

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Environmental Protection Performance
Standards at Oil and Gas Well Sites
Oil and gas gathering pipelines
(§ 78a.68)

The purpose of this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is to highlight changes in and address questions about the new regulations. This FAQ should not be used in lieu of reference to the 2012 Oil and Gas Act, 25 Pa.Code Chapter 78a and other applicable laws and regulations. The answers outlined in this FAQ are intended to supplement existing requirements. Nothing in this document shall affect statutory or regulatory requirements.

This document is not an adjudication or a regulation. There is no intent on the part of the Department to give this document that weight or deference. The Department may supplement or amend this document at any time as necessary without notice.

- 1) Will county conservation districts receive training in regards to reviewing linear ESCGP-2 projects?

The Department offers Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 related trainings to county conservation district staff several times a year. These regulations relate to a number of industries including construction for residential and commercial development, agriculture and timber harvesting as well as oil and gas related activities. The Department anticipates that training will be necessary for District Oil and Gas staff as well as county conservation district staff after the Chapter 78a regulation is promulgated, including the issues related to pipeline projects. (posted 10/14/16)

- 2) Does the requirement for “highly visible flagging, markers, or signs” along the gathering pipeline in section 78a.68(b), require “reflective material” as is the case in section 78a.55(i)(4)(i) which specifies “reflective” signs for well site access road entrances?

For gathering pipelines, there is no explicit, across-the-board requirement that the flagging, markers or signage used to demarcate the boundaries of the limit of disturbance, wetlands and locations of threatened or endangered species habitat, be of reflective material to meet the “highly visible” standard in section 78a.68(b). (posted 10/14/16; edited 11/18/16)