

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF PROGRAM INTEGRATION**

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 021-2100-001

TITLE: Policy for Implementing the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) Permit Review Process and Permit Decision Guarantee

AUTHORITY: Executive Order 2012-11

POLICY: This policy establishes a standardized review process and processing times for certain Department permits that are contained in the Permit Decision Guarantee. For the permits contained in the Permit Decision Guarantee, the Department guarantees to provide permit decisions within the published timeframes, provided applicants submit complete, technically-adequate applications that address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements in the first submission. Staff will follow a Department-wide standard process for receiving, prioritizing, accepting, reviewing, denying, and approving applications for permits or other authorizations.

PURPOSE: To establish a standard process for permit application reviews that:

- provides certain and predictable review timeframes for applicants who submit complete, technically-adequate applications that address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements;
- articulates clearly and concisely expectations for applicants that result in complete, technically-adequate applications that address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements;
- establishes expectations for Department staff aimed at achieving greater efficiency, clarity and consistency across regions and programs;
- improves the Department's internal tracking and coordination of permit applications; and,
- rescinds and replaces the Policy for Implementing the DEP Money-Back Guarantee Permit Review Process 013-2000-001, as amended.

APPLICABILITY: This policy is intended to provide a standard review procedure for all Department permits and authorizations. It also applies to County Conservation District and County Health Department permit review staff when completing delegated duties on behalf of the Department during the registration or evaluation of permit applications or modifications. The term "Department" referenced throughout the policy includes County Conservation District review staff. Appendix A of the policy provides the guarantee timeframes for those Department permits and authorizations that are contained in the Permit Decision Guarantee. The policy is not to be applied where it conflicts with statutory or regulatory requirements.

DISCLAIMER: The policies and procedures outlined in this guidance document are intended to supplement existing requirements. Nothing in the policies or procedures shall affect regulatory requirements.

The policies and procedures herein are not an adjudication or a regulation. There is no intent on the part of DEP to give these guidelines that weight or deference. This document establishes the framework within which DEP will exercise its administrative discretion in the future. DEP reserves the discretion to deviate from this policy statement if circumstances warrant.

PAGE LENGTH: 26 pages, including appendix

I. General Information

A. Effective Date of Policy

This policy will become effective upon publication as final in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. All applications for permits, registrations and plan approvals are subject to the Permit Review Process outlined in this Policy regardless of their inclusion in the Permit Decision Guarantee. The Permit Decision Guarantee shall apply only to those applications, listed in Appendix A, that are complete, technically-adequate applications and address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements.

B. Definitions

1. “*Applicant*” – for the purpose of this policy, it is the entity (i.e., an individual, partnership, association, company, corporation, municipality, municipal authority, political subdivision or an agency of Federal or State government) that is/will be issued a permit, such as the person responsible for owning, maintaining, and/or operating all or part of the overall project. This term is also defined in other Department policies as project sponsor.
2. “*Application Manager*” – the specific Department staff member that will be responsible for the processing of an application and will be the primary contact for the project management, a.k.a. reviewer, permit reviewer or permit writer.
3. “*Application Type*” – for the purpose of this policy, may include: New, Renewal, Amendment, Modification, Transfer, and Change of Ownership.
4. “*Completeness Review*”- process in which applications will be reviewed to determine if they are complete and technically-adequate applications addressing all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements. Applications will be reviewed in no longer than ten business days of receipt of the application, unless otherwise indicated by regulatory or statutory requirements.
5. “*Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe*” – the length of processing time that a permit decision will be guaranteed by the Department, provided an applicant submits complete, technically-adequate applications that address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements in the first submission. This length of time and included permits are outlined in Appendix A.
6. “*Permits*” – authorizations issued by the Department, giving approval to perform a regulated activity. For the purpose of this policy, “permits” includes the authorization types such as: permits, plan approvals and registrations under general permits. This definition does not include certifications and licenses.

7. “*Permit Decision Guarantee*”- the guarantee from the Department that a permit application will be reviewed as expeditiously as possible within the Permit Decision Guarantee timeframe, which is applicable only to those complete, technically-adequate applications that address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements included in Appendix A.
8. “*Processing Time*” – the total number of business days beginning with the acceptance of a complete application and technically-adequate application and ending with the final action by the Department barring the “Possible Processing Delays” as outlined in II. A below. The length of time does not begin until the application passes completeness review and it moves forward for technical review.
9. “*Renewal Application*” – an application to continue an activity authorized under an existing permit in its current form with no proposed changes. Applications to recommence existing permits where changes are proposed, or for which new statutory or regulatory requirements necessitate a change to the current permit, shall be considered new applications.

