

7:7-1.10 Construction

This chapter shall be liberally constructed to effectuate the purpose of the Acts under which it was adopted. The Department may, in its discretion and if consistent with statutory requirements, relax the application of any of the procedures contained in this chapter when necessary and in the public interest.

Recodified from 7:7-1.9 and amended by R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

Case Notes

Regulation authorizing relaxation of application of rules when necessary and in public interest allowed only waiver of procedural rules for Coastal Area Facility Review Act development permits and did not authorize Department of Environmental Protection to waive bay island corridor preservation policy incorporated into separate chapter. In re CAFRA Permit No. 87-0959-5 Issued to Gateway Associates, 290 N.J.Super. 498, 676 A.2d 161 (A.D.1996).

7:7-1.11 Severability

If any section, subsection, provision, clause or portion of this chapter is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this chapter shall not be affected thereby.

Recodified from 7:7-1.10 by R.1994 d.378, effective July 18, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 918(a), 26 N.J.R. 1561(a), 26 N.J.R. 2934(a).

SUBCHAPTER 2. ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A PERMIT IS REQUIRED

7:7-2.1 CAFRA

(a) A CAFRA permit shall be required for:

1. Any development located on a beach or dune;
2. A development located in the CAFRA area between the mean high water line of any tidal waters, or the landward limit of a beach or dune, whichever is most landward, and a point 150 feet landward of the mean high water line of any tidal waters or the landward limit of a beach or dune, whichever is most landward, that would result either solely or in conjunction with a previous development, in:
 - i. A development if there is no intervening development that is either completed or under active construction as of July 19, 1994 between the proposed site of the development and the mean high water line of any tidal waters;
 - ii. A residential development having three or more dwelling units if there is an intervening development that is either completed or under active construction as of July 19, 1994 between the proposed site of the development and the mean high water line of any tidal waters;
 - iii. A commercial development having five or more parking spaces or equivalent parking area if there is an intervening development that is either completed or under active construction as of July 19, 1994 between the proposed site of the development and the mean high water line of any tidal waters; or
 - iv. A public development or industrial development;
3. A development located in the CAFRA area between a point greater than 150 feet landward of the mean high water line or any tidal waters or the landward limit of a beach or dune, whichever is most landward, and a point 500 feet landward of the mean high water line of any tidal waters or the landward limit of a beach or dune, whichever is most landward, which is located within the boundaries of a municipality which meets the criteria of a "qualifying municipality" pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1978, c.14 (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-178), or which is located within the boundaries of a city of the fourth class with a population of over 30,000 persons according to the latest decennial census, that would result, either solely or in conjunction with a previous development, in:

- i. A residential development having 25 or more dwelling units;
- ii. A commercial development having 50 or more parking spaces or equivalent parking area; or

- iii. A public development or industrial development;

2. The timely implementation by the violator of measures leading to compliance not previously considered in the assessment of penalties pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:7-8.8 and 8.9, including measures to clean up, reverse or repair environmental damage caused by the violation, or to remove the violation;

3. The full payment by the violator of a specified part of the civil administrative penalty assessed if made within a time period established by the Department in an administrative order provided that the violator waives the right to request an adjudicatory hearing on the civil administrative penalty; and/or

4. Any other terms or conditions acceptable to the Department.

7:7-8.11 Procedures to request an adjudicatory hearing to contest an administrative order and/or a notice of civil administrative penalty assessment; procedures for conducting adjudicatory hearings for violations of N.J.S.A. 12:5-1 et seq. (Waterfront Development)

(a) To request an adjudicatory hearing to contest an administrative order and/or a notice of civil administrative penalty assessment issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 12:5-1 et seq., the violator shall submit the following information in writing to the Department at Office of Legal Affairs, ATTENTION: Adjudicatory Hearing Requests, Department of Environmental Protection, CN 402, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402:

1. The name, address, and telephone number of the violator and its authorized representative;
2. The violator's defenses to each of the findings of fact stated in short and plain terms;
3. An admission or denial of each of the findings of fact. If the violator is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of a finding, the violator shall so state and this shall have the effect of a denial. A denial shall fairly meet the substance of the findings denied. When the violator intends in good faith to deny only a part or a qualification of a finding, the violator shall specify so much of it as is true and material and deny only the remainder. The violator may not generally deny all of the findings but shall make all denials as specific denials of designated findings. For each finding the violator denies, the violator shall allege the fact or facts as the violator believes it or them to be;
4. Information supporting the request and specific reference to or copies of other written documents relied upon to support the request;
5. An estimate of the time required for the hearing (in days and/or hours); and
6. A request, if necessary, for a barrier-free hearing location for physically disabled persons.

