

News

from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



Tom Wolf, Governor | John Quigley, Secretary



DEP Calendar of Events

Nov. 17

Environmental Quality Board meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Jennifer Swan, 717-783-8727

Nov. 17

DEP public hearing on the proposed interim response for a HSCA site in Warwick and Northampton townships, Bucks County, 6:30 p.m., Warwick Township Building, 1775 Township Green Rd., Jamison. Contact: Ragesh Patel, 484-250-5719

Nov. 18

Pennsylvania Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force meeting, 1 p.m., Susquehanna Conference Rooms A & B, DEP South-central Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg. Contact: Karyn Yordy, 717-787-2815

Dec. 2

Laboratory Accreditation Advisory Committee meeting, 9 a.m., DEP Bureau of Laboratories, 2575 Interstate Dr., Harrisburg. Contact: Aaren Alger, 717-346-8212

Dec. 8

Board of Coal Mine Safety meeting, 10 a.m., DEP Cambria Office, 286 Industrial Park Rd., Ebensburg. Contact: Allison Gaida, 724-404-3147

Dec. 8

Storage Tank Advisory Committee meeting, 10 a.m., Room 105, Rachel

Secretary Quigley Talks Pipelines, Clean Power Plan with Capitol Press Corps



Secretary Quigley answered reporters' questions at the Capitol Building.

HARRISBURG -- DEP Secretary John Quigley briefed reporters on all things DEP during an information session in the Governor's Reception Room at the Capitol Building on November 4.

Quigley talked about DEP's priorities, which were underscored by his desire to ensure the transparency and integrity of the agency.

Updates to Chapter 78 regulations, the ongoing work of the Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force, the changes required by the federal Clean Power Plan, and efforts to improve Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed were discussed during the briefing.

To watch the briefing, [click here](#).

Draft Recommendations for Pipeline Infrastructure Released for Public Comment



Workers lay pipeline.

HARRISBURG -- DEP has released the first draft of the Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force report and will open a 30-day public comment period beginning November 14. This draft report is the

Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Charlie Swokel, 717-772-5806

Dec. 10

Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee meeting, 9:15 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Nancy Herb, 717-783-9269

Dec. 10

State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater Systems Operator meeting, 10 a.m., 10th Floor Conference Room, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Cheri Sansoni, 717-772-5158

Dec. 15

Environmental Quality Board meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Jennifer Swan, 717-783-8727

Dec. 16

Cleanup Standards Scientific Advisory Board meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Mike Maddigan, 717-772-3609

Dec. 16

State Board for Certification of Sewage Enforcement Officers meeting, 10 a.m., Conference Room 11B, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Kristen Szwajkowski, 717-772-2186

Dec. 17

Small Water Systems Technical Assistance Center Board meeting, 9 a.m., Room 105, Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg. Contact: Dawn Hissner, 717-772-2189



Upcoming Webinars

Nov. 17

Citizens Advisory Council meeting. Register [here](#). Contact: Katie Hetherington Cunfer, 717-783-8727

first product of Governor Tom Wolf's Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force, chaired by DEP Secretary John Quigley.

"This is an important first milestone in developing the framework to help guide responsible pipeline development in Pennsylvania," said Quigley. "This draft report is the culmination of hundreds, if not thousands, of hours of work done by the members of this task force and by the volunteers on the 12 workgroups."

The workgroups provided the draft report's 184 recommendations. The public is encouraged to comment on the recommendations in the report, starting on Saturday, November 14 and ending on Monday, December 14.

For more information, [click here](#). To view the draft report, [click here](#).

DEP Encourages Pennsylvanians to Winterize Their Homes

HARRISBURG -- While it might not feel like it, colder winter weather is on the way and DEP wants all residents to stay safe and warm this winter by properly preparing their homes. Home winterization can help keep your home warmer, while using less energy and costing less money.

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the average Pennsylvania family consumes more than 10,000 kWh of electricity annually and spends more than \$2,000 on energy bills per year. Half the energy consumed in Pennsylvania homes is for space heating. Fortunately, homeowners can take small steps to make their home safe and more efficient.

"With smart, inexpensive fixes, Pennsylvanians can keep their homes warmer and save money this winter," said DEP Secretary John Quigley. "The time to take steps to make your home ready for the cold weather is now, before it gets here."

For winterization tips, [click here](#).

DEP to Host Public Hearing on Proposed Waterline Installation in Bucks County

NORRISTOWN -- DEP will host a public hearing on Tuesday, November 17 regarding a proposed waterline installation to address and replace a contaminated water supply in Northampton and Warwick Townships, Bucks County.

The hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Warwick Township building, located at 1775 Township Green Road, Jamison. It is intended to allow for public testimony on the proposed remedial action for affected residents.

