Division I. General Regulations

Chapter 15.04

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15.04.010 In general.

- A. For purposes of this chapter, the following phrases and words shall have the meanings assigned below, except in the instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.
- B. Terms not otherwise defined in this chapter, if questioned, shall be as adopted in the latest edition of the "Standard Methods for the Examinations of Water and Wastewater," published by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association, and the Water Pollution Control Federation. (Prior code §40-1-5 (a) (part), (c))

15.04.020 Abbreviations.

The following abbreviations shall have the following meanings:

"BOD₅" means biochemical oxygen demand.

"BMP" means Best Management Practices.

"BMR" means Baseline Monitoring Report.

"CFR" means Code of Federal Regulations.

"CIU" means Categorical Industrial User.

"COD" means chemical oxygen demand.

"EPA" means U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"FOG" means Fats, Oils and Grease.

"FSE" means Food Service Establishment.

"GMP" means Good Management Practices.

"gpd" means gallons per day.

"IU" means Industrial User.

"I" means liter.

"MBAS" means methylene-blue-active substances.

"mg" means milligram.

"mg/l" means milligrams per liter.

"NPDES" means National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

"NSCIU" means Non-Significant Categorical Industrial User.

"POTW" means Publicly Owned Treatment Works.

"RCRA" means Resource Conservation and Recovery Δ_{Cf}

"SIC" means Standard Industrial Classification.

"SIU" means Significant Industrial User.

"SNC" means Significant Noncompliance.

"SWDA" means Solid Waste Disposal Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.

"TSS" means Total Suspended Solids.

"U.S.C." means United States Code. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (b))

15.04.030 Act or the Act

"Act" or "the Act" means the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(1))

15.04.035 Antifreeze.

"Antifreeze" means Antifreeze and antifreeze mixtures which contain glycolic compounds that are typically toxic and may have excessively high BOD₅ and metals.

15.04.040 Approval authority.

"Approval authority" means the Tennessee Division of Water Pollution Control Director or his/her Representative(s). (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(2))

15.04.050 Authority.

"Authority" or "Hearing Authority" means Wastewater Hearing Authority. (Ord. 97-729 § 2, 1997; prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(3))

15.04.060 Authorized representative of industrial user.

An authorized representative of an industrial user may be:

- A. The president, secretary, treasurer, or a vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions for the corporation, if the industrial user is a corporation;
- B. A general partner or proprietor if the industrial user is a partnership or proprietorship, respectively;
- C. If the industrial user is a Federal, State, or local governmental facility: a director or highest official appointed or designated to oversee the operation and performance of the activities of the governmental facility, or their designee;
- D. or the individuals described in A through C, above, may designate a duly authorized representative if the authorization is in writing, the authorization specifies the individual or position responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge originates or having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company, and the written authorization is submitted to Metro Department of Water and Sewerage Services. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(4))

15.04.065 Best Management Practices or **BMPs** means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to implement the prohibitions listed in 15.60.080 or Tennessee Rule 1200-4-14-.05(1)(a) and

(2). BMPs include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw materials storage. Also, BMPs include alternative means (i.e. management plans) of complying with, or in place of certain established categorical Pretreatment Standards and effluent limits.

15.04.070 Building sewer.

"Building sewer" means a sewer conveying wastewater from the premises of a user to a community sewer. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(5))

15.04.080 Categorical Pretreatment Standards.

"Categorical Pretreatment Standards" means any regulation containing pollutant discharge limits promulgated by EPA in accordance with sections 307(b) and (c) of the Act (33 U.S.C. section 1317) that apply to a specific category of users that appear in 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter N, Parts 405-471. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(6))

15.04.085 Categorical Industrial User.

"Categorical Industrial User" means an industrial user subject to a categorical Pretreatment Standard or Categorical Standard.

15.04.090 Community sewer.

"Community sewer" means any sewer containing wastewater from more than one premise. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(7))

15.04.100 Compatible pollutant.

"Compatible pollutant" means biochemical oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, ammonia, pH and fecal coliform bacteria, oil and grease; plus any additional pollutants identified in the publicly owned treatment work's NPDES permit, for which the publicly owned treatment works is designed to treat such pollutants and in fact does remove such pollutants to a substantial degree. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(8))

15.04.110 Control Authority.

The term "Control Authority" shall refer the Director of the Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services, or their authorized representative. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(9))

15.04.115 Daily Maximum.

"Daily Maximum" means the arithmetic average of all effluent samples for a pollutant (except pH) collected

during a calendar day.

