

SPEED Act

**Streamlining Permits for Economic
Expansion and Development as
Directed in 2024-2025 State Budget**

December 2024



Overview

- Staff augmentation program
- Allows permit applicants to use external DEP approved qualified professionals for initial reviews of certain permits
- The permitting entity (DEP/CCD) will make a final determination on the permit application based on the approved professional's review of the application
- [SPEED Information Page](#)

Eligible Permits

- State-only plan approvals for stationary air contamination sources and pollution control devices
- Chapter 102 Permits, including ESCGP, PAG-01, PAG-02, and Individual Permits
- Individual Chapter 105 Permits (eligible for coverage under the federal PASPGP-6 or its successor)
- Dam Safety Permits

Qualified Professional (QP) Requirements

- Licensed professional who may be necessary to review applications under the eligible permitting program
- Has five years of relevant permitting experience in PA
- Holds all professional licenses as required by law
- Has not been convicted of, or pled guilty to a crime
- Has not had a professional license revoked by the state licensing board within the previous 10 years
- Agrees to be responsible for the review costs if the review is deemed inadequate or untimely
- Has not performed work for the applicant in the last 3 years
- No other conflicts of interest

Qualified Professional Selection

- Occurs within 10 business days from date of request
- If more than 10 QPs are available, the permitting entity will provide the applicant with a list of 3 to select from
- If less than 10 QPs are available, the permitting entity will select the QP
- Review clock starts on the day the permitting entity receives the “no conflict” certification from the QP



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Permit Decision Timeline

- As provided in DEP's Permit Decision Guarantee Policy (PDG)
- As determined by DEP, if not included in PDG
- As agreed, on between the Applicant and the Permitting Entity



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Qualified Professional Review Timeframe

- Shorter timeframes to allow the Permitting Entity enough time to review QP recommendation and process final action within the established overall review timeframe
- QP review timeframes will be spelled out in IFB.



Tolling Periods

- Tolling Period: the time period commencing on the date that the permitting entity sends a deficiency letter and ending on the date the permitting entity receives the applicant's response
- 2 tolling periods are allowed



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Priority Review

Heightened review in which a decision to issue or deny an eligible permit application shall be rendered within 10 business days of the expiration of the established review timeframe



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Tracking System

By January 2025, DEP will establish an electronic tracking system which allows applicants to track the status of their applications



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Thank you!

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The Department of Environmental Protection's mission is to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water resources and to provide for the health and safety of its residents and visitors, consistent with the rights and duties established under the Environmental Rights Amendment (Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution).