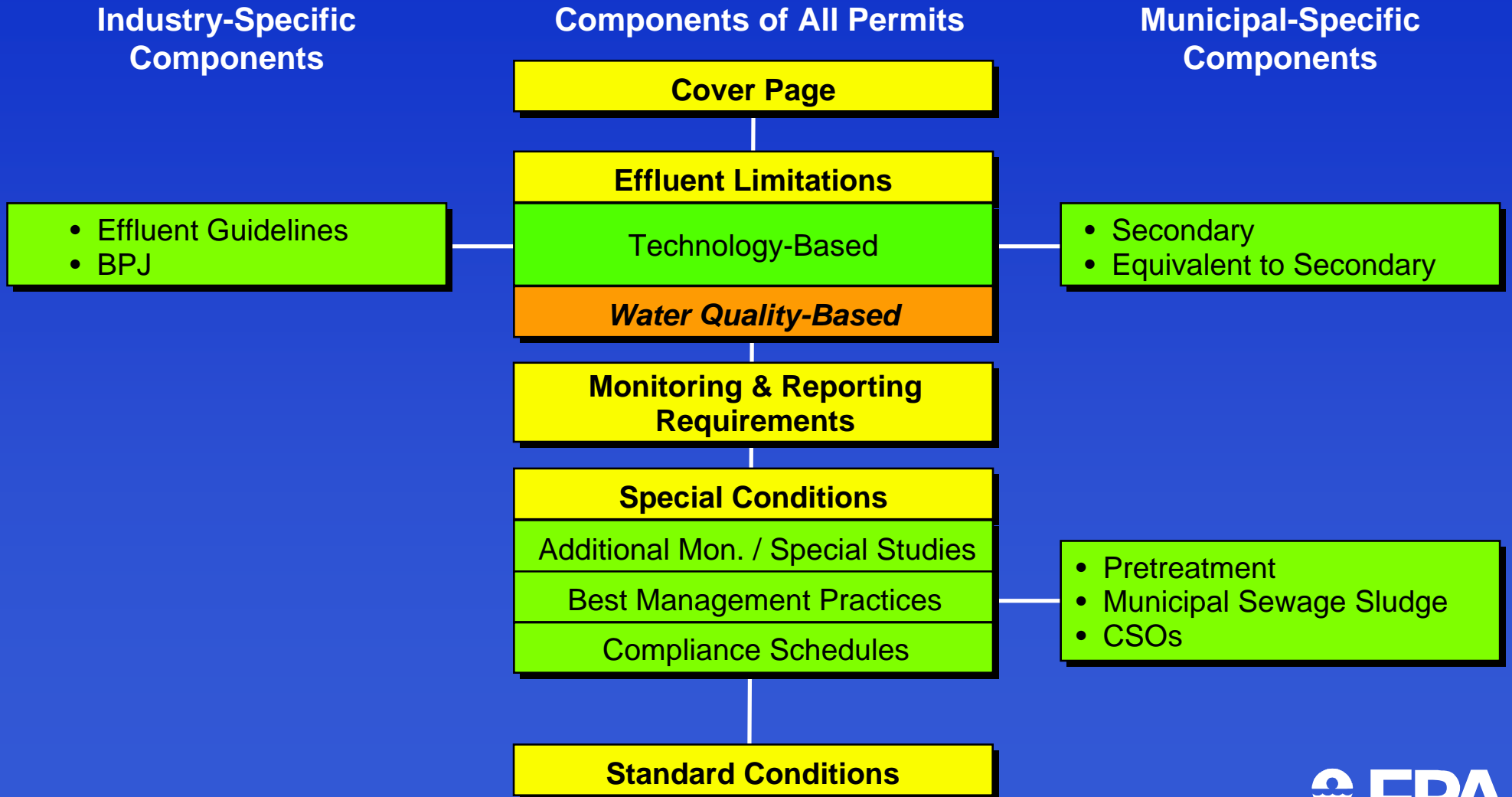


# **Overview of Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations**

# Permit Components



# Learning Objectives

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- ◆ Provide brief overview of water quality standards
- ◆ Discuss the relationship between water quality- and technology-based limitations

# Clean Water Act Requirements

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- ◆ **Section 101(a)(2)**
  - Establishes “fishable and swimmable” goal
- ◆ **Section 303(c)**
  - Establishes framework for water quality standards program
  - Requires States to establish water quality standards
- ◆ **Section 304(a)**
  - Requires EPA to develop and publish recommended water quality criteria
- ◆ **Section 301(b)(1)(C)**
  - Requires compliance with limits necessary to meet water quality standards



# Technology-and Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

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<b>Basis:</b>	<b>Technology</b>	<b>Water Quality</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	<b>“Zero Discharge” (Performance)</b>	<b>“Fishable/Swimmable”</b>
<b>Reg.</b>	<b>40 CFR §§122.44(a)&amp;(e)</b>	<b>40 CFR §§122.44(d)</b>
<b>Cite:</b>	<b>40 CFR §125.3</b>	

**Relationship:** Technology-based effluent limits are developed for all applicable pollutants of concern. If these limits are not adequate to protect water quality, then water quality-based effluent limits must be developed.