15.04.120 Direct discharge.

"Direct discharge" means the discharge of treated or untreated wastewater directly to the waters of the state of Tennessee. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(10))

15.04.130 Director.

"Director" means the Director of the Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services or the person designated by the Director to supervise the operation at the POTW, and who is charged with certain duties and responsibilities by this title. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(1 1))

15.04.140 Domestic sewage.

"Domestic sewage" means wastewater or sewage having the same general characteristics as that originating in places used exclusively as a single-family residence. Strength of the compatible pollutants in domestic sewage shall not exceed the following:

BOD5	300 mg/l
COD	500 mg/l
Suspended solids	325 mg/l
Ammonia nitrogen	30 mg/l
pH	6.0—9.0 S.U.
Oil and grease	50 mg/l
(Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(12))	

15.04.150 Environmental Protection Agency.

"Environmental Protection Agency" or "EPA" means the Environmental Protection Agency, an agency of the United States, or where appropriate the term may also be used as a designation for the administrator or other duly authorized official of such agency. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(13))

15.04.155 Existing Source.

"Existing source" means any source of discharge that is not a "New Source".

15.04.158 Food Service Establishment.

"Food Service Establishment" means an Establishment engaged in production/clean-up of non-residential food and/or drink. Any building, vehicle, place, or structure, or any room or division in a building, vehicle, place, or structure where food is prepared, served, or sold for immediate consumption on or in the vicinity of the premises; called for or taken out by customers; or prepared prior to being delivered to another location for consumption.

15.04.160 Grab sample.

"Grab sample" means a sample which is taken from a waste stream without regard to the flow in the waste stream and over a period of time not to exceed 15 minutes. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(14))

15.04.170 Holding tank waste.

"Holding tank waste" means any waste from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, septic tanks and vacuum-pump tank trucks. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(15))

15.04.180 Incompatible pollutant.

"Incompatible pollutant" means all pollutants other than compatible pollutants as defined in Section 15.04.100 of this chapter. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(16)).

15.04.190 Indirect discharge.

"Indirect discharge" means the discharge or the introduction of nondomestic pollutants from any source regulated under Section 307(b) or (c) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1317), into the POTW (including holding tank waste discharged into the system) for treatment before direct discharge to the waters of the state. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(17))

15.04.200 Industrial user.

"Industrial user" means a source of indirect discharge which does not constitute a "discharge of pollutants" under regulations issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act. This term shall also include all dischargers of wastes having characteristics other than those of "domestic sewage" as defined in Section 15.04.140. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(18))

15.04.210 Interference.

"Interference" means a discharge that, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, inhibits or disrupts the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal; or exceeds the design capacity of the treatment works or collection system; or contributes to a violation of any requirement of Metro's NPDES permit. The term includes prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal by the POTW in accordance with Section 405 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1345) or any criteria, guidelines or regulations developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or more stringent state criteria (including those contained in any state sludge management plan prepared pursuant to Title IV of SWDA) applicable to the method of disposal or use employed by the POTW. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(19))

15.04.215 Instantaneous Limit.

"Instantaneous Limit" means the maximum concentration of a pollutant allowed to be discharged at any time, determined from the analysis of any grab or composited sample collected, independent of the industrial flow rate and the duration of the sampling event.

15.04.217 Local Limit.

"Local Limit" refers to specific discharge limits developed and enforced by Metro upon industrial and commercial facilities to implement the general and specific discharge prohibitions listed in Tennessee Rule 1200-4-14-.05(1)(a) and (2).

15.04.220 Mass emission rate.

"Mass emission rate" means the weight of material discharged to the community sewer system during a given time interval. Unless otherwise specified, the mass emission rate shall mean pounds per day of the particular constituent or combination of constituents. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(20))

15.04.230 Maximum concentration.

"Maximum concentration" means the maximum amount of a specified pollutant in a volume of water or wastewater. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(21))

15.04.235 Medical Waste.

"Medical Waste" means Isolation wastes, infectious agents, human blood and blood products, pathological wastes, sharps, body parts, contaminated bedding, surgical wastes, potentially contaminated laboratory wastes, and dialysis wastes.