II. Process Guidance

The policy of the Department is to minimize processing time while ensuring adherence to all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements and prioritizing permit applications. The Department’s performance, and that of its staff, will be measured by processing time and not the Permit Decision Guarantee timeframes.

A. Possible Processing Delays

Ancillary activities required or in addition to the Department’s review of the permit application that may delay the final permit issuance. Examples of these activities include:

1. Submission, processing and review of financial assurance instruments;
2. Resolution of outstanding violations or compliance actions against the applicant, where state law requires those violations be resolved before permits are issued or renewed;
3. Reviews due to the need for approval by or coordination with a federal, state or municipal agency, including related decisions by such agencies;
4. Reviews by other Department programs, the purpose of which is to provide technical information to the reviewing program, and therefore cannot be accomplished concurrently;
5. Other complex, but necessary factors, such as the need for air modeling, risk assessments or the completion of a harms-benefits analysis;

6. Circumstances where public meetings or hearings are held, or draft final permits are issued and additional public comment is needed;
7. Time necessary to address additional public comment opportunities for areas of special concern such as Environmental Justice areas;
8. Factors outside of the Department's control, e.g. natural disasters or emergency responses that may require immediate use of resources or render Department resources unavailable; and,
9. Applications submitted pursuant to a Consent Order and Agreement, Department Order, consent decree or an Order of the Environmental Hearing Board or other judicial body.

Many permits cannot be issued until the above actions have been taken and resultant issues resolved. To the greatest extent possible, the Department will complete its review of permit applications, however, the above situations may delay the Department's final permit issuance.

B. Permit Review Hierarchy

1. The Money-Back Guarantee Policy is rescinded and replaced in its entirety by this policy. Further, the Department, unless required by law or regulation, will not review permit applications solely on a "first-in-first-out" basis only. When an application is received, the Regional Director, District Mining Manager or District Oil and Gas Manager will provide direction to staff on the priority of the permit application.

The prioritization or hierarchy of permit applications for review will be as follows:

- (i) Applications necessary for the protection of public health, safety or the environment from imminent threats or that are necessary to support the restoration of the environment or that support broader environmental improvement goals.
- (ii) Applications necessary for economic development projects that create and/or retain jobs in Pennsylvania, leverage private investment in Pennsylvania, and/or provide significant economic benefit to Pennsylvania communities.
- (iii) Applications within the Permit Decision Guarantee that meet any of the criteria in 1. (i.) and (ii.) above.
- (iv) Applications that have been excluded from the Permit Decision Guarantee but are necessary for economic development projects that create jobs and enhance communities.
- (v) Applications that do not meet the above criteria will be completed on a "first-in-

first-out” basis.

2. Application Types – The following application types will be reviewed in hierarchical order as listed:

- (i) New applications that meet the criteria of B.1. (i. – v.) above, in order.
- (ii) Amendment, Modification, Transfer, or Change of Ownership applications that meet the criteria of B.1. (i. – v.) above, in order.
- (iii) Renewal applications for permits that will expire without action by the Department that meet any of the criteria in B.1. (i. – v.) above, in order.
- (iv) Renewal applications for permits that have been legally extended for greater than five years or time period authorized in applicable regulatory and statutory requirements and meet any of the criteria in B.1. (i. – v.), in order.
- (v) Renewal applications for permits that have been legally extended for less than five years or time period authorized in applicable regulatory and statutory requirements and meet any of the criteria in B.1 (i. – v.).
- (vi) All others.

C. Permit Coordination

The Department will follow the Permit Coordination Policy 021-2000-301, when reviewing applications or proposed projects to ensure efficient use of resources, thorough environmental review and consistent Department action on proposed projects before the commencement of operations, construction or other activities that require Department permits.

D. Permit Review and Approval

All permits will be reviewed following the process detailed in this policy. The Permit Decision Guarantee shall apply only to those applications listed in Appendix A that are complete, technically-adequate applications and address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements. It is the Department’s intention to review annually, and as necessary, update the applications listed in Appendix A.