(b) If the Department does not receive the written request for a hearing within 21 days after receipt by the violator of the notice of a civil administrative penalty assessment and/or an administrative order being challenged, the Department shall deny the hearing request.

(c) If the violator fails to include all the information required by (a) above, the Department may deny the hearing request.

(d) All adjudicatory hearings held pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Rules, N.J.A.C. 1:1.

7:7-8.12 Civil penalties for violations of N.J.S.A. 13:9A-1 et seq. (Wetlands Act of 1970)

(a) Any person who violates any order by the Department, or violates any provisions of N.J.S.A. 13:9A-1 et seq., shall be subject, upon order of a court, to a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000.

(b) Any penalty ordered as provided in this section may be imposed and collected with costs in a summary proceeding pursuant to the Penalty Enforcement Law, N.J.S.A. 2A:58-1 et seq. The Superior Court and the municipal court shall have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of the Penalty Enforcement Law in connection with N.J.S.A. 13:9A-1 et seq.

7:7-8.13 Civil actions for violations of N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq. (CAFRA), N.J.S.A. 12:5-1 et seq. (Waterfront Development), and N.J.S.A. 13:9A-1 et seq. (Wetlands Act of 1970)

(a) The Department may institute an action or proceeding in the Superior Court for injunctive and other relief, including the appointment of a receiver, for any violation of N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq., 13:9A-1 et seq. and 12:5-1 et seq. or any regulation, rule, permit, or order adopted or issued by the Department pursuant to any of these acts, and the court may proceed in the action in a summary manner. Such relief may include, singly or in combination:

1. A temporary or permanent injunction;
2. Assessment against the violator for any costs incurred by the Department in removing, correcting or terminating the violation of any provision of any of the acts, or any regulation or rule adopted, or permit or order issued, by the Department pursuant to any of these acts, for which the action under this section may have been brought; and/or
3. A requirement that the violator restore the site of the violation to the maximum extent practicable and feasible.

(b) For violations of N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq., the Department may institute an action or proceeding in the Superior

Court for the assessment against the violator for any costs incurred by the Department in terminating the adverse effects upon the land, or upon water or air quality, resulting from any violation of any provision of N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq., or any rule promulgated or any permit or order issued by the Department pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:19-1 et seq., for which the action under this section may have been brought.

7:7-8.14 Severability

If any provision of this subchapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications thereof, and to this end, the provisions of this subchapter are declared to be severable.

APPENDIX A

**Administrative Hearing Request Checklist
and Tracking Form for Permits**

I. Permit Being Appealed:

Title and Type of Permit	

Issuance Date of Permit	Permit Number
_____	_____

II. Person Requesting Hearing:

Name/Company	Name of Attorney (if applicable)
_____	_____

Address _____ Address of Attorney _____
III. Please Include the Following Information as Part of Your Request:

- A. The date the permittee received the final permit;
- B. A copy of permit, list of all permit conditions and issues contested;
- C. The legal and factual questions at issue;
- D. A statement as to whether or not the permittee raised each legal and factual issues during the public comment period on the permit;
- E. Suggested revised or alternative permit conditions;
- F. An estimate of the time required for the hearing;
- G. A request, if necessary, for a barrier-free hearing location for physically disabled persons;
- H. A clear indication of any willingness to negotiate a settlement with the Department prior to the Department's processing of your hearing request to the Office of Administrative Law; and
- I. This form, completed, signed and dated with all of the information listed above, including attachments, to:
 - 1. Office of Legal Affairs
ATTENTION: Adjudicatory Hearing Requests
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
CN 402
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402
 - 2. (Name and address of Assistant Director/designee)
 - 3. All co-permittees (w/attachments)

IV. Signature: _____ Date: _____

Amended by R.1995 d.550, effective October 16, 1995.
See: 27 N.J.R. 1005(a), 27 N.J.R. 3976(a).