15.04.240 Metro.

"Metro" means the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee. (Prior code § 40-1 - 5 (a)(22))

15.04.245 Monthly Average

"Monthly Average" means the sum of all "daily discharges" measured during a calendar month divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during that month.

15.04.248 Multi-Dwelling Unit

A commercial or residential building with multiple offices or apartments.

15.04.248 Municipal User

A municipality, city, utility district, town or county which is provides wastewater services through a contract with the Metropolitan Department of Water and Sewerage Services.

15.04.250 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit.

"National Pollution Discharge Elimination System or NPDES permit" means a permit issued to a POTW pursuant to Section 402 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1342). (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(25))

15.04.260 National pretreatment standards.

"National pretreatment standards" or "pretreatment standard" means any regulation containing pollutant discharge limits promulgated by the EPA in accordance with Section 307(b) and (c) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1347) which applies to industrial users (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(23)) as well as any applicable local limits as defined in 15.04.217.

15.04.270 New source.

"New source" means:

- A. Any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is (or may be) a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced after the publication of proposed Pretreatment Standards under Section 307(c) of the Act that will be applicable to such source if such Standards are thereafter promulgated in accordance with that section, provided that:
 - 1. The building, structure, facility, or installation is constructed at a site at which no other source is located; or
 - 2. The building, structure, facility, or installation totally replaces the process or production equipment that causes the discharge of pollutants at an Existing Source; or
 - 3. The production or wastewater generating processes of the building, structure, facility, or installation are substantially independent of an Existing Source at the same site. In determining whether these are substantially independent, factors such as the extent to which the new facility is integrated with the existing plant, and the extent to which the new facility is engaged in the same general type of activity as the Existing Source, should be considered.
- B. Construction on a site at which an Existing Source is located results in a modification rather than a New Source if the construction does not create a new building, structure, facility or installation meeting the criteria of Section (1)(b) or (c) above but otherwise alters, replaces, or adds to existing process or production equipment.
- C. Construction of a New Source as defined by

under this paragraph has commenced if the owner or operator has:

Begun, or caused to begin, as part of a 1. continuous onsite construction program: (i)any placement, assembly, or installation of facilities or equipment; or (ii) significant site preparation work including clearing, excavation, or removal of existing buildings, structures, or facilities which is necessary for the placement, assembly, or installation of new source facilities or equipment; or Entered into a binding contractual obligation for the purchase of facilities or equipment which are intended to be used in its operation within a reasonable time. Options to purchase or contracts which can be terminated or modified without substantial loss, and contracts for feasibility, engineering, and design studies do not constitute a

contractual obligation under this paragraph.(Prior

15.04.275 Non-contact Cooling Water.

code § 40- 1-5 (a)(24))

"Non-contact Cooling Water" means water used for cooling that does not come into direct contact with any raw material, intermediate product, waste product, or finished product.

15.04.278 Pass Through.

"Pass Through" means a discharge which exits the POTW into waters of the United States in quantities or concentrations which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of Metro's NPDES permit, including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation.

15.04.280 Person.

"Person" means any and all persons, including individuals, partnerships, co-partnerships, firms, companies, public or private corporations, associations, public or private institutions, state and federal agencies, municipals or political subdivisions, or officers thereof, departments, agencies, or instrumentalities, joint stock companies, trust estates, governmental entity or any other legal entity, or their legal representatives, agents or assigns, organized or existing under the laws of this or any state or country. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(26))

15.04.285 pH

"pH" means a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of a solution, expressed in standard units.

15.04.286 Pharmaceuticals.

"Pharmaceuticals" means a substance used in the treatment of disease: drug, medicament, medication, medicine. Pharmaceuticals are drugs or medicine that is prepared or dispensed in pharmacies and used in medical treatment.