III. Accountability

A. Applicant Responsibilities

1. Request a Pre-Application Conference

A pre-application conference is the foundation for improved understanding and communication between the potential applicant and the Department. The pre-application conference allows the Department, consultant and applicant to discuss project details and seek clarification on applicable regulatory and statutory requirements. Upon request, the Department will schedule pre-application conferences when deemed to be necessary.

For the applicant and the applicant's consultant, the time invested in a pre-application conference pays dividends in the form of complete and technically-adequate submissions, and shorter processing times resulting from a better understanding of the project and complicated matters prior to application submission. Further, these meetings are critical and highly recommended when large scale, multi-permitted facilities are involved and when a project meets certain criteria such as spanning multiple counties or regions or if federal permit coordination will be required. Choosing to forego the pre-application conference on the part of the Applicant, when one is advised by the Department, may void the Permit Decision Guarantee.

In many cases, permit applications are complicated and challenging, due to the relationship of the numerous and overlapping environmental laws and regulations. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that applicants employ consultants with expertise in the areas of environmental permitting sought to aid in completion of permit applications.

Under this policy, Applicants and their Consultants are responsible for:

- (i) Contacting the Department as soon as it is possible to provide a description (project summary, maps, etc.) of the proposed project, and requesting a pre-application conference.
- (ii) Remaining in contact with the Department throughout the development of the project details and technical design will ensure a thorough understanding by Department staff, assure adherence to applicable regulatory and statutory requirements to gain insight into potential regulatory concerns that could delay permit issuance and to work with Department to identify solutions.

2. Submit a Complete and Technically-Adequate Application

The Applicant is responsible for submitting a complete and technically-adequate application which meets all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements and contains all information needed by the Department to make a final permit decision. Failure to do so will void any Permit Decision Guarantee. Applications that fail to meet Department requirements for completeness will be denied, unless stated otherwise in applicable statutes and regulations. Applications that require revisions, additions, corrections or supplements take much longer to review, and thus the Department cannot provide certainty regarding the permit processing timeframe.

Once an application has been accepted by the Department as complete, any substantive project or design changes to that application made by the applicant will require a new application to be submitted following appropriate program requirements and procedures and, as applicable, will void the Permit Decision Guarantee.

3. Track Progress and Provide Information

Applicants and their consultants are responsible for tracking the progress of their review by accessing the Department's publicly-available data management system. Applicants are also responsible for providing timely responses to requests for information and to deficiency letters. Applicants must ensure that responses provided are technically accurate and respond fully to the request for additional information. Applicants should make all possible efforts to ensure that responses to information requests meet all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements.

B. Department Responsibilities

1. Maintain Technical Guidance, Permit Forms and Fact Sheets

Program Bureaus will be responsible for developing and maintaining all technical guidance, permit forms, fact sheets, application checklists and other materials necessary to provide clear and concise expectations for applicants. All permit applications will include a checklist outlining required application materials and information. No regulation will be proposed as final without all complimentary guidance, policy, forms and fact sheets being developed and available for public comment concurrent to the finalization of the regulation.

All public documents such as technical guidance, permit forms, fact sheets and application checklists must be reviewed, and if necessary revised, and republished, every three years.

2. Provide Frequent and Focused Training

A significant training program will accompany this policy to provide for successful implementation. Department staff will develop and implement training for regional staff and the regulated community including their consultants, which will include changing the current models and relationships related to preparation of applications and permit reviews. Training for Department staff will focus on, but will not be limited to, program expectations and performing accurate and consistent permit reviews. Training for the management of expectations on the part of the regulated community is also needed, and will be provided.

As a permitting agency, the Department's role is to review applications based on applicable regulatory and statutory authority to ensure that projects with appropriate environmental protections proposed are permitted in a reasonable timeframe. The

Department also has an obligation to provide clear expectations on public participation for the regulated community and stakeholders interested in permits being reviewed.

3. Maintain Open Lines of Communication

The Department will ensure that throughout the application review process, communication is maintained with the applicant. This communication may include notification of major milestones in the process through the Department's publicly available data management system and communicating as early as possible upon the determination of a deficiency.

