



## DEP PERMITS REQUIRED

The project requires several permits from DEP. These include:

- **Section 401- State Water Quality Certification:** Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act, DEP will process a State Water Quality Certification to ensure that activities associated with proposed interstate natural gas transmission pipeline project regulated by the Federal Energy Commission (FERC) complies with state law requirements necessary to protect the quality of the waters of the Commonwealth. This certification is often authorized conditionally and serves as an index for all DEP water-related permits/approvals that may be required for a pipeline project.
- **Chapter 105 – Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits:** This type of permit is required for water obstructions or encroachment activities located in, along, across or projecting into a watercourse, floodway or body of water, including wetlands.
- **Chapter 102 – Erosion & Sediment Control Permit:** This type of permit is required for earth disturbance associated with oil and gas exploration, production, processing or treatment operations or transmission facilities when earth disturbance is five acres or greater.
- **NPDES Permit for Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges:** This permit is required for proposed discharges of wastewater generated as a result of pressure testing of pipes to detect any leaks before the pipeline is put into service.
- **Air Quality Permit:** This permit is required for modification(s)/addition(s) of compressor station(s) and other activities of the project that may need to comply with federal and/or state air emissions regulations. Each DEP Regional Office where emissions are proposed will likely receive Request(s) for Determination or application(s) for state operating plan approval(s).

## PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS: HIGHLIGHTS

- On March 31, 2021, DEP received an application for a State Water Quality Certification.
- On April 9, 2021, DEP received the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) Notice of Intent (NOI) and Chapter 105 applications.
- On June 2, 2021, DEP sent an incompleteness letter for the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP).
- On July 26, 2021, DEP received a response to the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) incompleteness letter.
- On August 26, 2021, DEP sent completeness letters for the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP), Chapter 105 applications, and the State Water Quality Certification.
- On September 18, 2021, the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP), Chapter 105 applications, and the State Water Quality Certification were published as a Special Notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Public comments will be accepted until October 18, 2021.
- On October 15, 2021, DEP extended the public comment period for the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP), Chapter 105 applications, and the State Water Quality Certification until December 6, 2021. The extended public comment period was published as a Special Notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on October 30, 2021.
- On January 7, 2022, DEP sent technical deficiency letters for the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP), Chapter 105 applications, and the State Water Quality Certification.
- On March 2, 2022, DEP received a revised application for State Water Quality Certification
- On March 7, 2022, DEP received revised Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) and Chapter 105 applications.
- On March 30, 2022, DEP issued a conditional State Water Quality Certification to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC for the Regional Energy Access Expansion Project.
- On April 16, 2022, the State Water Quality Certification was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.
- On June 2, 2022, DEP sent technical deficiency letters for the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) and Chapter 105 applications.
- On July 27, 2022, DEP received a request for time extension to respond to the technical deficiency letters for the Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) and Chapter 105 applications.

- On August 1, 2022, DEP granted an extension to submit all information necessary to make the applications technically adequate.
- On August 11, 2022, DEP received revised Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) and Chapter 105 applications.
- On September 1, 2022 DEP received the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Clearance letter as supplemental data for the applications under review.
- On October 5, 2022 a virtual public hearing was held to accept comments on the Chapter 102 and 105 applications.
- On October 27, 2022 a technical comment email was sent for the Chapter 105 applications and on October 28, 2022 a response was received.
- On February 3, 2023, DEP issued the Chapter 105 Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits and the Chapter 102 Erosion and Sediment Control (E&S) Permit for Earth Disturbance Associated with Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Processing, or Treatment Operations or Transmission Facilities to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC for the Regional Energy Access Expansion Project.

### **TO PROVIDE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Questions or comments regarding DEP's review of the project can be submitted to RA-EPREGIONALPERMIT@pa.gov or 717-772-5987.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Additional information, including copies of documents submitted to DEP and opportunities for public involvement, can be found on DEP's Pipeline Portal.

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/ProgramIntegration/Pennsylvania-Pipeline-Portal/Pages/default.aspx>