15.04.288 Pollutant

"Pollutant" means dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, medical wastes, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, oils, greases, municipal, agricultural and industrial wastes, and certain characteristics of wastewater (e.g. pH, temperature, TSS, turbidity, color, BOD, COD, toxicity, or odor)

15.04.290 Pollution.

"Pollution" means the man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological and radiological integrity of water. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(27))

15.04.300 Premises.

"Premises" means a parcel of real estate or portion thereof, including any improvements thereon, which is determined by the director to be a single user for purposes of receiving, using and paying for services. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(28))

15.04.310 Pretreatment.

"Pretreatment" means the reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater to a less harmful state prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a POTW. The reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical or biological processes, process changes or by other means, except as prohibited by 40 CFR Section 403.6(d). (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(29))

15.04.320 Pretreatment requirements.

"Pretreatment requirements" means any substantive or procedural requirement related to pretreatment imposed on an industrial user, other than a Pretreatment Standard. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(30))

15.04.325 Pretreatment Standards or Standards.

"Pretreatment Standards" shall mean prohibited discharge standards, categorical Pretreatment Standards, and Local Limits.

15.04.330 Publicly owned treatment works.

"Publicly owned treatment works" or "POTW" means a treatment works as defined by Section 212 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1292) which is owned by Metro. This definition includes any sewers, devices, or systems used in the collection, storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature and any conveyances, which convey wastewater to a treatment plant. The term also means the metropolitan government of Nashville and Davidson County, a municipality, as defined in Section 502(4) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1362) which has jurisdiction over the indirect discharges to and the discharges from such a treatment works. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(31))

15.04.340 Reclaimed water.

"Reclaimed water" means water which, as a result of treatment of waste, is suitable for direct beneficial uses or a controlled use that would not occur otherwise. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(32))

15.04.345 Septic Tank Waste.

"Septic Tank Waste" means any domestic sewage from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, and septic tanks. Septic tank waste does not include commercial food service establishment fats, oils and grease waste.

15.04.348 Significant Industrial User.

Except as provided in paragraphs (C) and (D) of this Section, a "Significant Industrial User" is:

- A. An Industrial User subject to categorical Pretreatment Standards: or
- B. An Industrial User that:
 - 1. Discharges an average of twenty-five thousand (25,000) gpd or more of process wastewater to the POTW (excluding sanitary, noncontact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater); or
 - 2. Contributes a process wastestream which makes up five (5) percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the POTW treatment plant; or
 - 3. Is designated as such by Metro on the basis that it has a reasonable potential for adversely affecting the POTW's operation or for violating any Pretreatment Standard or requirement
- C. Metro may determine that an Industrial User subject to categorical Pretreatment Standards is a Non-Significant Categorical Industrial User rather than a Significant Industrial User on a finding that the Industrial User never discharges more than 100 gpd of total categorical wastewater (excluding sanitary, non-contact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater,

unless specifically included in the Pretreatment Standard) and the following conditions are met:

- 1. The Industrial User, prior to Metro's finding, has consistently complied with all applicable categorical Pretreatment Standards and Requirements;
- 2. The Industrial User annually submits the certification statement required in Section 15.60.258 (B) {see Tennessee Rule 1200-4-14-.12(17)}, together with any additional information necessary to support the certification statement; and
- 3. The Industrial User never discharges any untreated concentrated wastewater.
- D. Upon a finding that a User meeting the criteria in Subsection (B) of this part has no reasonable potential for adversely affecting the POTW's operation or for violating any Pretreatment Standard or Requirement, Metro may at any time, but at least once every twelve (12) months, on its own initiative or in response to a petition received from an Industrial User, and in accordance with procedures in Tennessee Rule 1200-4-14-.08(6)(f), determine that such User should not be considered a Significant Industrial User.

15.04.349 Significant Noncompliance.

The Director shall publish annually, in a newspaper of general circulation that provides meaningful public notice within the jurisdictions served by Metro Water Services, a list of the Users which, at any time during the previous twelve (12) months, were in Significant Noncompliance with applicable Pretreatment Standards and Requirements. The term Significant Noncompliance shall be applicable to all Significant Industrial Users (or any other Industrial User that violates paragraphs (C), (D) or (H) of this Section) and shall mean:

- A. Chronic violations of wastewater discharge limits, defined here as those in which sixty-six percent (66%) or more of all the measurements taken for the same pollutant parameter taken during a six- (6-) month period exceed (by any magnitude) a numeric Pretreatment Standard or Requirement, including Instantaneous Limits as defined in Metro Code of Laws Title §15.60.070;
- B. Technical Review Criteria (TRC) violations, defined here as those in which thirty-three percent (33%) or more of wastewater measurements taken for each pollutant parameter during a six- (6-) month period equals or exceeds the product of the numeric Pretreatment Standard or Requirement including Instantaneous Limits, as defined by Metro Code of Laws Title §15.60.070 multiplied by the applicable criteria (1.4 for BOD, TSS, fats, oils and grease, and 1.2 for all other pollutants except pH);