4. Schedule and hold Pre-Application Conferences

Department staff will:

- (i) Encourage Applicants and their consultants to participate in pre-application conferences, to the greatest extent possible.
- (ii) Schedule pre-application conferences when they are requested and deemed to be necessary. Assistant Regional Directors will arrange these conferences in most cases and will also coordinate pre-application conferences for large scale, multi-permit projects. Conference attendees must include the applicant, the applicant's consultant, the Regional Director if necessary, and representatives of the applicable programs. For very large, high-priority economic development projects, the Regional Director will take the lead role in terms of coordinating meetings for the Department. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices the Permits Chief or Manager will arrange these conferences.
- (iii) Seek as much information as necessary prior to the pre-application conference to ensure that all appropriate staff/programs are present and the outcome of the conference effectively outlines expectations and communicates next steps.
- (iv) Provide an explanation of the number and type of permits required for the project, an explanation of the process and interrelationships of the various permits; and, provide the applicant with the Permit Decision Guarantee timeframe for processing the necessary permits if a complete, technically-adequate application addressing all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements is submitted.
- (v) Assign an Application Manager to the project whether upon application submission or prior.
- (vi) Respond to all inquiries from the Applicant through development of the project details and technical design to assure a thorough understanding by the Applicant of the regulatory requirements that could impact permit issuance.

5. Completeness Review

Completeness reviews determine whether a submitted application package is complete and technically-adequate, contains the necessary information, maps, fees and other documents, and whether these items are of sufficient detail for technical review of the application. This review should ensure that a complete application that addresses applicable regulatory and statutory requirements has been received. The provided permit application checklist will routinely serve as part of the Department's internal guidelines for determining completeness.

Completeness reviews will be conducted as quickly as possible, and should take no longer than ten business days, unless otherwise indicated by regulatory and statutory requirements. Even when the state or federal law or regulation provides for a longer time period, it will be the Department's policy to complete the review as quickly as possible.

Under this procedure, the Department will complete in order the following steps:

- (i) Applications will be received by administrative staff and logged into the electronic tracking database, assuming any applicable fees are submitted.
- (ii) Checks accompanying applications will be processed by administrative staff in accordance with the fee processing policy.
- (iii) Applications will be delivered to the appropriate program for the completeness review. The completeness review will be performed by the Application Manager as quickly as possible, and should take no longer than ten business days, unless otherwise indicated by regulatory and statutory requirements. In making a completeness determination, the Department will rely on specific applicable regulatory and statutory requirements in addition to the permit application checklist.

Minor deficiencies or omissions that can be easily corrected should be addressed through a telephone call with the applicant and consultant. The expeditious correction of minor deficiencies may negate the need for an application to be denied as incomplete. The Program Manager or District Manager will be responsible for making that decision.

Department staff will not rely on personal preference or opinion, or regional interpretation of statute, regulation or guidance that is inconsistent with the Department's statewide interpretation. Staff should confer with the appropriate Bureau Director as necessary.

- (iv) If complete, an Acceptance Letter explaining the technical review process, and identifying any other permits required will be sent to the Applicant. If the Permit Decision Guarantee applies, the letter will also provide information pertaining to

the Permit Decision Guarantee timeframes. If multiple permits are required, the Assistant Regional Director will be responsible for identifying and coordinating the review of all permits. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices the Permits Chief or Manager will, as necessary, coordinate the review of other permits needed for the project. Further, upon acceptance of an application, the program(s) will complete any necessary public notices.

The processing time for the application does not begin until it is deemed by the Application Manager to be a complete application.

- (v) If an application is incomplete, the Department will deny the application and notification of the denial will be provided to the Applicant.

If the application is deemed incomplete, the Application Manager will prepare a letter to deny the application. The letter will specify where the permit application fails to provide the information necessary to document that applicable regulatory and statutory requirements will be achieved. This letter will include specific applicable regulatory and statutory citations and will be reviewed and approved by the Section Chief and the Program Manager. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices the Permits Chief and the Manager will review and approve the letters.

Should an Applicant choose to amend the application and resubmit the package, following appropriate program requirements and procedures, the Department will treat the resubmitted package as a new application.

6. Technical Review

Complete applications will be subject to a detailed technical review. Applicants will be notified in writing of technical deficiencies discovered during the Department review. Applicants will have one opportunity¹ to correct technical deficiencies. Technical deficiencies will void the Permit Decision Guarantee.

Technical reviews are to determine whether an application package contains the necessary scientific and engineering information and project design to address specific regulatory requirements.

