NPDES GENERAL PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES OF STORMWATER ASSOCIATED WITH MINING ACTIVITIES

Background

- Originally issued 2010
- Renewed February 2016 after a short administrative extension
- Expires Feb 12, 2021
- ~900 coal and noncoal operations use it

New with 2021 issuance

- GFCC, GP-106 applicability
- Spanning 5-year coverage removed. All expire on the same day
- Expanded fact sheet
- Expanded TMDL process
- Process water disambiguation

Schedule

- Began reissuance process April 2020
- EPA response - 3 months (July 2020)
- 2 months of DEP-EPA discussion
- Formal (re)submission October 2020
- November 2020 EPA response, no concurrence
- Further edits, routing for publication (December 2020)
- Publish with 30-day comment period, administrative extension for existing permit
- On Feb 12, 2021 no new coverage can be issued, existing is temporarily extended
- Address public comments
- Show final to EPA (15-90 days response time)
- Reissue as final
- New and renewed coverage can be issued under 2021-2026 version
- Notify existing operators who must certify that they accept or decline coverage
- Existing permits who accept continuing coverage will have expiration date reset
- In 2026, all operations that need to continue coverage will submit updated info to renew and pay a fee
**Example**: Operator receives coverage in 2019
Coverage expiration = 2024

NEW GP-104 (2021) issued

Operator receives notice to certify acceptance of GP-104 (2021)

Operator must cancel coverage or obtain IP

Operator’s new expiration date = 2026

**EXPIRATION DATES**

- Applications under GP-104 (2021)
  - New GP-104 coverage gets 2026 expiration date

- Existing auths
  - Expiration dates 2021-2025
  - All operators with existing GP-104 coverage transition to new expiration date

2026