- C. Any other violation of a Pretreatment Standard or Requirement as defined by Metro Code of Laws Title §15.60.070 (Daily Maximum, long-term average, Instantaneous Limit, or narrative standard) that the Director determines has caused, alone or in combination with other discharges, Interference or Pass Through, including endangering the health of POTW personnel or the general public:
- D. Any discharge of a pollutant that has caused imminent endangerment to the public or to the environment, or has resulted in the Director's exercise of its emergency authority to halt or prevent such a discharge;
- E. Failure to meet, within ninety (90) days of the scheduled date, a compliance schedule milestone contained in an individual wastewater discharge permit or a general permit or enforcement order for starting construction, completing construction, or attaining final compliance:
- F. Failure to provide within thirty (30) days after the due date, any required reports, including baseline monitoring reports, reports on compliance with categorical Pretreatment Standard deadlines, periodic self-monitoring reports, and reports on compliance with compliance schedules;
- G. Failure to accurately report noncompliance; or
- H. Any other violation(s), which may include a violation of Best Management Practices, which the Director determines will adversely affect the operation or implementation of the local pretreatment program.

15.04.350 Slug Load or Slug Discharge.

"Slug Load" or "Slug Discharge" means any discharge at a flow rate or concentration, which could cause a violation of the prohibited discharge standards of this ordinance. A slug discharge is any discharge of non-routine, episodic nature, including but not limited to an accidental spill or non-customary batch discharge, which has a reasonable potential to cause Interference or Pass Through, or in any other way violate the POTW's regulations, Local Limits, or Permit conditions.

15.04.355 Standard industrial classification.

"Standard industrial classification" means a classification pursuant to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual issued by the executive office of the president, office of management and budget, 1972. (Prior code § 40- 1-5 (a)(33))

15.04.360 Storm Water.

"Storm Water" means any flow occurring during or following any form of natural precipitation, and resulting from such precipitation, including snowmelt.

15.04.370 Toxic pollutant.

"Toxic pollutant" means any pollutant or combination of pollutants listed as toxic in regulations promulgated by the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under the provisions of 33 U.S.C. 1317. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(34))

15.04.380 Treatment works.

"Treatment works" means any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling and reclamation of domestic sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature including interceptor sewers, outfall sewers, sewage collection systems, pumping, power and other equipment and appurtenances; extensions, improvements, remodeling, additions and alterations thereof; elements essential to provide a reliable recycled supply such as standby treatment units and clear well facilities; and any works including land that will be an integral part of the treatment process or is used for ultimate disposal of residues resulting from such treatment; and including combined storm water and sanitary sewer systems. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(35))

15.04.385 Twenty-four-hour, flow proportional composite sample.

"Twenty-four-hour, flow proportional composite sample" means a sample consisting of several effluent portions collected during a twenty-four-hour period in which the portions of sample are proportionate to the flow and combined to form a representative sample. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(36))

15.04.390 Unpolluted water.

"Unpolluted water" means water to which no constituent has been added, either intentionally or accidentally, which would render such water unacceptable to the state of Tennessee or the Environmental Protection Agency having jurisdiction thereof for disposal to storm or natural drainage, or directly to surface waters. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(37))

15.04.400 User.

"User" means any person, firm, corporation or governmental entity that discharges, causes or permits the discharge of wastewater into a community sewer. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(38))

15.04.410 Waste.

"Waste" means and includes sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing or processing operation of whatever nature, including such waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(39))

15.04.420 Wastewater.

"Wastewater" means liquid and water-carried wastes and sewage from residential dwellings, commercial buildings, industrial and manufacturing facilities, and institutions, whether treated or untreated, which are contributed to the POTW. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(40))

15.04.430 Wastewater constituents and characteristics.

"Wastewater constituents and characteristics" means the individual chemical, physical, bacteriological and radiological parameters, including volume and flow rate and such other parameters that serve to define, classify or measure the contents, quality, quantity and strength of wastewater (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(41))

15.04.440 Waters of the State of Tennessee

"Waters of the State of Tennessee" means any water, surface or underground, within the boundaries of the state. (Prior code § 40-1-5 (a)(42))