In completing the technical reviews, Department staff will:

- (i) Ensure that all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements are adequately addressed by the application. Specific and applicable regulatory and statutory requirements will be used to conduct these reviews.

¹ More technically complex projects and applications (e.g. major plan approvals) may receive additional deficiency letters as appropriate prior to a decision point. This exception will not void inclusion in the Permit Decision Guarantee and will follow program specific guidance that is developed. The more technically complex projects and applications are noted with an asterisk (“*”) in Appendix A.

- (ii) Use Department guidance , which is a key part of this review, the Department’s strong preference is that technical reports and engineering designs address technical guidance published by the Department as a means to meet all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements. When and if there are technical questions, those questions will be immediately elevated from the Application Manager to the Section Chief and Program Manager for consultation and resolution. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices the Permits Chief and the Manager will be consulted. If needed, the Program Bureau Director should be consulted if resolution cannot be quickly determined.
- (iii)Not rely on personal preference or opinion, or regional interpretation of statute, regulation or guidance that is inconsistent with the Department’s statewide interpretation. Staff should confer with the appropriate Bureau Director as necessary.
- (iv)Process technically-adequate and scientifically sound applications for final approval to minimize elapsed time in accordance with the Permit Decision Guarantee.
- (v) Where the Application Manager determines that the technical information submitted with the application does not meet technical guidance or standards published by the Department, the application must provide the scientific or engineering basis to support the application. Note that deviations from technical guidance can generally be approved, by the appropriate section chief and manager, when warranted, provided acceptable justification has been submitted. Minor deficiencies that can be easily corrected should be addressed through a telephone call with the applicant and consultant, and may negate the need for a deficiency letter. The Program Manager or District Manager will be responsible for making that decision.
- (vi)If an application fails to provide the technical information necessary to document that applicable regulatory and statutory requirements will be achieved, it is technically deficient and the Application Manager will prepare a technical deficiency letter. Again, all deficiencies noted must cite the statutory or regulatory obligation that the application has failed to meet and the Section Chief and the Program Manager will routinely review these letters. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices the Permits Chief and the Manager will review the letters.
- (vii) One² technical deficiency letter will be sent. Each deficiency cited must note the statute, regulation or technical guidance provision. The letter will state,

² More technically complex projects and applications (e.g. major plan approvals) may receive additional deficiency letters as appropriate prior to a decision point. This exception will not void inclusion in the Permit Decision

as necessary, that the Permit Decision Guarantee is no longer applicable, and offer the applicant an opportunity to meet and discuss the deficiencies and will include a deadline for submission of the deficient information.

- (viii) Applicant responses that do not make the application technically adequate within the established response timeframe will be subject to the Elevated Review Process below. Applications that are made technically-adequate within the established response timeframe will proceed to processing for final action.

7. Elevated Review Process

Applications that are technically deficient, and for which the deficiencies have not been resolved satisfactorily within the established response timeframe, for any reason, will be subjected to the elevated review process. This process will include the following:

- (i) The Program Manager will notify the Regional Director of the elevated review, and arrange a time to discuss the details of the application and the noted deficiencies. The Program Manager and the Regional Director may contact the Bureau Director and/or the Deputy Secretary for advice or assistance. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices the District Manager will notify the Bureau Director of the elevated review and arrange a time to discuss the details of the application and the deficiencies. The District Manager and Bureau Director may contact the Deputy Secretary for advice or assistance as necessary.
- (ii) Complex projects involving multiple permit applications with multiple deficiencies may require a face-to-face meeting of all staff involved.
- (iii) Staff will agree on a direction for final review of the permit application(s), which may include a face-to-face meeting with the Applicant and the consultant(s) or a telephone call with the Applicant and the consultant(s) to discuss the deficiencies. If the meeting or call results in a resolution, the Regional Director or District Manager may provide the applicant with an additional ten business days to respond. If resolution cannot be reached, the deficiencies must be elevated to the Bureau Director for review. The Bureau Director will provide direction on the permit decision which may be advancing with denial of the permit application (see 8 (iii.) below).
- (iv) The elevated review process will receive the highest priority by Directors and be completed within fifteen business days of first notification of elevated review by the Program Manager or District Manager. Note that the Assistant Regional Directors or the appropriate Bureau Division Chiefs may substitute for the Directors when needed to meet the fifteen business day deadline.