"The health and safety of our residents is a top priority for our department," said Southeast Regional Director Cosmo Servidio. "In this case, providing a public waterline is the most effective measure to ensure the wellbeing of those impacted. It's very important for residents to monitor their private wells every three to five years to make sure these contaminants are not hiding in our drinking water."

[Read more.](#)

DEP Reaches Penalty Agreement with Sunoco, L.P. for Wetlands Violations

HARRISBURG -- DEP announced that Sunoco Pipeline, L.C. (Sunoco) paid DEP a \$59,000 civil penalty as part of a settlement agreement for Sunoco's violations of the Dam Safety and



Public Input

Nov. 12

Deadline to comment on Pennsylvania's Path to Compliance with EPA's Final Rule for Carbon Pollution Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: EGUs (Clean Power Plan). Email: ecomment@pa.gov.

Nov. 16

Deadline to comment on the Draft NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (PAG-03). Contact: Andrew Gaul, 717-787-0129

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on a Nutrient Credit Trading Program Certification Request: Tiadaghton Municipal Authority (Lycoming County; National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit No. PA0234079). Contact: Jay Braund, 717-772-5636

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology: Nutrient Impact Assessment Protocol for Wadeable Streams. Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology: Lake Assessment Protocol. Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology: Aquatic Macrophyte Coverage Procedures for Lake Assessments Policy. Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology: Quantitative Plankton Sampling Method for Lakes Policy. Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology: Chlorophyll A Sampling Method for Lakes Policy. Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology:

Encroachments Act that affected wetlands and streams in five southern Pennsylvania counties.

Inspections conducted by DEP between March 2014 and June 2015 found that Sunoco performed repair work to the Mariner East 1 Pipeline that impacted seven separate wetlands in Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Huntingdon, and Perry counties, installed a valve station in a floodway in Blair County, and impacted two small streams in Huntingdon County. Sunoco did not obtain the necessary permits prior to conducting the work at these locations. Construction, operation or maintenance of a water obstruction or encroachment without a permit is a violation of the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act.

[Read more.](#)

Elcon's Phase I Permit Application Meets DEP Requirements

NORRISTOWN -- DEP has determined the Phase I portion of Elcon Recycling Services, LLC's (Elcon) hazardous waste application is in conformance with the Phase I exclusionary siting criteria. The Phase I siting module portion of the application determines if the proposed facility site conforms to the exclusionary criteria established in DEP's hazardous waste regulations. Because Elcon's facility site was not excluded by any of the relevant criterion, Elcon may now submit the remainder of its hazardous waste application.

"While the site may be shown to conform to the Phase I exclusionary criteria, the applicant still must satisfy the Phase II criteria and the full permit application review process before a hazardous waste permit would be issued," said Southeast Regional Director Cosmo Servidio. "Satisfaction of the Phase I review process only allows an applicant to proceed with the hazardous waste application process. It does not equate to final approval of the project. In addition, Elcon must obtain any and all other necessary permits that will be subject to their own administrative process. During the Phase II process DEP will hold a public comment period and convene public hearings and meetings."

[Read more.](#)

Winners of DEP's Secretary Excellence Awards Honored in Ceremony



Deputy Secretary for Field Operations Dana Aunkst, Community Service Award Winner Diane Milbourne, and Secretary John Quigley at the Secretary's Excellence Awards Ceremony

Chlorophyll A Sampling Method for Lakes Policy.
Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 17

Deadline to comment on the Draft Assessment and Listing Methodology: Cause and Effect Survey Protocol Policy. Email: ecomment@pa.gov

Nov. 30

Deadline to comment on the Draft Pennsylvania Improving Waters Program Guidelines: Documenting and Reporting Measureable, Incremental Improvements in Water Quality of Streams, Rivers and Lakes (DEP ID: 394-3000-001). Contact: Diane Wilson, 717-787-3730

Dec. 1

Deadline to comment on Proposed Rulemaking: Revised Total Coliform Rule. Contact: Lisa Daniels, 717-787-9633



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Bureau**



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HARRISBURG -- Secretary Quigley announced the winners of the 2015 Secretary's Excellence Awards during a ceremony on November 5. This program acknowledges and celebrates the success and contributions of DEP employees, as well as their commitment to the agency's mission and core values. It honors those who go above and beyond in performing their duties, demonstrate outstanding work ethics and show an exceptional commitment to protecting human health and the environment. In addition, it recognizes the outstanding work of an employee outside of the workplace to better the community.

The Award for Outstanding Achievement, presented to any employee whose performance included a singular outstanding achievement in a certain facet of work over the last 12 months, went to NERO Waste Supervisor Jim Kunkle.

Nominations were received from across the agency for personnel in all program areas. The selection process was conducted by a committee of 12 employees who graded each nomination based on the award's prescribed criteria. Their recommendations were reviewed and approved by the Secretary as well as the Bureau of Human Resources.

For more information, [click here](#).



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