Guarantee and will follow program specific guidance that is developed. The more technically complex projects and applications are noted with an asterisk (“*”) in Appendix A.

8. Permit Decision

(i) Permit Decision Guarantee

The Permit Decision Guarantee will apply only to those applications listed in Appendix A that are complete, technically-adequate applications that address all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements in the first submission.

(a.) Should the Department fail to meet the established Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe, a decision on the application shall be the next actionable application within the appropriate permitting program. Specifically, upon failing to meet the established Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe, the appropriate Program Manager and Regional Director or appropriate District Manager and Bureau Director will have five (5) business days to make an appropriate decision from the options listed in (ii.) through (iii.) below. If that timeline is not met, a meeting will be scheduled with the Secretary of the Department to determine why the deadline was missed.

(ii) Approval

Applications that are complete and adequately demonstrate that they meet all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements with no remaining deficiencies will be approved in accordance with the applicable program procedures.

(iii) Denial

Applications may be denied if they continue to possess technical deficiencies after two technical reviews, and cannot adequately demonstrate that they meet all applicable regulatory and statutory requirements. Applications that are denied will forfeit all fees. Denied applications will need to be re-submitted following appropriate program requirements and procedures and will be considered a new application.

9. Permit Application Tracking

The Department will maintain a Department-wide application processing system for tracking applications covered by this policy. Department programs are required to track the specifics of each application identifying dates associated with receipt, Completeness Review, technical review, elevated review, and permit decision.

To review and monitor progress made on application processing for the permits:

- (i) Weekly permit tracking reports will be generated for Section Chiefs and Program Managers. Section Chiefs and Program Managers will meet bi-weekly to discuss processing times and address actions to avoid backlogs. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices these bi-weekly meetings should be held with the Permits Chief and District Manager.
- (ii) Bi-weekly meetings will be held by Assistant Regional Directors and Program Managers and Assistant Regional Directors and Regional Directors to discuss processing times and address actions to avoid backlogs. For District Oil and Gas Offices and District Mining Offices these bi-weekly meetings should be held with the District Manager and Bureau Director and Bureau Director and Deputy Secretary.
- (iii) Monthly reports will be generated for review by the Regional and Program Bureau Directors. Program Bureau Directors shall hold bi-monthly conference calls with applicable Field Operations Program Managers, District Managers and Assistant Regional Directors to discuss permit processing and to alert Deputy Secretaries to any potential problems with meeting the Permit Decision Guarantee.
- (iv) Quarterly reports will be generated for Deputy Secretaries.

Appendix A
Permits included in Permit Decision Guarantee

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code³	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Active and Abandoned Mine Operations			
Mining Coal Regulatory	Surface Mining Permit	AMIN	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Mining Storm water General Permit	NEW	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Surface Mining Permit	NEW	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Underground Mining Permit	NEW	380
Mining Coal Regulatory	Coal Mining Blast Plan Approval	AMEN	60
Mining Coal Regulatory	Coal Mining Blast Plan Approval	NEW	60
Mining Coal Regulatory	Underground Mining Permit	AMAJ	380
Mining Coal Regulatory	Underground Mining Permit	AMIN	200
Mining Coal Regulatory	NPDES Coal Mine	MOD	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Surface Mining Permit	AMAJ	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Surface Mining Permit	TRAN	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	NPDES Coal Mine	NEW	130
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Bluestone Surface Mining Permit	NEW	130
Mining Explosives Safety	Blasting Activity Permit	NEW	20
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Large Surface Mining Permit	AMIN	130

³ An Application Type Code Dictionary can be found at the bottom of the table.

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Large Surface Mining Permit for GW	AMAJ	150
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Large Surface Mining Permit for GW	NEW	150
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Small Surface Mining Permit	NEW	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Industrial Minerals Blast Plan Approval	NEW	60
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Industrial Minerals Bonding Increment	AMEN	70
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Industrial Minerals Bonding Increment	NEW	70
Mining	AMS Mining Plans-Mine Opening Plans	AMEN	25
Mining	AMS Mining Plans-Mine Opening Plans	NEW	25
Mining Coal Regulatory	Exploration Mining Stormwater General Permit	NEW	30
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	GP105 Bluestone General Permit	NEW	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Mining Industrial Minerals General Permit Short-term Construction	AMAJ	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Mining Industrial Minerals General Permit Short-term Construction	AMIN	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Mining Industrial Minerals General Permit Short-term Construction	NEW	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Mining Stormwater General Permit	MOD	30

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Mining Stormwater General Permit	NEW	120
Mining Coal Regulatory	Coal Mining Surface Mining Permit Sub F & G	AMIN	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Coal Mining Surface Mining Permit Sub F & G	NEW	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	GP12 Coal Prep Plant Emissions Permit	MOD	70
Mining Coal Regulatory	GP12 Coal Prep Plant Emissions Permit	NEW	70
Mining Coal Regulatory	Preparation-Processing Plant Permit	AMAJ	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Preparation-Processing Plant Permit	AMIN	90
Mining Coal Regulatory	Preparation-Processing Plant Permit	NEW	350
Mining Coal Regulatory	Preparation-Processing Plant Permit	TRAN	90
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Disposal Permit	AMAJ	300
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Disposal Permit	AMIN	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Disposal Permit	NEW	550
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Disposal Permit	TRAN	90
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Reprocessing Permit	AMAJ	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Reprocessing Permit	AMIN	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Reprocessing Permit	NEW	130
Mining Coal Regulatory	Refuse Reprocessing Permit	TRAN	130
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Bluestone Surface Mining Permit	AMAJ	120

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Bluestone Surface Mining Permit	AMIN	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Bluestone Surface Mining Permit	TRAN	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Industrial Minerals Underground Mining Permit	AMIN	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	Industrial Minerals Underground Mining Permit	NEW	160
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	NPDES Industrial Mineral Mine	MOD	120
Mining Industrial Minerals Regulatory	NPDES Industrial Mineral Mine	NEW	120
Oil & Gas Management			
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit	NEW	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit (with 071)	NEW	43
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit	REN	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Alteration	NEW	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Change in Use	NEW	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Drill Deeper	NEW	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Drill Deeper (with 071)	NEW	43
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Drill Deeper	REN	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Disposal/Enhanced Recovery	NEW	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Client Transfer	TRAN	32

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Re-drill	NEW	32
Oil & Gas	Drill & Operate Well Permit Re-drill	REN	32
Oil & Gas	E&S Stormwater General Permit 1	AMEN	43
Oil & Gas	E&S Stormwater General Permit 1	NEW	43
Oil & Gas	E&S Stormwater General Permit 1	TRAN	22
Oil & Gas	Expedited E&S Stormwater General Permit 1	AMEN	14
Oil & Gas	Expedited E&S Stormwater General Permit 1	NEW	14
Oil & Gas	Expedited E&S Stormwater General Permit 1	TRAN	14
Waste, Air, Radiation and Remediation			
Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields - Storage Tanks	Site Specific Installation Permit	NEW	72
Air Quality	Minor Facility Plan Approval State Regulation	NEW	130
Air Quality	Minor Facility Plan Approval NSPS	NEW	130
Air Quality	Minor Facility Plan Approval Hazardous Air Pollutant Standards (40 CFR Part 61)	NEW	130
Air Quality	Minor Facility Plan Approval MACT Air Toxics (40 CFR Part 63)	NEW	130
Air Quality	Major Facility Plan Approval State Regulation	NEW	150
Air Quality	Major Facility Plan Approval NSPS	NEW	150

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Air Quality	Major Facility Plan Approval Hazardous Air Pollutant Standards (40 CFR Part 61)	NEW	150
Municipal & Residual Waste	General Permits ⁴		
		NEW & REN	143
		REGISTRATION	43
		DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY	86
		MOD	100
Municipal & Residual Waste	Landfill Permits		
		Min. Mod	143
Municipal & Residual Waste	Transfer Station Permits		
		Min. Mod	100
Municipal & Residual Waste	Resource Recovery Permits		
		Min. Mod	100
Municipal & Residual Waste	Processing & Composting Permits		
		Min. Mod	100
		Waste Acceptance Plan	11

⁴ Information on Municipal and Residual Waste General Permits is available on the Department's web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us (DEP Search/Keyword: Waste Management Permits).

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Municipal & Residual Waste	Waste Acceptance Plan (WAP)		
		Form U with RAD Material	33
		Form U with an approved WAP	11
Water Management			
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Construction	NEW ⁵	120
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Construction	AMAJ ⁶	120
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Construction	AMIN	60
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Construction	TRAN	60
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Operations	AMEN	20
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Operations	NEW	20
Safe Drinking Water	Public Water Supply Permit Community Water System Operations	TRAN	60
State Water Pollution Control	Water Quality Management Part II, Industrial Wastewater Facility	NEW	65

⁵ Public water supply permit applications for innovative technologies are not included in the Permit Decision Guarantee.

⁶ Public water supply permit applications for innovative technologies are not included in the Permit Decision Guarantee.

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
State Water Pollution Control	Water Quality Management Part II, Sewage Facility	NEW	85
State Water Pollution Control	Water Quality Management Part II, Sewer Extensions & Pumping Stations	NEW	65
State Water Pollution Control	Water Quality Management Part II, Manure Storage Facility for CAFO	NEW	65
State Water Pollution Control	Water Quality Management Part II, Sewerage Treatment Plant Land Application	NEW	143
State Water Pollution Control	Water Quality Management Part II, Industrial Waste, Land Application	NEW	143
NPDES	NPDES Permit Stormwater Industrial Site Runoff (Individual)	NEW	143
NPDES	Minor IW Facility without ELG	NEW	143
NPDES	Minor IW Facility with ELG	NEW	143
NPDES	Major IW Facility < 250 MGD	NEW	143
NPDES	Major IW Facility >= 250 MGD	NEW	143
NPDES	Minor Sewage Facility <0.05 MGD	NEW	143
NPDES	Minor Sewage Facility >=0.05 and <1 MGD	NEW	143
NPDES	Major Sewage Facility >=1 and <5 MGD	NEW	143
NPDES	Minor Sewage Facility with CSOs	NEW	143
NPDES	Major Sewage Facility >= 5 MGD	NEW	143
NPDES	Major Sewage Facility with CSOs	NEW	143
NPDES	Concentrated Animal Feed Operations Individual NPDES Permit	NEW	65

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
NPDES	NPDES Permit Stormwater Discharges from Small Muni Separate Storm Sewer Sys MS4, Individual	NEW	165
NPDES	CAAP Individual Permit	NEW	143
NPDES	PAG-03 Discharge of Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activities	NEW	57
NPDES	PAG-10 Discharge Resulting from Hydrostatic Testing of Tanks & Pipelines	NEW	43
NPDES	PAG-12 NPDES General Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations	NEW	43
NPDES	PAG-13 Storm water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System MS4	NEW	165
Dam Safety	Dam Safety Permit	NEW	157
Dam Safety	Environmental Assessment Review for Dam-Related Activities	NEW	157
Dam Safety	Limited Power Permit	NEW	43
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater Construction Permit Conservation District	NEW	107
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater-Construction Permit	NEW	107
Erosion & Sediment Control	PAG-02 NPDES Stormwater-Construction	NEW	71
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater Construction Permit Conservation District Co-Permittee	AMEN	22
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater Construction Permit Conservation District	AMEN	107

Program Name	Authorization Type Description	Application Type Code	Permit Decision Guarantee Timeframe (Business Days)
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater Construction Permit Conservation District	REN	107
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater Construction Permit Conservation District	TRAN	22
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater-Construction Permit	AMEN	107
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater-Construction Permit	REN	107
Erosion & Sediment Control	NPDES Stormwater-Construction Permit Co-Permittee	AMEN	22
Erosion & Sediment Control	PAG-02 NPDES Stormwater-Construction	REN	71
Water Obstructions & Encroachments	BWM-GP-11 Maintenance, Testing, Repair, Rehabilitation or Replacement General Permit	NEW	86
Water Obstructions & Encroachments	Environmental Assessment for Waived Activities for Water Obstruction & Encroachment	NEW	86
Water Obstructions & Encroachments	GP-5 Utility Line Stream Crossings	NEW	50
Water Obstructions & Encroachments	Water Obstruction & Encroachment Permit	NEW	93
Water Obstructions & Encroachments	Water Obstruction & Encroachment Permit	AMAJ	93
Water Obstructions & Encroachments	Water Obstruction & Encroachment Permit, Small Project	NEW	93

Application Type Code Dictionary

AMAJ	Major Amendment
AMEN	Amendment
AMIN	Minor Amendment
Min. Mod	Minor Modification
MOD	Modification
NEW	New
REN	Renewal
TRAN	Transfer